

WITH THE
ALL BLACKS
IN
GREAT BRITAIN,
FRANCE, CANADA & AUSTRALIA
1924-5



By
Read Masters

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CANADA AND AUSTRALIA
1924-25

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CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z. :
Christchurch Press Company Ltd., Printers and Publishers

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PREFACE

Many Rugby supporters have approached me to publish the diary I wrote whilst on tour with the 1924 New Zealand Team. Although the enthusiasm may have waned a little, I feel that it is not too late to place on record a reliable history of the Tour, and hope that it will be of interest to followers of New Zealand's great national game.

This book is also a token of gratitude to those wonderful people of England, Ireland, Wales, France, Australia, and Canada, who extended such great hospitality to us whilst we were their guests.

I am greatly indebted to Mr. G. P. Payne for placing his complete record of teams, scorers, etc., at my disposal for comparison purposes; to Mr. S. F. Wilson for his article on the Imperial Conference; and to my wife for her assistance in the preparing of this book for publication.

R.R.M.

Christchurch,

March 21st, 1928.

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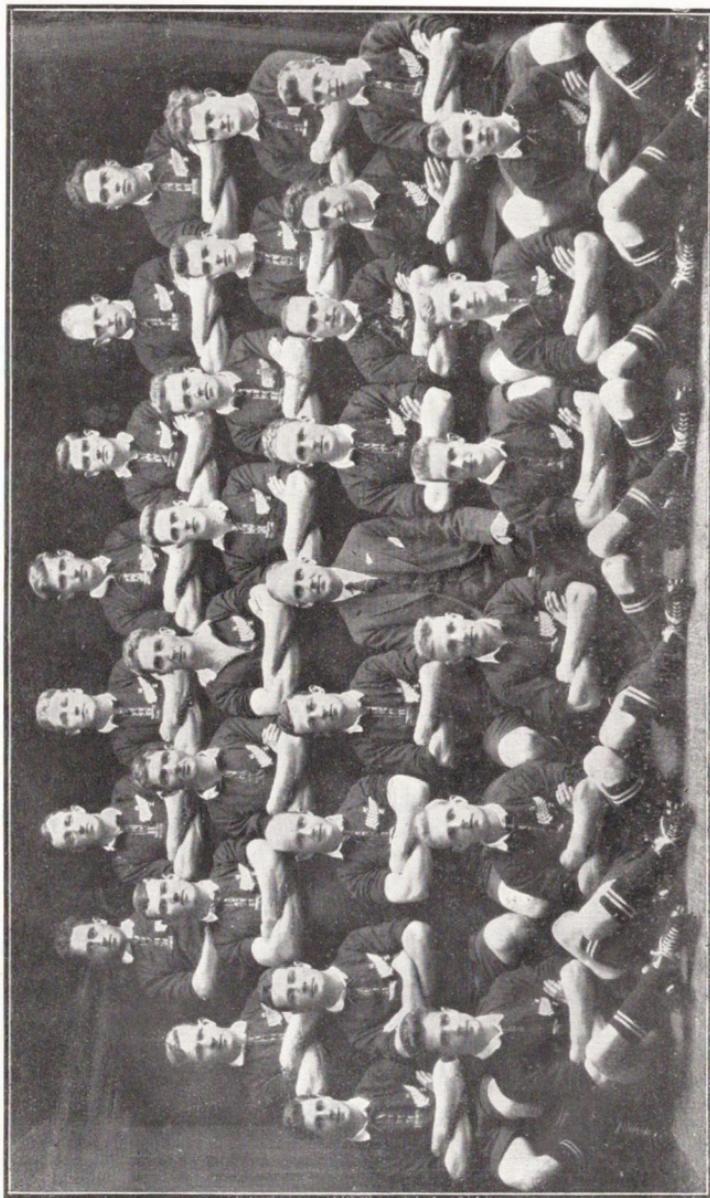
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The 1924 New Zealand Team

	Age.	Height.	Weight.
		ft. in.	st. lb.
FULL BACK.			
G. NEPIA, Hawke's Bay	19	5 9	13 1
THREE-QUARTERS.			
H. W. BROWN, Taranaki	19	5 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	11 7
A. H. HART, Taranaki	26	5 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 12
F. W. LUCAS, Auckland	22	5 10	10 4
A. C. G. ROBILIARD, Canterbury ..	20	5 10	11 8
J. STEEL, West Coast	24	5 10	12 7
K. SVENSON, Wellington	25	5 7	10 12
FIVE-EIGHTHS.			
C. E. BADELEY, Auckland	27	5 7	10 9
A. E. COOKE, Auckland	22	5 9	9 12
N. P. MCGREGOR, Canterbury	22	5 7	10 6
M. F. NICHOLLS, Wellington	22	5 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	11 0
L. PAEWAI, Hawke's Bay	19	5 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 8
HALF-BACKS.			
W. C. DALLEY, Canterbury	22	5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 2
J. MILL, Hawke's Bay	24	5 7	10 12
WING-FORWARDS.			
J. H. PARKER, Canterbury	27	6 0	12 7
C. G. PORTER (Capt.), Wellington ..	24	5 8	12 8
FORWARDS.			
G. BROWNLIE, Hawke's Bay	27	6 3	15 0
M. J. BROWNLIE, Hawke's Bay	26	6 0	13 13
L. F. CUPPLES, Bay of Plenty	26	6 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 12
Q. DONALD, Wairarapa	24	5 10	12 6
I. H. HARVEY, Wairarapa	21	6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 8
W. R. IRVINE, Hawke's Bay	25	5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 12
R. R. MASTERS, Canterbury	23	5 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 0
B. V. McCLEARY, Canterbury	27	5 9	13 1
H. G. MUNRO, Otago	27	5 9	11 12
J. RICHARDSON (Vice-Capt.), Southland	25	6 1	14 5
R. F. STEWART, South Canterbury ..	20	6 1	14 0
A. H. WEST, Taranaki	30	6 1	13 12
A. WHITE, Southland	30	5 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 6

Manager—MR. S. S. DEAN, Wellington.



THE 1924-1925 ALL BLACKS.

Back Row—L. Paewai, J. H. Parker, M. J. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, A. White, Q. Donald, G. Nepia, 3rd Row—W. R. Irvine, I. H. Harvey, A. H. West, L. F. Cupples, R. F. Stewart, R. R. Masters, A. C. C. Robilliard, J. Steel, 2nd Row—A. H. Hart, B. V. McCleary, H. G. Munro, C. Badley, S. S. Dean (Manager), J. Richardson (Vice-Captain), C. G. Porter (Captain), J. Mill, M. F. Nicholls, Front Row—N. P. McGregor, W. C. Dalley, A. E. Cooke, F. W. Lucas, K. S. Svenson, H. W. Brown.

Photo by Crown Studios, Wellington.

CHAPTER I.

THE SELECTION OF THE TEAM.

At a special meeting of delegates of the New Zealand Rugby Union, called for the purpose of discussing arrangements for the tour, and deciding the most satisfactory method of selecting the team, Mr. V. R. Meredith's suggestion that a sole selector be appointed was recommended to the management for adoption. This, however, was turned down, and after much controversy, the appointment of the following five selectors was announced by the controlling committee:—**North Island:** Messrs. N. A. McKenzie (Hawke's Bay), A. Wilson (Wellington). **South Island:** Messrs. L. Carmine (Buller), A. J. Geddes (Southland); these gentlemen also to act as New Zealand Selectors, with Mr. E. McKenzie (Wairarapa), Chairman of the Committee. This announcement caused a great deal of comment, neither Canterbury, Otago, Auckland, nor Taranaki being represented. The Canterbury Rugby Union passed a resolution that a third South Island Selector, more centrally situated, should be appointed, as the two gentlemen selected were not sufficiently in touch with the whole of South Island football. Otago objected to the geographical situation of the selectors, and to the elimination of the whole of the previous year's Selection Committee, viz:—Messrs. W. Drake (Canterbury), A. Griffiths (Wellington), D. Stuart (Otago). Later Mr. D. Stuart was appointed to fill a vacancy caused by Mr. Geddes' resignation, but was unable to accept, and Mr. Geddes upon re-appointment agreed to stand. Eventually, Mr. H. E. Davis (Canterbury), and Mr. W. A. Guy (Taranaki) were added to the Committee. So, on May 10th, 1924, seven selectors, instead of the special meeting's recommendation of one, congregated at Auckland to view the first of a series of trial matches that had been arranged in different centres, to help them in their difficult task of selecting New Zealand's 29 best players.

The Trial Matches were arranged as follows:—

May 10th, at Auckland.—A combined team representing Auckland, North Auckland, Thames, and Waikato v. a combined team representing Hawke's Bay, Bay of Plenty, East Coast, and Poverty Bay. The former combination proved victorious by 18 to 9.

May 12th, at Auckland.—The selectors were asked to view the Te Mori Rose Bowl Match, between the Northern and Southern Maori districts. **Result: North 18, South 8.**

May 16th, at Wanganui.—Wellington, Wairarapa, Horowhenua, and Bush District v. Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, and King Country. The former combination won by 15 to 13.

May 21st, at Wellington.—Marlborough, Nelson, and Motueka-Golden Bay v. Buller and West Coast. The latter team won by 33 to 16.

May 21st, at Wellington.—North Island Possibles v. Probables. The teams were:—**Possibles**—Walters (Wellington), F. Lucas (Auckland), K. Svenson (Wellington), J. Kirwan (Auckland), A. E. Cooke (Auckland), C. Badeley (Auckland), D. Wright (Auckland), A. Bellis (Wanganui), J. Swain (Wellington), Q. Donald (Wairarapa), I. H. Harvey (Wairarapa), A. Pringle (Wellington), N. McLean (Auckland), —. Moynehan (Horowhenua), A. H. West (Taranaki). **Probables**—G. Nepia (Hawke's Bay), B. A. Grenside (Hawke's Bay), H. W. Brown (Taranaki), A. H. Hart (Taranaki), —. Johnston (Taranaki), L. Paewai (Hawke's Bay), J. Mill (Hawke's Bay), J. Donald (Wairarapa), W. R. Irvine (Hawke's Bay), A. R. Lomas (Auckland), L. Righton (Auckland), C. and M. Brownlie (Hawke's Bay), J. McNab (Hawke's Bay), L. Knight (Auckland). **Emergencies**—Byrne (King Country), Ross (Wanganui), H. E. Nicholls (Wellington). **Result: Possibles 23, Probables 21.**

May 24th, at Invercargill.—Canterbury and South Canterbury v. Otago and Southland. **Result: Canterbury 14, Otago 6.**

May 28th, at Christchurch.—South Island Possibles v. Probables. The teams were:—**Possibles:** Backs—J. Harris (Canterbury), F. Snodgrass (Nelson), W. Elvy (Canterbury), S. Davis (Buller), G. Lawson (South Canterbury), N. P. McGregor (Canterbury), W. C. Dalley (Canterbury). Forwards: J. H. Parker (Canterbury), B. V. McCleary (Canterbury), H. G. Munro (Otago), O. Turpin (Canterbury), R. R. Masters (Canterbury), Chisnall (South Canterbury), E. Snow (Nelson), A. White (Southland). **Probables**—D. Fairbrother (South Canterbury), J. Steel (West Coast), C. Gilmour (Southland), A. McDonald (Otago), R. Bell (Southland), F. Perry (Otago), C. St. George (Otago), P. Ward (Canterbury), D. Clark (Southland), R. G. Tunnicliffe (Buller), J. Richardson (Southland), L. Williams (Otago), P. J. O'Regan (West Coast), S. Blick (Southland), — Mathieson (Southland). **Emergencies, for both teams: W.**

Reid (Nelson), A. C. Robilliard (Canterbury), E. Fairbrother (South Canterbury), R. Bowers (Motueka), C. Schadick (West Coast). Harris retired with a sprained leg in the first spell. Davis went to full-back, and Robilliard in on wing. Richardson, who sprained his ankle in second spell, was replaced by Schadick. **Score: Probables 23, Possibles 22.**

May 31st, North Island v. South Island at Wellington.—The teams for this match were:—North Island—Backs: G. Nepia (Hawke's Bay), F. W. Lucas (Auckland), K. S. Svenson (Wellington), A. H. Hart (Taranaki), A. E. Cooke (Auckland), M. F. Nicholls (Wellington), J. Mill (Hawke's Bay). Forwards: C. G. Porter (Wellington), W. R. Irvine (Hawke's Bay), Q. Donald (Wairarapa), I. H. Harvey (Wairarapa), M. and C. Brownlie (Hawke's Bay), A. Pringle (Wellington), J. A. McNab (Hawke's Bay). **Emergencies:** H. E. Nicholls (Wellington), L. Paewai (Hawke's Bay), H. W. Brown (Taranaki), A. Lomas (Auckland), L. Knight (Auckland), A. H. West (Taranaki). **South Island:** D. Fairbrother (South Canterbury), J. Steel (West Coast), C. Gilmour (Southland), A. C. Robilliard (Canterbury), N. P. McGregor (Canterbury), F. Perry (Otago), C. St. George (Otago), J. H. Parker (Canterbury), B. V. McCleary (Canterbury), H. G. Munro (Otago), R. R. Masters (Canterbury), J. Richardson (Southland), R. Stewart (South Canterbury), A. White (Southland), O. Turpin (Canterbury). **Emergencies:** W. C. Dalley (Canterbury), W. Elvy (Canterbury), R. Bell (Southland), L. Williams (Otago), R. G. Tunnicliffe (Buller), P. J. O'Regan (West Coast), E. Snow (Nelson). **Half-time:** North 25, South Nil. **Result: North 39, South 8.**

THE TEAM IS ANNOUNCED.

The following sixteen Certainities were announced by the selectors after the North v. South match:—G. Nepia, A. H. Hart, F. W. Lucas, A. E. Cooke, J. Steel, M. F. Nicholls, C. G. Porter, W. R. Irvine, B. V. McCleary, C. Brownlie, M. Brownlie, J. H. Parker, A. White, J. Richardson, R. Stewart, and I. H. Harvey.

June 3rd, at Wellington.—For the final trial game, New Zealand Possibles v. Probables, the teams were:—**Possibles:** J. Harris, W. Elvy, R. Bell, A. C. Robilliard, F. Perry, C. Badeley, W. C. Dalley, J. H. Parker, O. Turpin, P. J. O'Regan, L. Williams, L. Cupples, A. Pringle, Q. Donald, A. R. Lomas. **Probables:** G. Nepia, Bailey (Manawatu), H. W. Brown, A. H. Hart, N. P. McGregor, L. Paewai,

H. E. Nicholls, L. Jacob (Horowhenua), J. A. McNab, E. Snow, L. Knight, A. H. West, R. R. Masters, R. G. Tunnicliffe, H. G. Munro. **Emergencies:** C. St. George, C. Gilmour. **Result: Probables 16, Possibles 8.**

From the first trial match the excitement was intense, and the players concerned experienced a very anxious time after each game waiting for the selectors to announce their choice for the next. When the sixteen certainties were announced it was a great relief to me to know that so far only one "lock" had been chosen, and as two were required it was a case of "while there is life there is hope!" Then came the final game on 3rd June, followed by some six hours of suspense, while the selectors were completing their difficult task. Arrangements had been made for the complete selection, as soon as it was available, to be posted on a board in the Wellington Town Hall, where a dance was being held. At 11 o'clock the music stopped, and the work of adding the remaining thirteen names was commenced:—J. Mill, W. C. Dalley, L. Cupples, Q. Donald, L. Paewai, A. H. West, C. Badeley, K. Svenson, A. C. Robilliard, H. W. Brown three more names required; I was resigned to my fate! After a considerable delay an announcement was made from the platform to the effect that three cards bearing names had been mislaid, the players were—N. P. McGregor, H. G. Munro, R. R. Masters.

CHAPTER II.

AUSTRALIA.

To help the game along in Sydney, and to assist in the Jubilee celebrations, the New Zealand Rugby Union accepted an invitation from the New South Wales Rugby Union to play four matches there prior to our going to England. So on the 27th June, 1924, the following 23 players (it not being necessary to take the full team) left Wellington by the Ulimaroa on their journey across the Tasman Sea:—C. Badeley (Capt.), J. Richardson (Vice-Capt.), W. C. Dalley, L. Cupples, G. Nepia, J. Mill, B. McCleary, W. R. Irvine, H. G. Munro, I. H. Harvey, M. and C. Brownlie, C. G. Porter, J. H. Parker, A. White, K. Svenson, M. Nicholls, F. Lucas, A. E. Cooke, A. H. Hart, H. W. Brown, N. P. McGregor, R. R. Masters, Mr. E. A. Little (Wellington) accompanied us as manager of this preliminary tour.

Fairly heavy seas were experienced for the first two days, about half of the boys being seasick, while the rest of us were not exactly what one could call "feeling the best." However, the weather and seas moderated, and on the third morning there was almost a full muster on deck at 6.30 a.m. for physical jerks, etc., also later in the morning for scrum and haka practice.

Upon our arrival in Sydney at 8.30 a.m. on July 1st we were met by members of the New South Wales Rugby Union, and motored to the Hotel Mansions at Darlinghurst, where we were to be billeted during our stay. Two hours after stepping ashore we were training at Rusheutter's Bay.

The First Test Match v. New South Wales.—Upon our arrival at the Show Grounds, Sydney, on Saturday, July 5th, we were motored round the ring and given a wonderful reception by some 30,000 spectators, who cheered repeatedly. The roar of welcome was renewed when we took the field against New South Wales a few minutes later. The ground was in good order, and the absence of wind and sun made the playing conditions excellent.

New South Wales profited by our mistakes, which were many, and scored some very good tries, thoroughly deserving their win by 20 to 16. We had many opportunities to score, but

lacked combination and finish; our backs repeatedly dropped passes, and on the day's play the opposing backs were superior, while the N.S.W. forwards, playing with great dash, quite held their own. After 20 minutes' play the Cornstalks led by 8 to nil, and kept ahead all through the game, except for a brief period, when the scores were 8 all.

The teams were:—**New South Wales:** Nothling, Crossman, Stanley, Wogan, Smith, Sheehan, Walker (Capt.), Ritchie, Blackwood, Davis, Bonner, Fox, Greatorex, Hoskins, and Thorne. **New Zealand:** Nepia, Hart, Lucas, Brown, Cooke, Badeley (Capt.), Mill, Porter, Irvine, Munro, Masters, M. and C. Brownlie, Richardson and White.

For the victors, tries were scored by Crossman, Smith, Stanley, Thorne, and Greatorex. Stanley also kicked a penalty goal, and Nothling converted one try. For New Zealand, Cooke, Hart and Masters scored tries. Nepia kicked a penalty goal, and both he and Richardson converted one try each. Richardson and White each suffered an injury to an ankle in the second spell, but played on under difficulties. **Half time:** New South Wales 11, New Zealand 8.

Result: New South Wales 20.
New Zealand .. 16.

Match v. Metropolitan Team.—After discussing our many weaknesses in the first match, and putting in two good mornings' training, we were a much better and fitter team when we walked on the University Oval on July 9th to oppose the Sydney Metropolitan Team. Prior to the commencement of play Lord Forster, Governor-General of Australia, shook hands with both teams and was then cheered. The weather conditions were ideal for good open football, and a fast game resulted in a walk over for us.

The teams were:—**Metropolitan:** Whipp, C. and G. Walker, Morrissey, Foote, Atkin, Georgeson, Elliott, Douglas, Twohig, Holdsworth, Erby, Ray, Smith and Thompson. **New Zealand:** Nepia, Hart, Lucas, Svenson, McGregor, Nicholls, Dalley, McCleary, Irvine, Masters, M. and C. Brownlie, White, Cupples, and Parker. For New Zealand tries were scored by Svenson (2), Hart (2), Lucas (2), Masters (2), Irvine and Cupples one each. Nicholls converted two tries, Nepia and White one each. For Metropolitan G. Walker converted a try scored by Georgeson.

Result: New Zealand 38.
Metropolitan 5.

The Second Test Match v. New South Wales.—Approximately 27,000 spectators saw us defeat New South Wales 21 to 5 in the second Test Match, played in fine weather, at the Show Grounds, Sydney, on July 12th. Our combination showed a wonderful improvement, backs and forwards working much better together than they had in the first Test, and play was very fast and open. The first spell ended in our favour by 18 to nil. New South Wales improved greatly in the second spell, and if anything had the better of the play, scoring 5 points against our 3. Our goal-kicking was deplorable, not one of 12 attempts landing between the posts.

The teams were:—**New South Wales:** Nothling, Crossman, Buntine, Wogan, Foote, Sheehan, Walker, Thompson, Blackwood, Davis, Bonner, Fox, Greatorex, Hoskins and Thorne. **New Zealand:** Nepia, Lucas, Brown, Svenson, Cooke, Nicholls, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, Munro, Masters, M. Brownlie, Cupples, Richardson and White. New Zealand scorers were Svenson (3), Lucas (2), Munro and Cooke one try each. Thorne converted a try by Greatorex for New South Wales. **Half-time:** New Zealand 18, New South Wales Nil.

Result: New Zealand 21.
New South Wales 5.

The Third Test Match v. New South Wales.—Only 8,000 spectators witnessed the third and final Test Match played at the Show Grounds on Wednesday, July 16th. The fact that it was a mid-week game no doubt accounted for the poor attendance. The weather was fine and the playing conditions excellent. Prior to the commencement of play both teams, at the request of our Captain, gave three cheers for "Boy" Charlton, who had that morning been declared winner of the 1,500 metre swimming contest at Olympic Games. This tribute to the young Manly champion was enthusiastically received by the crowd. In a very fast, clean game we excelled in every department, and won comfortably by 38 to 8. Our team was the same as that which played in the second Test. **The N.S.W. team** was:—Nothling, Crossman, Stanley, Wogan, Foote, George, Meagher, Greatorex, Fox, Thorne, Taylor, Hoskins, Thompson, Blackwood, and Ritchie. For N.S.W. Nothling converted a try by Stanley, and kicked a penalty goal. For New Zealand Porter scored three tries, and Brown, Svenson, Munro, Lucas, White, Cooke, and Cupples one each. Nicholls converted four tries.

The refereeing in this match was extremely hard to follow. Our hookers were penalised almost every time they attempted

to hook the ball, notwithstanding the fact that they were subjected to a great deal of obstruction by the opposing front row. If it had not been for a general protest by almost the entire N.S.W. team, one of our forwards would have had to leave the field when ordered off for tackling an opponent high. As it happened, the man with the ball was knocked out by the tackle, which had to be high and hard to prevent his falling over for a try. **Half-time:** New Zealand 20, New South Wales 8.

Result: New Zealand 38.
New South Wales 8.

Owing to his being unfortunate enough to contract tonsillitis the day we arrived in Sydney, Ian Harvey was unable to take part in any of the matches there.

AUSTRALIAN HOSPITALITY.

During our stay in Sydney we were given a truly wonderful time, and the sportsmanlike spirit which prevailed everywhere impressed us all. Apart from the functions held in our honour, we were motored to all the beauty spots and places of interest in and around the city. A particularly interesting afternoon was also spent cruising round Sydney's great harbour as guests of the Harbour Trust. The evening after our arrival a public reception was given to us in the Sydney Town Hall by some 3000 enthusiastic citizens. The cheering was deafening as we walked down the centre aisle on to the stage. Among those on the platform were:—Sir George Fuller, Sir Henry Braddon, K.B.E., M.L.C., President of the New South Wales Rugby Union and a New Zealand Rep full-back in 1884, Alderman Gilpin, the Hon. C. W. Oakes, Chief Secretary of State Government, and many representatives of the New South Wales Government. All the speakers extended us a very hearty welcome, and wished us the best for our Home tour. The following evening we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the New South Wales Rugby Union's Jubilee Ball.

At 5 p.m. on July 17th, the afternoon before our departure, we were entertained by members of the Civic Club. The following gentlemen made very fine speeches and wished us "bon voyage":—The Hon. C. W. Oakes, Chief Secretary State Government, W. P. McElhone, President New South Wales Cricket Association and ex-Lord Mayor of Sydney, W. H. Hill, Chairman Management Committee New South Wales Rugby Union, H. S. Dettman, Headmaster Sydney Grammar School, J. Wall, President Bowling Club, R. R. Moss, Chairman Civic Club, and J. R. Henderson, well known in

Rugby circles in New Zealand. At the close of the gathering the following very impressive verse was sung to the tune of "Leave me with a smile":—

We heard the cables humming,
 The All Blacks are coming,
 Bent on victory.
 Splendid combination,
 From our sister nation,
 O'er the Tasman Sea.
 Though in sport they meet us,
 And they oft defeat us
 Theirs the victory.
 Memory reminds us
 Of the tie that binds us
 A.N.Z.A.C.

At 6.30 p.m. we proceeded to Sargeant's Cafe as the guests of the New South Wales Rugby Union at their Jubilee dinner. This proved a great function, at which Sir Henry Braddon occupied the chair. The following rather appropriate verse appeared on the programme used at the dinner:—

No game was ever worth a rap,
 For a rational man to play,
 Into which no accident or mishap,
 Could possibly find its way.

At 5 p.m. on Friday, July 18th, a huge crowd congregated on the wharf to bid us farewell, and there was much cheering when our ship, the s.s. "Manuka," moved off. Southerly weather and heavy seas were experienced for the greater part of the return journey, and those of the boys who had been confined to their "cots" through seasickness, were very pleased to step ashore in Auckland at 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 22nd.

CHAPTER III.

OUR FAREWELL FROM NEW ZEALAND.

"ALL BLACKS" v. AUCKLAND.

When three days out from Sydney we were much surprised when our Manager, Mr. Little, announced that he had received a wireless message to the effect that we were scheduled to play a match against Auckland the day after our arrival. The N.Z.R.U., who must have known that the public would expect a finished exhibition of football, and not make allowances for a rough sea voyage, were thought most inconsiderate for fixing this match, and were subjected to a great deal of adverse criticism.

It was a very weary New Zealand team that walked on to the field at Eden Park, Auckland, on Wednesday, July 23rd—14 hours after landing ashore—to play before approximately 25,000 critics. We could still feel the roll of the good ship "Manuka" when the ball was placed for the kick off, and knew that it would not take a very strong team to beat us. With all due respects to the Auckland team, who played very good football and thoroughly deserved their win, we played like so many "goats," and if the ground had not been heavy there is no doubt that we should have been beaten by more than 14 to 3.

The teams were:—**Auckland:** Goodacre, Tonkin, Oslén, N. Ifwerson, K. Ifwerson, Loft, Wright, Lintott, Lomas, Peters, N. McLean, Righton, McWilliams, Keary, and Fogarty. **New Zealand:** Nepia, Hart, Brown, Lucas, McGregor, Badeley (Captain), Mill, Parker, McCleary, Irvine, Masters, M. and C. Brownlie, Cupples and Richardson. For Auckland tries were scored by Keary, Lomas, and N. Ifwerson. K Ifwerson converted one try and kicked a penalty goal. C. Brownlie scored our only try.

**Result: Auckland 14.
New Zealand 3.**

The criticisms of the match in some of the Auckland papers were most scathing. It was stated that "the team was the worst New Zealand had ever fielded;" that it was a disgrace to its predecessors to send the team from the country," etc.

“ALL BLACKS” v. MANAWATU-HOROWHENUA.

The display given by us when we met the combined Manawatu-Horowhenua Team on the Show Grounds, Palmerston North, on Saturday, July 26th, was not anything like up to our Australian form. The game, which we won by 27 to 12, was very scrappy, and must have been more or less disappointing for the 16,000 spectators present. From the kick-off Manawhenua were right out to win, and played with a determined spirit all through the game. The teams were:—**Manawatu-Horowhenua:** Cowie, Law, Brophy, Baily, Jacob, Tahiwai, Carroll, Hakaraia, McHerron, Sly, Broughton, Gothard, Moynihan, McDonald, and Earle. **New Zealand:** Nepia, Robilliard, Brown, Steel, Badeley, Cooke, Dalley, Parker, Munro, McCleary, Masters, Stewart, Cupples, Richardson, and White. Our points were scored by Badeley (two tries), Richardson, Stewart, Cooke, and Robilliard (one each). Richardson converted one try, Brown (two); the latter also kicked a penalty goal. For Manawhenua tries were scored by McHerron (two), Carrol and Law (one each).

Result: New Zealand . . . 27.
Horowhenua-Manawatu 12.

After the match we had only 15 minutes to wash, dress, and catch the express for Wellington, where we arrived very tired and hungry at 7.30 p.m.

PARLIAMENTARY LUNCHEON.

At 1 p.m. on Monday, July 28th, we attended a Parliamentary Luncheon at Parliament Buildings. Farewell speeches were made by the Governor-General, Viscount Jellicoe, who presided, Mr. W. F. Massey (Prime Minister), Mr. T. Wilford (Leader of the Opposition), Mr. H. Holland (Leader of the Labour Party). Replies were made by Messrs. H. Frost (President N.Z.R.U.), S. S. Dean, and C. Badeley. The function concluded with cheers for the team called for by the Prime Minister.

At 5 p.m. the Mayor of Wellington, Mr R. A. Wright, M.P., presided over a huge gathering of citizens, who had assembled in the Concert Chamber of the Wellington Town Hall to bid us farewell.

At 7.15 p.m. we were the guests of the N.Z.R.U. at their farewell dinner held at the Grand Hotel. The speakers at this gathering, which was a very enthusiastic one, were:—Messrs. H. Frost (President N.Z.R.U.), who presided, the Hon. J. G.

Coates, W. S. Glenn, M.P., R. A. Wright, M.P., the Hon. Dr. Pomare, H. Holland, M.P., K. S. Williams, M.P. In his speech Mr Glen said, "Do your best; if your best is to win we will be doubly elated; if your best is to lose, then we will try to take your licking with you." Among those present were:—Messrs. G. H. Dixon, H. D. Thompson, W. S. Glenn, M.P., W. Johnston, F. Roberts, and W. J. Wallace, all members of the 1905 team, and G. A. Williams of the 1884 New Zealand Native Team.

CHAPTER IV.

THE TRIP HOME.

On Tuesday, July 29th, at 4 p.m., we sailed for Plymouth, England, by the R.M.S. "Remuera," under the management of Mr. S. S. Dean. We were given a rousing send off by thousands of enthusiastic New Zealanders who had congregated on the wharf to wish us good luck. Prior to our departure the New Zealand Rugby Union appointed Cliff Porter Captain, and Jock Richardson Vice-Captain. These appointments were heartily accepted by all of us.

The following gentlemen accompanied us as members of the official party:—Messrs. S. F. Wilson (Christchurch, Delegate to the Imperial Rugby Conference), G. P. Payne (Christchurch), W. S. Dustin (Wanganui), Judge F. O. V. Acheson (Auckland), D. G. Gray (Dunedin), W. Stephens (Palmerston North), A. E. Stephens (Greymouth), B. C. Bennett (Hawera), L. Simpson (Wellington), H. E. Nicholls (Wellington), and H. Murphy (Wellington).

The day after our departure the following Management Committee was appointed for the tour:—Messrs. S. S. Dean, J. Richardson, C. Porter, M. Brownlie, and A. White.

At a general meeting of passengers Messrs. Munro (Chairman), Wilson, Payne, and myself were elected to represent our team on the Games and Entertainment Committee.

TRAINING ON BOARD SHIP.

Sundays excluded, the daily order of training for the voyage was fixed at:—Physical jerks and deep breathing exercises from 6.45 to 7.30 a.m., under the direction of Surgeon-Commander Patterson, R.N.R., who had kindly volunteered to assist us to keep fit; scrum and ball practice from 10.30 to 11.30. This was maintained throughout the trip, except for a few days whilst passing through the tropics, when heavy training was abandoned. Many of the boys suffered injuries through falling on to the hard decks, and sometimes, as many as seven were excused duty together. Fortunately there was only one bad injury, and that happened when Jack Steel crashed into the bulwarks seriously injuring his forearm, which for some days was thought

to be broken. It was really a miracle that worse accidents did not occur, when a scum would collapse through the roll of the ship hurling some of us against the iron bulwarks or deck houses.

Several interesting lectures on the rules of Rugby were given by Mr L. Simpson, the well-known Wellington referee, and many meetings were held at which different members of the team were called upon to give their opinion as to "How Rugby should be played." Many arguments, to settle which a black-board was often brought into use, followed these little talks, and a great deal of benefit was derived from them.

The usual sports meetings were held and deck games indulged in, and a great deal of amusement was caused by a blind-fold boxing tournament, after which McCleary and M. Brownlie gave a very clever exhibition bout. A North v. South cricket match resulted in a win for North by 93 to 58. Sam Wilson, the South Captain, was accused of watering the wicket before the North went in to bat, and a close inspection of the wicket was carried out! Many enjoyable dances were held during the voyage, including a fancy dress ball, when the promenade deck was decorated with flags and coloured lights. Stewart and Brown carried off the prizes. For this occasion the music was supplied by the following:—Dr. L. M. Park, piano; Munro, drum; Cooke, kettle-drum; Dean and Robilliard, symbols; M. Brownlie, Richardson, Dalley, and myself, gazoos; Lucas, mandoline. Although this orchestra gave musical people on board a splitting headache, it seemed to be appreciated by the dancers! The chief "All Black" songsters at concerts were Nepia, Munro, and Richardson.

PITCAIRN ISLAND.

The first land we sighted after leaving New Zealand was Pitcairn Island on August 6th, which, when first seen from some 30 miles distant, looked like a tiny speck on the ocean. We were hoping to land there, but found upon arriving off the coast that the sea was too rough. The natives were soon seen fighting the heavy seas with great skill, and making their way towards our ship in their small craft. After a hard fight for a mile or more, they came alongside bringing with them an abundance of curios and tropical fruits, including the most delicious oranges I have ever tasted. After spending three hours chatting with the Islanders and buying their goods—which were offered at a very low figure—they cast off, singing as they went, and we continued our journey.

The evening prior to our arrival at Pitcairn I gathered the following interesting history of the island from a lecture given by Captain J. J. Cameron, R.N.R., the master of our ship, who by the way, was the Chief Officer on the "Rimutaka" when that ship carried the 1905 team to England . . . Pitcairn Island, which is about two miles long and one mile broad and very rugged in appearance, derives its interest from its association with the mutiny of H.M.S. "Bounty." In April, 1789, the "Bounty" was on a mission to carry bread-fruit plants from Tahiti to the West Indies, when, off Tofua, the mutiny occurred, and Captain Bligh with 18 others were set adrift in an open boat only 23 feet long. They made their way to Kupang, the capital of the Island of Timor in the Dutch East Indies, a distance of over 3,600 miles, enduring the most intense hardships and suffering. That voyage, which was made in 48 days, commands admiration and excites wonder to this day. Twenty-six mutineers remained with the "Bounty" which, under the command of Fletcher Christian, the ring-leader of the mutiny, bore away for Tahiti, where most of them remained, and from which the "Bounty" finally sailed, having on board nine of the mutineers, each of whom had a native wife, also six native men and three women. For a period of nearly 20 years nothing was heard of the vessel or those on board. They had gone to the uninhabited Island of Pitcairn, where they settled and burned the "Bounty," after removing everything useful. After about two years, during which time jealousy and quarrels arose, the native men attacked the white men and killed five. Later on the four remaining mutineers, assisted by the native women, killed all the native men. Ten years after the landing, only one mutineer remained alive—Adams. He became religious, and with the aid of a Bible and prayer book saved from the "Bounty," he taught the young people to read and write. It is their descendants, a simple and kindly people numbering about 165, who inhabit the lonely little island at the present time.

A DAY AT PANAMA.

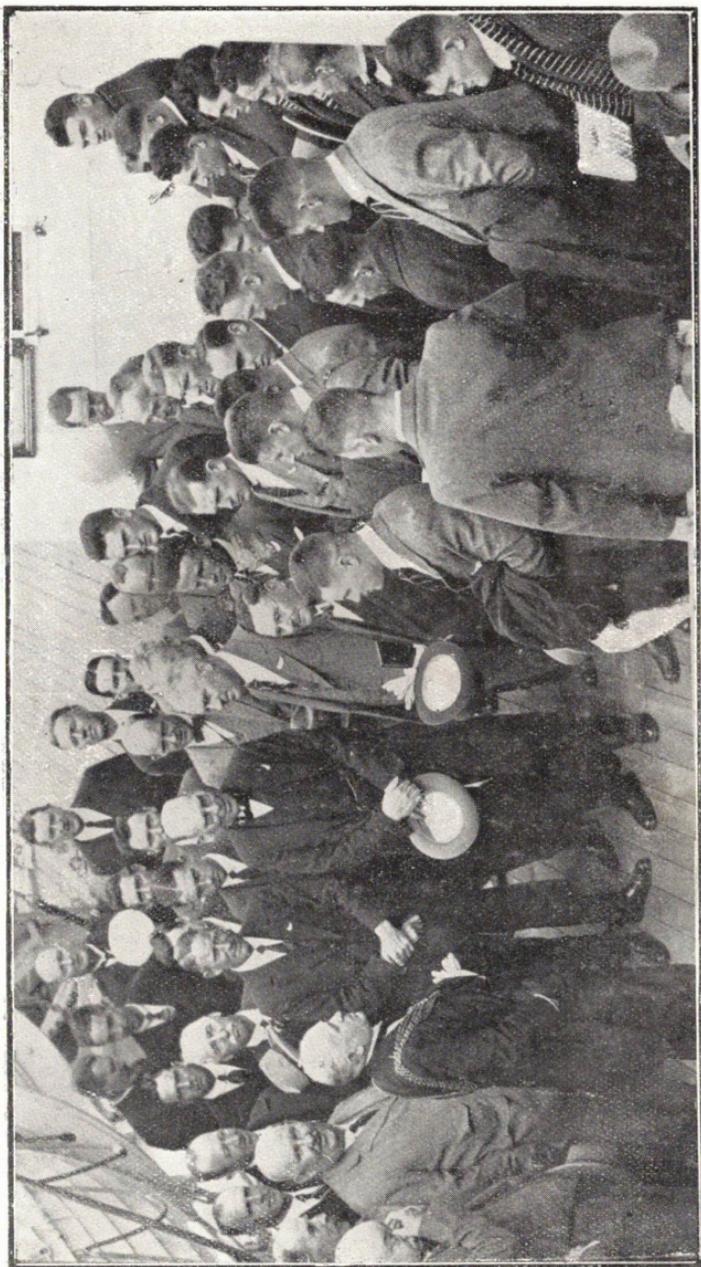
At 11 p.m. on Monday, August 18th, we passed between Cape Mala (Central America) and La Palma (South America), and reached Balboa Harbour three hours later. The entrance is very pretty and impressive, solid fortifications appearing on one side, and the commencement of the Panama Canal on the other. After being delayed only half an hour by the Port Authorities, we were permitted to land, and were motored to the Y.M.C.A., where we changed some of our money for Ameri-

can dollars. Later several of us took a tram to Panama city, and after walking through the main streets engaged a taxi to take us to each place of interest. We motored for two hours, first through many narrow, dirty streets, and then along a beautiful highway, past the racecourse, to the ruins of old Panama, where we saw the remains of the famous Cathedral, which was built in 1636, and destroyed by the notorious Welsh pirate, Morgan, and his buccaneers in their fight against the Spaniards and capture of Panama in 1671. We also walked over the old King's Bridge, which Morgan and his men had to fight their way across before they could reach the city. The evening was spent seeing the sights and wandering through the native quarters. The natives appeared to be huddled together like sheep, large families living in one or two rooms, which open right on to the footpaths of narrow, and very dirty streets.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The following morning at 5.30 we sailed from Balboa, and soon entered the sea level channel of the canal, through which we travelled for $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles before reaching the Miraflores Locks. Here we were raised 55 feet to the level of a small lake. After steaming through this lake we reached the Pedro Miguel Locks, where our ship was raised another 30 feet. We then sailed through the Culebra Cut, a distance of nine miles to the great artificial Gatun Lake, through which we steamed full speed ahead for a distance of 24 miles before reaching the three Gatun Locks, where we were lowered to the level of Limon Bay. After a journey of seven miles across the Bay, past Christobel and Colon, we were sailing in the deep waters of the Atlantic Ocean. The trip through this wonderful canal, which is a marvellous feat of engineering, only occupied seven hours, and proved very interesting. I was much impressed by the luxuriant growth of vegetation which appeared on every hand, also the numbers of beautifully coloured butterflies.

The stupendous task of piercing the Isthmus of Panama, which is 32 miles wide and divides the world's two largest oceans, was commenced by France in 1880, but in 1901, after a vast expenditure of money and loss of life through tropical fevers, the project had to be abandoned. In 1904 America took up the great work, and concentrated on destroying the disease-bearing mosquitoes; this was accomplished some three years later, and thenceforth operations went on unimpeded by abnormal sickness. In 1910 there were 50,000 men working on the canal, which was first opened to traffic on August 15th, 1914,



MR. S. STEPHENS (MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH) DELIVERING HIS ADDRESS OF WELCOME ABOARD THE S.S. "REMUERA."



TRAINING AT NEWTON ABBOT.



NEPIA PRACTISING GOAL-KICKING.

eleven days after the declaration of the Great War. The total cost of construction was approximately 122 million pounds—America 80 millions, France 42 millions.

On Friday morning, August 22nd, we passed through the Mona passage, between the Islands of Santo Domingo-Haiti and Porto Rico, in the West Indies. Haiti was pointed out to me by the Skipper as being a black Republic State, since liberated slaves massacred the entire French population many years ago; where Vaudoux worship, child sacrifice, and cannibalism are still practised.

Quite a gloom was cast over the team when, a few days prior to our arrival in England, Bert Cooke received a wireless message from New Zealand advising him of the death of his mother.

CHAPTER V.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF ENGLISH HOSPITALITY.

Our first glimpse of "good old England" was at 6.45 a.m. on Tuesday, September 2nd, when the outline of the Lizard was just visible. As we drew nearer to the coast a huge liner could be seen on the rocks, it having run ashore during a heavy fog, which we had also experienced 48 hours previously. At noon we passed the famous old Eddystone Lighthouse, where we turned off at right angles to enter the historical old Plymouth Harbour, dropping anchor at 1 p.m., after a very calm and exceptionally pleasant voyage. A lighter named "Sir Francis Drake" was soon alongside, and amongst those on board to welcome us were:—Messrs. S. Stephens (Mayor of Plymouth), W. S. Donne (President English Rugby Union), E. Prescott (Hon. Treasurer English Rugby Union), C. J. Wray and H. Crumble (official delegate of welcome from the English Rugby Union), F. W. Jeffry (representing Devon Rugby Union), and J. L. B. Elms (Chairman Newton Abbot Reception Committee). His Worship the Mayor said he was glad to have the opportunity of extending to us a welcome to the West Country, especially because we had come from a country that was marked by enterprise and hard work. He concluded by reminding us that we were floating in the very bay from which Sir Francis Drake and other great British seamen had commenced their famous voyages of discovery and battle. Mr. Donne extended us a very hearty welcome on behalf of the English Rugby Union, and "of the great football fraternity of Great Britain." Mr Dean acknowledged the kindly sentiments expressed, and said we all appreciated the very cordial nature of the welcome extended. He also thanked Captain Cameron and his staff for their many kindnesses displayed during the voyage. After being photographed with the Mayor and Captain Cameron on the boat-deck of the "Remuera," the lighter conveyed us ashore.

At 5 p.m. we attended a dinner at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel as guests of the English Rugby Union. Mr. Donne, in proposing the "Loyal Toast," stated that the King was not only Patron of the Union, but had probably forgotten more about Rugby than some people present had ever learnt. He said that it would only be a matter of vital importance that would prevent the King from seeing our match against England, not because he was reigning Sovereign, but because he

enjoys it. Later, Mr. Donne stated that the 1905 team had revolutionised football in England, and that the success of our predecessors would never be forgotten.

NEWTON ABBOT.

At 6.45 p.m. we caught a special train for Newton Abbot, where, upon our arrival an hour later, a wonderful reception was given us. We assembled outside the Railway Station, where a vast crowd of people were gathered, and received formal greetings from members of the Reception Committee and Council. Mr. J. Dolbear (Vice-Chairman of the Council) expressed the appreciation his townspeople felt at the decision of the New Zealand Rugby Union in making Newton Abbot our headquarters. He said it proved that New Zealanders were grateful for the hospitality and benefits which the 1905 team received whilst they were training at Newton Abbot prior to the commencement of their matches. He said that nothing could be too much for them to do to make our visit enjoyable, and offered us all the facilities for training and social pleasure that Newton Abbot could provide. Mr. Dolbear concluded by wishing us a very successful tour, and saying that although we came to England as ambassadors of sport, he hoped that we would return as ambassadors of goodwill, working for the benefit of the Empire, of which we were all privileged to be members. After Mr. Dean and Cliff Porter had expressed their thanks, we were conveyed to the Globe Hotel in motor-cars headed by the Town Band! Flags were flying from nearly every house en route, and streamers and bunting hung in profusion across the roadway. Newton Abbot's greetings was undoubtedly one of warmth and sincerity, and will never be forgotten as long as we live.

On Wednesday, September 3rd, in beautiful weather such as "Glorious Devon" is noted for, we put in our first morning's training in England. Most of us had put on weight during the voyage, but were very well and delighted to be able to gallop on the grass after the hard decks of the "Remuera." A large number of Newton Abbot's residents congregated at the park to watch our methods of training, which consisted of the usual scrummaging line-out, passing and dribbling practice.

In the afternoon I visited a cattle market, and was astounded at the ruling prices—vealer calves about three weeks old fetched up to £8 10s, full mouth breeding ewes up to £5 10s, broken mouth ewes up to £3 10s, fat lambs up to £4 3s, bullocks weighing about 6½cwt up to £31 18s.

The following day we were invited to a garden fete held in the grounds of Ford House, an historical residence where Charles I., William of Orange, and many other Kings and Princes had stayed. During the afternoon a well-known forward from the North Island asked a girl, who was assisting at the fete, dressed as a pierrot, if she would accompany him to the Ball that was being given in our honour that night. After obtaining her mother's permission she accepted. We were all highly amused when she turned up with skirts above her knees, obviously looking about fourteen, as against eighteen or nineteen in her pierrot costume! Exit the forward from the North Island!

A great day was spent motoring over the famous and beautiful Dartmoor, where we visited all the places of interest, among which was the Princetown Prison, where England's worst criminals are interned. I must say that, judging by the appearance of those we saw, they looked their part. A Mr. V. Hellens, of Newton Abbot, very kindly lent me his car, so Billy Dalley, Joek Richardson, and I visited many interesting towns, including Torquay, Exeter, Dawlish, Bishopteignton, Denbury, Tor Brian, Staverton, etc. We passed over a stone bridge, with seven arches across the River Dart, which was built in 1412, and even to-day it is in a perfect state of preservation, carrying any traffic that comes along. We were conducted over the ancient and extremely interesting estate of Dartington Hall, which I was told has been owned and occupied by the Champenowne family for practically three-fourths of the history of England. One afternoon we spent at Totnes, where a very small country race meeting was held. There were several two horse races, and the largest field was four horses. In one race nineteen horses out of twenty-three entries were scratched. The meeting proved rather expensive! An inspection of the Watcombe Potteries was most interesting; the owner presenting us each with tankards suitably inscribed to commemorate our visit.

On Thursday, the 9th, we were the guests of the Newton Abbot Rotary Club at a luncheon. The speaker was Mr. Kelly, an old English International forward and captain, who played against the 1905 All Blacks. He spoke at some length on English Rugby, and considered that if the game was played as it should be, it was quite fast enough for any man, and that in his opinion alterations in the rules were quite unnecessary.

During our very enjoyable stay in Newton Abbot we were all made honorary members of the Golf Club, Liberal Club, Constitutional Club, Courtenay Club, Bowling Club, and Independent Labour Party Club.

CHAPTER VI.

FIRST MATCH, v. DEVONSHIRE.

At 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 13th, we caught the train for Devonport. Upon our arrival motor buses met us, and before conveying us to the Devonport Rectory Ground, where we were to play the opening match of the tour, we were driven to the spot where the Pilgrim Fathers sailed for America in the "Mayflower" 304 years ago. The inscription inserted in the sea wall to commemorate this event, reads as follows:— "On September 6th, 1620, in the Mayoralty of Thomas Townes, after being kindly entertained and courteously used by divers Friends there dwelling, the Pilgrim Fathers sailed from Plymouth in the Mayflower in the providence of God to settle in New Plymouth, and to lay the foundation of the New England States." We also motored along the Plymouth Ho, where Sir Francis Drake is said to have been playing bowls when the Spanish Armada was seen approaching Plymouth.

When we walked on to the field we were given a tremendous welcome by the 18,000 spectators. George Nepia then led the Haka, which was enthusiastically received, although the following morning a letter appeared in the paper criticising it. The writer, a prominent University sportsman, was of the opinion that "cat-calls were quite uncalled for, and stated that the South Africans did not open their games with Zulu cries!" It is quite safe to conclude that he had not been to both Colonies, or he would never have made such a comparison.

The turf was in good order, and the weather conditions ideal for fast, open football until rain came on just before half-time, and descended in torrents for the rest of the game. Owing to brilliant tackling by our opponents, the game had progressed half an hour before we scored. Svenson having the honour of scoring the first try of the tour, which Nepia failed to convert. Soon after Devon almost equalised with a fine penalty kick by Hanley from half-way, but it just fell under the bar. Our next try came ten minutes later after a fine passing rush, when Cooke scored for Nepia to convert.

Half-time: New Zealand 8.
Devon .. Nil.

Five minutes after the recommencement of play Brown increased our lead by an unconverted try. This was to be our last score. The Devon forwards played magnificently, and beat us in the majority of scrums and line-outs, in spite of the fact that for the remainder of the game they had the wind and rain in their faces. The game from our point of view was most disappointing, dropped passes were frequent among the backs, and there was no cohesion in the forwards. Irvine was unable to play owing to his receiving an injury to a foot during the last morning's training. This placed us at a slight disadvantage, inasmuch that he and Munro had been concentrated on for the first match during our scrum practises at Newton Abbot. The opposing scrum was a nonplusser to us, the ball often being put in the scrum three or four times before it was hooked to the satisfaction of the referee. The middle man of the Devon front row invariably obstructed our hookers by placing his feet in the channel of our scrum, the ball being thrown in behind his heels.

**Result: New Zealand 11.
Devon .. Nil.**

The teams were:—**Devonshire:** Full-back, Captain Baker; three-quarters, W. B. Syms, Sub.-Lieut. Lee, Lieut. Garratt, A. Hugo; five-eighth, J. Hanley; halves, R. Knapman, Lieut. Douglas; forwards, F. W. Sanders (Captain), L. R. Stephens, J. R. C. Buchanan, T. R. Jones, W. Rew, W. Mole, J. Boddy.

New Zealand: Full back, G. Nepia; three-quarters, K. Svenson, H. W. Brown, F. W. Lucas; five-eighths, M. F. Nicholls, A. E. Cooke; half, W. C. Dalley; forwards, C. G. Porter (Captain), H. G. Munro, Q. Donald, M. Brownlie, R. R. Masters, R. Stewart, A. West, J. Richardson.

Referee: Mr. R. A. Roberts, of Gloucester.

COLONEL PHILIP TREVOR, C.B.E., ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE "ALL BLACKS."

In his report in the "Daily Telegraph," Colonel Philip Trevor, who is considered England's foremost Rugby critic, said, "It was only by the modest margin of 11 points to nil that the New Zealanders beat Devon County. Anyhow, they have begun their eagerly-anticipated tour with a victory, and although they never did look like being defeated, the fact remains that play lasted half an hour before they scored. Still, for some little time previously they had been giving evidence of the kind of

cleverness which we felt could scarcely fail to lead to point getting. . . . I pass to the more important question of 'How good are these 1924 New Zealanders going to be?' I frankly think they are going to be very good indeed, although they will have to justify their seven forwards policy, and the formation of these seven men more completely than they did on Saturday; the two-three-two formation of the pack is ideal for swift heeling, if it is exactly done. It was not exactly done at Devonport, and because it was not, a call was made on the New Zealand backs for extra ingenuity. . . . You cannot compare the 1924 All Blacks with their immortal predecessors of nineteen years ago, for the simple reason that English team work has improved out of all knowledge since then. Had the 1905 New Zealand pack been opposed in their first fixture to a pack of the strength of the 1924 Devon pack, they would not have won it by 55 points to nil. We must wait awhile ere we talk authoritively on the 1924 New Zealand team. Meanwhile my opinion, for what it is worth, is that they are a very capable and dangerously attacking combination, who at the outset of their tour have rather failed to live up to their reputation. I add one item of information with especial pleasure, but not with surprise—they played a scrupulously fair and eminently clean game, and so did Devon."

GUESTS OF THE MAYOR OF PLYMOUTH.

After the match we were the guests of the Mayor, Mr. S. Stephens, at a dinner held at the Royal Hotel. Mr. C. L. Vicary, President of the Devon Rugby Union, in proposing our health, said: "The county people are very pleased with the game from their point of view, and think the forwards played magnificently. Our fellows don't really get fit for another month or so. You have learned a great deal from us that will be a profit to you when up against good sides." Mr. Dean responding, said he was disappointed in our showing, and offered his congratulations to Devon on the fine game they played. "We were told that Devon was one of the weakest counties. If they are, then we are going to be up against some solid opposition." He concluded by thanking the people of Devon for their great hospitality and kindness. Among the other speakers were:—Mr. C. J. Wray (New Zealand Representative on the English Rugby Union), Mr. W. W. Wakefield, England's famous Captain. After a very enjoyable evening we returned to Newton Abbot, arriving there at 11.30 p.m.

Both mornings of the two remaining days spent at Newton Abbot, prior to our departure for Cornwall, were put in on

the training field trying to obviate some of the weaknesses which had shown up during our first match. Scrummaging and line-out play received particular attention.

On Monday afternoon we visited H. M. Dockyards at Plymouth, and by special permit were shown round, and had many very interesting things explained to us. We went over the "Royal Sovereign," a large battleship, and also saw being constructed the latest addition to the British Navy—an airship carrier of immense size. It has no funnels; in their stead are dozens of air scoops fitted into the sides of the vessel, through which the smoke can escape.

CHAPTER. VII.

SECOND MATCH, v. CORNWALL.

At mid-day on Wednesday, September 17th, we left Newton Abbot for Camborne, in Cornwall. Upon our arrival at 3.30 p.m., we were given a warm welcome by members of the C.R.U. and numbers of people who had congregated at the station, also along the streets, as we proceeded to the Council Chambers, where we were accorded a civic reception. The evening was spent at the theatre.

We had all the best of the game against Cornwall, played at Camborne on Thursday, 18th September, in beautiful weather and on hard, fast turf. There were 11,000 spectators present. Parker opened our scoring with a try, which Nepia converted four minutes after the kick-off. Seven minutes later Cooke scored, Nepia again converting. At this stage Cornwall's tackling improved. Parker increased the score to 13 ten minutes before half-time. Cornwall showed much better form after the resumption of play and kept us out for 20 minutes, when M. Brownlie scored, for Brown to convert. Soon afterwards we notched three tries in five minutes—Parker, who ran from half-way, Irvine and Mill each getting across, one of which Brown converted. An injury compelled Wakeham, one of Cornwall's best forwards, to retire half-way through the second spell; this placed our opponents at a disadvantage, because in English Rugby an injured player cannot be replaced. We secured the ball in 75 per cent. of the scrums and were attacking for quite four-fifths of the game, but many tries were lost through forward passes and knock-ons.

Result: New Zealand 29.
Cornwall Nil.

The teams were:—**Cornwall:** H. Ham, G. Jago, P. Collins, F. Barnard, E. S. Rees, R. Hamblyn, A. Gibson, Capt. G. Young, J. Richards, R. Jennings, F. Rust, W. J. Biddick, A. Mayne, S. Wakeham, G. Thomas.

New Zealand: Nepia, Robilliard, Brown, Svenson, Cooke, McGregor, Mill, Parker, Munro, Irvine, M. Brownlie, Harvey, Richardson, Cupples, White.

Referee: Mr. Jexery, of Plymouth.

COLONEL PHILIP TREVOR ON THE MATCH.

“The New Zealanders won the second match of the tour at Camborne, beating Cornwall very easily indeed. It was a beautiful afternoon; the turf was in excellent condition, and so the tourists got a chance of showing something approaching their best form. They certainly took advantage of it. We are already assured of the wealth of talent at their command. They made as many as eight changes in the side that beat Devon, but it is already clear that they have no lack of absolutely first-class performers. They began brilliantly, and in the getting of the first three of their seven tries they showed a particular form of excellence. All three were the outcome of short, smart little dashes, of which the features were the instantaneousness and accuracy of the return pass. It is that kind of combination which is likely to bewilder and outwit the defence of the teams that will be opposed to it. The ball is gathered quickly by the five-eighths, and he instantly makes a straight dash, getting into full speed in about a couple of strides. He is invariably supported, and in his turn supports his supporter. We have seen Kershaw and Davies do this kind of thing, but they were a unique pair. Evidently the New Zealanders have several men who very practically understand this most paying manœuvre. . . . I have nothing to take back of what I said four days ago about New Zealand form. It has already improved, and I feel certain we have not yet seen the best of the team.”

Following the match we were the guests of the C.R.U. at a dinner, at which Mr. F. J. Gardener presided. Mr. P. Holman, Hon. Sec. of the Cornwall Union, said that such a hard, clean, and well-fought game as had been witnessed that day between England and one of her Colonies bound the Empire together—an aim they should always set before them. Cliff. Porter, in replying, said he hoped the game had pleased everybody. We tried to fight it in the best sporting spirit, and he was glad to see that both sides conducted themselves in a manner that was going to help Rugby football along.

 CHAPTER VIII.

 THIRD MATCH, v. SOMERSET.

On Friday, 19th September, we left Camborne at 11.38, arriving at Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, at 5 p.m. In spite of the fact that it was pouring with rain a large crowd had gathered at the station to welcome us. On the platform we were received by Sir G. Duncan Grey (President of the Weston Rugby Club) and Mr. S. E. South, an old Rugby player, who was a member of the County team that met our Native team in 1888. Brian McCleary and Quentin Donald flew from Camborne to Newquay with Capt. Young, who played for Cornwall, and joined the train there. They enjoyed the trip, but admitted to "wind-up" when the machine looped-the-loop over the Bay!

The 12,000 people who watched our third match v. Somerset on September 20th proved a particularly sporting and appreciative crowd. With the Somerset forwards playing a sterling, dashing game, and their backs defending well, we had to work desperately hard for a victory. Heavy rain, which had fallen continuously for 24 hours prior to the kick-off, had left many pools of standing water on the field. We played with a strong wind in our favour in the first spell, but could not score. The ball was most difficult to handle, being sodden and greasy, and the ground very slippery, with the result that passing rushes invariably ended in a knock-on or in a player slipping when attempting to side-step. Somerset secured the ball in 80 per cent. of the scrums in the first spell, but did not attempt many passing rushes, their half-back being usually content to gain a few yards by kicking for touch.

Half-time: Somerset Nil.
New Zealand Nil.

The second spell was more than half over when Cooke dribbled the ball across to score our first try, which was unconverted by Nepia. This try came as a great relief; for up to this stage the defence had remained solid and a drawn game looked certain. Our forwards steadily improved all through the

second spell, and towards the end of the game were getting the ball regularly in the scrums and putting in some great dribbling rushes. The defence of the tired Somerset pack in the closing stages was wonderful. A few minutes before the final whistle was sounded, Mill secured the ball from a scrum near the line and dashed over to secure our second try. Nepia again failed with the kick. During the game, which was hard but very clean, White, Svenson and Robilliard were injured, but all three played on under difficulties. An X-ray of Robilliard's foot several days later revealed a small bone broken.

Result: New Zealand 6.

Somerset Nil.

The teams were.—**Somerset:** Lt.-Commr. A. E. Thomson, R. Quick (Capt.), S. G. Considine, E. L. Stinchcombe, W. Gibbs, Flight-Commr. J. R. Russell, W. R. Collins, T. Rose, H. B. L. Wake, A. Spriggs, L. W. Bisgrove, C. R. Wordsworth, R. S. Chaddock, E. Meakin, J. Hawkins.

New Zealand: Nepia, Robilliard, Lucas, Svenson, Cooke, Paewai, Mill, Parker, Munro, Irvine, M. Brownlie, Harvey, Richardson, Cupples, White.

Referee: Mr. W. H. Jackson, of Camborne.

During the evening we were the guests of the Somerset Rugby Union at a dinner, after which various toasts were honoured and many fine speeches made.

HISTORICAL SOMERSET.

A wonderful Sunday was spent motoring to the beauty spots of Somerset. Particularly lovely was the Cheddar Gorge, with its towering, rocky cliffs rising several hundred feet on either side. At the entrance to the Gorge is the famous "Rock of Ages." Later, as the guests of the owner, Mr. Gough, we visited the famous Cheddar Stalactite Caves, which were first discovered in 1877, and declared to be the finest in the world. (Several members of our party who have visited the Waitomo Caves in New Zealand did not agree on this point). Remains of prehistoric animals have been found in these caves, among which are the cave bear, cave lion, hyena, bison, rhinoceros and great Irish elk. The remains of a prehistoric man, declared to be between 40,000 and 80,000 years old, were also discovered, and are on view at the entrance. This skeleton is the most ancient in existence. In an old visitors' book at the Caves we saw the signatures of the 1905 "All Blacks." From Cheddar we journeyed to Wells, where, after having lunch, we were conducted over the famous Wells

Cathedral and Bishop's Palace, which date back to the 10th century. Mere words cannot convey a just idea of the noble grandeur and beauty of these buildings. On our return journey to Weston-super-Mare we passed the historical old Sedge-moor battlefields, where the last battle fought on English soil took place. The following day we journeyed to Bath, where, after having lunch with the Bath Football Club, we were shown many interesting places about the town, including the famous old Roman baths. Afternoon tea with the Mayor and Mayoress in the Roman museum concluded a very enjoyable day.

On Tuesday, 23rd, we journeyed to Wellington, via Bridgewater and Taunton, where, by kind invitation, we had lunch with the directors of Messrs. Fox Bros., and afterwards inspected their works. This is one of the largest cloth-producing factories in the world, spinning the yarn direct from the wool, and manufacturing the finished article in all its stages. The famous Fox's serge and putties are well-known in New Zealand. The present head of the firm, Mr. F. H. Fox, was a notable Rugby half-back, and led the Somerset team for many years, while in 1890 he captained England XV. We returned to Weston that evening.

CHAPTER IX.

FOURTH MATCH, v. GLOUCESTER.

On Wednesday, September 24th, we left Weston-super-Mare for Gloucester, but broke our journey at Bristol, where we arrived at 9.55 a.m. We were shown over their huge factory and entertained at luncheon by the directors of the well-known firm of J. S. Fry & Sons, chocolate manufacturers. In the afternoon we went through the works of W. D. and H. O. Wills, Imperial Tobacco Co., and had tea with the directors. These works were really most interesting. The whole process of making tobacco, cigars and cigarettes from the time the leaf arrives in the factory, was explained and shown to us. The machines turn out hundreds of cigarettes per minute, and many we saw were capable of packing as many as 350,000 "fags" a day. We were all loaded with cigarettes, cigars and chocolates that had been given to us at the two factories, when we caught the train at 4.30 to continue our journey to Gloucester, where, upon arrival at 5.15 we were welcomed by many people who had congregated at the railway station.

Frightful weather prevailed for our game against Gloucester on Thursday, September 25th. An incessant down-pour commenced in the early hours of the morning, and it was still raining when we kicked off. This did not seem to affect the attendance at the match, which was estimated at about 13,000. The Kingsholm ground was in a deplorable state, being very muddy and slippery, and the white jerseys of our opponents were soon almost the colour of our own. The game, which was undoubtedly our worst display to date, was generally disappointing. We scored only two tries, Quentin Donald crossing the line on each occasion. The first was from a forward scramble five minutes after the start, and the second a few minutes before the final whistle blew. Nepia failed with the kicks, which were from difficult angles. Gloucester was not in our twenty-five once in the first spell, during which we were getting the ball from the scrums, having all the best of the play and attacking strongly. Forward passes and knock-ons by our backs predominated, and on three occasions a clean transfer would

have meant a clear run in. After the interval the Gloucester forwards went off with great dash, and half-way through the spell were out-playing and out-staying our vanguard, who were playing wretchedly, and who continued to do so until the closing stages, when they regained some of their true form. If it had not been for the determined defence displayed by our rearguard the Gloucester forwards would have scored more than one try during the second spell.

**Result: New Zealand 6.
Gloucester Nil.**

The teams were:—**Gloucester:** T. Millington, S. A. Brown, L. J. Corbett (Capt.), R. C. W. Pickles, T. Spoons, G. C. Taylor, C. B. Carter, G. Thomas, M. V. Shaw, A. S. Prowse, A. T. Hore, S. Bayliss, W. Preece, S. Dubberley, A. R. Rickards.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Brown, Lucas, McGregor, Nicholls, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, Donald, Harvey, M. Brownlie, Richardson, Stewart, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. R. Fear, Somerset.

GUESTS OF THE MAYOR AT THE GUILD HALL.

Following the match we were entertained at a dinner given by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. C. Gardner, at the Guild Hall. It was a memorable function, and those present included many leading men in English Rugby. The toast of "The King" being duly honoured, and a verse of the National Anthem sung, the Mayor extended us a cordial welcome, and said that Rugby enthusiasts had been eagerly looking forward to our visit. "The people of Britain," continued the Mayor, "could never forget the help and assistance the men from the Colonies gave in the Great War." Mr. A. J. Gardiner, in proposing the toast "Our New Zealand Visitors," said he recognised what an impetus our predecessors in 1905 gave to Rugby in England. He thought we would find that the standard of play in England had greatly improved, and if our records were not so favourable as those of the 1905 team, we must remember we were meeting more formidable opponents. At the conclusion of the function we gave our Haka at the Mayor's request, and were cheered.

CHAPTER X.

FIFTH MATCH, v. SWANSEA.

On Friday, September 26th, we left Gloucester at 2 p.m. and arrived at Newport, South Wales, at 4.30 p.m., where thousands of people had congregated to welcome us. We then proceeded to the Town Hall, where we were accorded a civic reception by the Mayor, Mr. C. F. Williams, who said the people of Newport were delighted that we were making their town our headquarters for the South Wales tour. He said Newport was generally regarded as a town of sport, and promised us a good sporting game. In the absence of Mr. Dean, who was attending a meeting of the English Rugby Union, Mr. S. F. Wilson suitably responded. The following day we left by train for Swansea.

We experienced beautiful weather for our first match in Wales, played on Swansea's famous St. Helens ground, which can accommodate a huge crowd, and possesses a magnificent stand. I had often heard of the singing Welsh people indulge in while waiting for a game to commence, but did not think it could be so spirited. Particularly stirring was the Welsh National Anthem "Land of My Fathers," which was sung by the vast crowd of quite 45,000, who were conducted by the bandmaster from the centre of the field, just before we walked on to the ground. Cheering took the place of singing as we gave our Haka.

The turf, which looked as smooth as a billiard table, proved to be in perfect order. We kicked off with a blinding sun in our eyes, and for half of the first spell played rather unsteadily. During this period Swansea, if anything, had the better of the play, their forwards carrying most of the scrums and playing with more dash than us, whilst our backs were frequently not accepting passes. Two certain tries were lost by knock-ons early in the game, and several more during the latter part of this spell. Our first score came from a beautiful drop goal by Mark Nicholls, 22 minutes after the start. From then on we steadily improved, our forwards playing with more vigour, and our backs with more certainty. Lucas scored from a good passing rush 10



"CAPTAIN" PORTER LEADING HIS TEAM OUT FOR THE FIRST MATCH.



THE HAKA.

minutes after Mark's "pot," and Irvine from a line-out five minutes before half-time. Nepia failed with both kicks.

Half-time: New Zealand 10.
Swansea Nil.

After the interval Swansea tore into the play in great style, but very soon faded out. Their backs seemed to be troubled with the sun, which was lower, and therefore worse than it had been for us. Brown scored for Nicholls to convert five minutes after resumption. Ten minutes later Dai Parker kicked a magnificent goal for Swansea from a difficult angle a few yards inside half-way. The ball hit the bar but bounced over; and so the first points of the tour were scored against us. For the rest of the game we absolutely overshadowed Swansea in every department. Our backs were well served with the ball from the scrums and line-outs, and were making good use of it in brilliant passing rushes. Swansea's defence weakened, and try after try resulted, the order of the scoring being—Steel, Brown, M. Brownlie, Steel, Steel, Cooke. Nicholls 3 conversions.

Result: New Zealand 39.
Swansea .. 3.

The teams were:—**Swansea:** P. Lloyd, J. E. Watkins, T. Evans, M. Evans, D. Jenkins, E. Rees, R. Smitham, J. H. John (Capt.), Dr. Bertram, G. White, I. Morris, D. Parker, E. Thomas, H. Rees, I. Thomas.

New Zealand: Nepia, Steel, Brown, Lucas, Nicholls, Cooke, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, Donald, Harvey, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, White, West.

Referee: Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, of Bridgend.

The Mayor of Swansea, Mr. G. Colwill, gave us a dinner at the Hotel Metropole after the match. The function was attended by about 200 people, and among those present were Mr D. Williams, M.P., Mr. W. A. Jenkins, M.P., Alderman Ivor Gwynne, most of the members of the City Corporation, and members of the W.R.U. Mr. J. H. John, the Swansea Captain, congratulated us on our win, and said "the New Zealanders are a wonder team, and I do not think they will be beaten."

THE "SOUTH WALES NEWS" ON THE MATCH.

"No one was prepared for the greatness of the exhibition by the 'All Blacks' at Swansea. Those who had seen them perform against the four English counties whom they defeated had witnessed their struggles to overcome the handicaps imposed by mud

and rain, and had really only seen them in subdued moods. At Swansea every prospect pleased. The tourists were well satisfied, and they displayed their satisfaction by attaining to degrees of excellence in excess of anything that their previous displays had shown them capable of. The individual who refuses to change his opinions and estimates in the light of conclusive new evidence is bound to pursue a course that can only lead to disillusionment, and it is only those who hide their heads in the sand in that way who will refrain from acknowledging that the New Zealanders of 1924 are as great a side on a dry day as were their predecessors of 1905, and that given good conditions they are capable of building up as brilliant a record, and possibly a more brilliant one than that which was compiled by the Colonials who toured this country nineteen years ago."

TREDEGAR PARK.

The following afternoon we were invited by Lord Tredegar to see his beautiful and historic mansion, Tredegar Park, and were impressed with his collection of priceless paintings and wonderful library. In the grounds is a monument to "Sir Briggs," the charger that carried the late Viscount Tredegar in the famous "Charge of the Light Brigade" at Crimea. The Tredegar's family name is Morgan, and they have descended from the notorious King of Pirates, Sir Henry Morgan, of Panama fame.

The next day we were motored to some of the renowned Welsh colliery and steel works. Whilst passing through the village of Pontymister, the driver of a railway engine purposely drew his engine across the level crossing to hold up our cars, and shouted, "If Swansea can't stop the All Blacks I can!" Needless to say, this sally caused much amusement.

CHAPTER XI.

SIXTH MATCH, v. NEWPORT.

Thirty thousand people cheered wildly as we took up our position to oppose Newport on the Athletic Ground at 3.30 on Thursday, October 2nd. The weather was overcast, with a moderate breeze blowing across the field; the turf was in good order. Practically from the word go, Newport tore into the game with great vim, continually gaining ground with determined rushes. With their forwards playing magnificently, and their backs tackling and passing well, also kicking with good judgment, we were kept defending for the greater part of the first spell. Only twice did we really look like scoring, and in each case the pass was not accepted by a three-quarter when practically a clear run in would have resulted. We were being beaten in two-thirds of the scrums, and by no means getting our own way in the line-outs; our backs often failed with their line kicks. Newport were frequently penalised for obstruction in the scrums, and several times for charging in the line-out, whilst we were occasionally offending by breaking round the scrum too soon. The game was half an hour old when, from a good passing rush, Friend scored for Newport close to the posts. Wetter had no trouble in converting, and for the first time on the tour the score was against us. We made some vigorous efforts to equalise before half-time, but Newport's defence proved to solid.

Half-time: Newport . . . 5.
New Zealand Nil.

The second half opened with Newport showing the same determination as before, and with no slackening of effort. A few minutes after recommencement Jones charged into Cooke after the latter had parted with the ball, and our star back was carried off unconscious on an ambulance stretcher. Jones maintained it was an accident, and was cautioned by the referee. A section of the crowd hooted, and shouted for the offender to be sent off—many a man has been for a much less determined charge—but the referee did not take any further action. Cooke

received medical attention, and when he came round was advised by the doctor not to return to the field, but he did so some 15 minutes later, in a very groggy state, receiving a wonderful ovation from the crowd. Our play eventually improved somewhat, and after 20 minutes' hard, fast play, in which both teams attacked in turn with some great passing rushes, the tackling being deadly, we heeled the ball from a scrum in front of the posts, and Mill dived over for Nicholls to add the major points and make the score 5 all. Up and down play followed. We were now having slightly the better of the game, playing with more dash in the forwards, and being more successful in the scrums. Nepia, Nicholls, and Porter each tried long unsuccessful "pots" at goal, and Wetter for Newport missed one by inches from directly in front of the posts. Nicholls then had two penalty shots from difficult angles, being successful with the second. This put us in the lead for the first time in the game. A few minutes later Newport rallied and Wetter tried a drop-kick, the ball rolling over the line. Svenson slipped when racing to force it, and Andrews, who was following up fast, touched down for Newport. Baker converted with a beautiful kick, and once again we were behind. There were only a few minutes to go, and from the kick off Newport forced us back to our own 25, and it looked as though we would suffer defeat, but the luck was with us when M. Brownlie fielded a kick by Newport, which failed to find touch, and passed to Svenson, who raced over for a try in the corner, which Nicholls converted amid much enthusiasm by the New Zealanders present. Time was called a minute later.

From our point of view this was a great finish to a game that we did not really deserve to win. We could not seem to get going, there being very little combination either back or forward. It was not by any means a parlour game, being hard and vigorous all through, but apart from the incident I have already mentioned, and a little keenness among the hookers, there was nothing to take exception to. Mr. Freethy controlled the game in a very able manner. The spectators, who, of course, absolutely roared each time Newport scored, were quite fair and applauded all good work by us.

Result: New Zealand 13.

Newport .. 10.

The teams were:—**Newport:** F. Baker, G. E. Andrews, W. Jones, A. Stock, E. Kitson, E. Dowdall, J. Wetter, R. Edwards (Captain), J. Whitfield, T. Jones, T. Roberts, J. V. Waite, J. Collins, G. Hathaway, W. Friend.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Brown, Steel, Nicholls, Cooke, Mill, Porter, Irvine, Donald, Masters, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, West, White.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, of Neath.

After the match we attended a very enjoyable banquet at the Town Hall. The Mayor, Mr. C. F. Williams, presided, and he was accompanied by many influential townspeople. In proposing the toast of "The New Zealand Football Team," the Mayor said that he did not think we would be more extended than we had been against Newport without suffering defeat. Cliff Porter responded, and said we had thoroughly enjoyed the game, and admitted that we had been lucky to win. After the dinner we proceeded to a dance that had been arranged for us.

CHAPTER XII.

SEVENTH MATCH, v. LEICESTER.

On Friday, October 3rd, we arrived in Leicester at 2 p.m., and spent an interesting afternoon looking over the works of the St. Margaret's Woollen Mills, where we had tea with the directors. In the evening we visited a "Rodeo," which proved an absolute failure, being only about as good as the worst circus I have ever witnessed in New Zealand! The cowboys and bronchos were supposed to come direct from Wembley, but I "ha me doots!"

The fine stand at the Welford Road ground was crammed full of people, and the standing room around the field fully taxed when we kicked off against Leicester, in fine weather, on Saturday afternoon, October 4th. Some seventy New Zealanders, who had journeyed from London to see the game, helped to make up the estimated total of 35,000 spectators. The playing area was practically as smooth as a cricket pitch. Last night's papers reported that the Leicester Tigers could only lose to-day's match by striking a "day off." A real "day off" it must have been, for we proved their superiors in every department of the game, and won by 27 to nil. Our play was quite fifty per cent. better than it had been against Newport last Saturday. We started attacking from the kick-off, and it was only good tackling by the Leicester three-quarters that prevented our scoring several tries during the first ten minutes. Cupples opened the scoring with an unconverted try a quarter of an hour after the start. This was followed two minutes later by a try by Richardson, which Nicholls converted. Leicester attacked for a brief period, but were soon pushed back, for both Steel and Lucas to score tries in quick succession after good passing rushes. Nicholls converting the former. Towards the end of the spell Leicester improved somewhat, and brought off some good dribbling rushes, which had us defending when the interval came.

Half-time: New Zealand 16.
Leicester Nil.

Leicester carried their revival of form on into the second half, and for a quarter of an hour with determined forward rushes and good combined passing movements had slightly the best of the play. Our tackling and rush stopping, however, was too solid for them to score. We eventually drove them out of our territory with forward rushes, and from then on more or less dominated the play. Though several tries were lost through bad passing, two more were scored, one by White, which Nicholls converted, and the other by Svenson unconverted. Nicholls also kicked a penalty goal during the closing stages of the game. Munro injured a knee half-way through the first spell, but plodded on under difficulties. Another knock, however, forced him to retire soon after the interval, and we had to play for 30 minutes with only 14 men. White went into the front row, and Porter in the scrum. A fine, clean sporting spirit existed throughout the game; the "Tigers" not being at all savage!

**Result: New Zealand 27.
Leicester Nil.**

The teams were:—**Leicester:** L. C. Sambrook, O. C. Bryson, M. Holden, P. Scott, A. Smallwood, H. Price, E. Massey, J. Russell, J. Lawrie, J. C. Buchanan, G. Ward, F. Prentice, W. Roderick, H. Sharratt, J. E. Davis.

New Zealand: Nepia, Lucas, Svenson, Steel, McGregor, Nicholls, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, Munro, Masters, Richardson, M. Brownlie, White, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, Neath.

COLONEL FREYBERG, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O.

In the dressing sheds after the match we were introduced to Colonel Freyberg, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O., of Great War fame, who had made a special journey from London to be present at the match. He congratulated us on our win, and hoped that we would go through with an unbeaten record. Three cheers were very enthusiastically given for him.

In the evening we attended a dinner as guests of the Leicester Football Club, at which Mr. K. McAlpin (President Leicester Football Club) presided. After the usual toasts had been honoured we proceeded to the theatre.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

The following afternoon the Duke of Rutland invited us to Belvoir Castle, and personally conducted us all over the wonderful place. In the great hall were suits of armour and

weapons used by warriors in defending the castle hundreds of years ago, and in the art gallery were many valuable paintings, one alone, that of Henry V., being worth £8,000. We also inspected the Belvoir Kennels, where nine men are employed to look after 68 pairs of fox hounds!

THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION.

As the Exhibition would have been closed before our official visit to London, Mr. Dean arranged for a special trip on Monday, October 6th. We left Leicester at 9.20 a.m., and arrived at Wembley Station two hours later. We proceeded immediately to "New Zealand" before joining the New Zealand Wembley authorities at a luncheon given in our honour. Those present were:—Col. A. F. Roberts, O.B.E. (Commander of New Zealand Court), who presided, Sir James Allen (High Commissioner for New Zealand), Sir Arthur Myers (late Minister of Finance for New Zealand), the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. D. Hoare (Secretary New Zealand Court), the Rev. Mollineaux, Captain of the British Rugby Team that toured Australia in 1898, and many others. During the afternoon we visited "Canada," "India," "Australia," "South Africa," and the Amusement Park. Time was too short to make a very thorough inspection, but of what I saw, I considered "Canada" was the best. The display of wool, butter, and frozen meat in "New Zealand" was also very good. We saw the huge stadium where about 120,000 people can be accommodated. We left Wembley at 7.30 p.m., and upon our arrival in London we were conveyed to Euston Station via Oxford street, Regent street, Piccadilly, Haymarket, Pall Mall, Trafalgar Square, thence to the station where we left for Birmingham at 9.15 p.m., and reached our destination at midnight. Our first glimpse of London was spoilt owing to rain, which made the streets look dreary. The absence of verandahs seemed very strange.

 CHAPTER XIII.

EIGHTH MATCH, v. NORTH MIDLANDS.

Notwithstanding the fact that Birmingham is a great stronghold of Association Football, 22,000 people congregated at Villa Park, and displayed a great deal of interest in our match against North Midlands on Wednesday, October 8th. The weather was fine, and the ground in good order. Although the match proved a big scoring one, we did not exactly have things all our own way. North Midlands adopted the policy of "attack is the best means of defence," and, instead of being content to concentrate on keeping the scores down like several of the teams we had met, threw the ball about freely, and pleased the spectators with some very good passing rushes. The try which they scored just before half-time was an excellent one—Orcutt, who received the ball after a pretty passing rush, punted over Nepia's head, and raced on to touch down.

The tackling and plucky rush-stopping by our opponents was a feature of the play. They upset many of our combined passing movements. Most of our ten tries were scored from short, sharp thrusts, and eight of them by forwards. We carried the majority of the scrums and line-outs, and repeatedly gained ground by good dribbling rushes. The combination amongst our backs was not so good as it could have been. Jim Parker, who had a "day out" and scored five good tries, was carried off shortly before the game finished with an injured leg. Our first try came 14 minutes after the commencement of play. The order of scoring was:—First half—Parker, Cooke, Donald, Parker. Nepia one conversion. Second half—C. Brownlie, Cooke, Parker, Parker, Parker, Stewart. Nepia four conversions.

**Result: New Zealand 40.
North Midlands 3.**

The teams were:—North Midlands: J. Pritchard, R. Orcutt, W. S. Shaw, R. Baker, J. Huins, L. Hammer, G. German, W. Hill, A. Woodward (Captain), R. Symons, J. McDowell, K. B. Smith, J. Timmis, C. G. Stanley, W. E. Richardson.

New Zealand: Nepia, Steel, Cooke, Svenson, McGregor, Badeley, Dalley, Parker, Donald, McCleary, Richardson, Masters, C. Brownlie, White, Stewart.

Referee: Mr. T. Vile the old Welsh International half-back, who toured New Zealand with the British Team in 1904.

Mr. J. F. Byrne, President of the North Midland Club, presided at a dinner given in the evening. The Lord Mayor, Alderman T. O. Williams, was present, and extended the City's welcome to us. The usual toasts were honoured, and at the conclusion of the dinner we attended a dance at the Palais Cabaret.

CHAPTER XIV.

NINTH MATCH, v. CHESHIRE

We arrived at Liverpool from Birmingham at 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 9th. The following day we were conveyed by tender to the Canadian Pacific Railway's liner "Montcalm," which was anchored in the stream, and had lunch on board with the captain, and several prominent members of the company. The afternoon was spent inspecting Lever Bros., soap manufacturing works at Port Sunlight, which proved very interesting.

Startling headlines appeared in several papers the day after our arrival in Liverpool, such as "All Blacks Poisoned!" and they stated that 15 members of our party were ill with ptomaine poisoning. This, however, was slightly exaggerated. A number of us were not feeling too well, and several changes had to be made in our team to play Cheshire, whilst quite half of those who did take part in the match were suffering from the effects of the illness. Apparently some food we had eaten in Birmingham had upset us. Mr Dean and Jim Parker were the worst cases, and were obliged to spend two days in bed, being attended by a doctor.

The ground was very heavy as the result of rain the previous day when we met Cheshire at Birkenhead Park, Liverpool, on Saturday, October 11th. 15,000 people were present. We could not make any impression on our opponents during the first twenty-five minutes, all of our attacking meeting with very solid resistance. With the Cheshire forwards playing wonderfully well in the loose, and quite holding their own in the scrum, and their backs admirably supporting them with good passing rushes, we were, if anything, getting the worst of the deal. Our first try came after half an hour's play, when Hart got over after an excellent passing rush. Nepia missed the kick. From then on up to the interval we had slightly the better of the game, but determined tackling by Cheshire prevented any further score.

**Half-time: New Zealand 3.
Cheshire Nil.**

On the resumption of play we seemed to catch Cheshire off their guard, and tearing into the game with more of our true dash, increased our lead to 15 in less than that number of minutes. One passing movement after another had followed in rapid succession, resulting in Hart scoring two tries, Porter and Steel one each. All were unconverted. It seemed as though our opponents had gone to pieces, but no! they made a magnificent rally, and came at us again in great style, reproducing the form shown by them in the first spell. We were kept on the defensive for a time, our tackling having to be deadly to keep Cheshire out. Eventually they were rewarded with a well deserved try—Locke getting across for J. V. Richardson to convert, after a classy solo effort in which the former “dummied” several of our backs. For the rest of the game honours were more or less even. Hart ran from half-way to score his fourth try for us a minute or two before the final whistle was sounded. None of our six tries were converted, but the kicks, with the exception of one, were all from difficult angles, and the ball heavy. Cheshire, who played a very hard but clean, sporting game, fought with great determination, and were rather unlucky not to score more than one try. Our play was undoubtedly affected by the sickness already mentioned.

Result: New Zealand 18.
Cheshire .. 5.

The teams were:—**Cheshire:** R. Green, R. Douglass, J. V. Richardson, H. Locke, M. Hobday, O. Roberts, A. Gracie, W. Taylor (Captain), J. Paterson, T. P. Harding, J. Oldham, D. Raikes, P. Davies, G. Williams, R. L. Holmes.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Brown, Steel, McGregor, Paewai, Mill, Porter, McCleary, Irvine, Masters, Richardson, C. Brownlie, West, Stewart.

Referee: Mr D. Helliwell, of Yorkshire.

During the evening a banquet was given in our honour by the Cheshire Rugby Club at the Exchange Station Hotel, Mr. J. Baxter, President of the Cheshire Union, and Chairman of the English Selection Committee, presided. He congratulated us on our successes, and remarked that if we sowed the same seeds as did David Gallaher's men in 1905, our visit would not be in vain.

 CHAPTER XV.

TENTH MATCH, v. DURHAM.

We left Liverpool for Sunderland at 11 a.m. on Monday, October 13th, and after changing trains at Leeds and York arrived at our destination at 6 p.m. The following members of our party remained at Liverpool for a day to receive medical attention:—Mr. Dean, Nicholls, Parker, Munro and Donald.

The following day we were motored to Leamington-on-Tyne, where we were shown through the Leamington Glass Works, which is one of the largest in the world. The directors of the firm explained everything of interest. We saw workmen blowing hundreds of "Osram" electric light bulbs; many of us tried to blow some, but we were not at all successful!

Fine weather prevailed, and the ground was in good order for our match against Durham, played on the Roker Park Association Football ground at Sunderland on Wednesday, October 15th. The 15,000 spectators present gave us a very good reception. For the first ten minutes Durham defended very capably, and it seemed as though a close struggle would result. However, we gradually wore them down with repeated attacking movements until Hart scored two tries in quick succession. Nepia converted the first one. Durham then worked their way up to our twenty-five with good loose rushes where Alderson kicked a goal from a mark, much to the delight of the crowd. This was soon followed by a penalty goal by Nepia. Two minutes later Hart scored his third try after a good passing rush. Nepia's kick failed. The Dunelmians then struggled gamely for a time without being dangerous. Just before the interval Lucas scored for Nepia to convert.

**Half-time: New Zealand 19.
Durham .. 3.**

We were into our stride again immediately after resumption, and within a few minutes Mill went over under the posts for White to convert. Two minutes later Svenson scored in the corner, White again converting. Durham rallied for some

minutes but were driven back for Svenson to score again. White missed the kick. Soon afterwards West scored a great try after almost every man in the team had handled the ball. White converted. Our next try was scored by Svenson, West failing with the kick. Durham, by good line kicks and forward rushes managed to reach our twenty-five, from which Alderson potted a beautiful goal. Just on time Masters scored our tenth try, which West failed to convert. As the scoring suggests, we out-classed Durham in all departments of the game. Our forwards played with great dash in the loose, whilst the backs, who got plenty of the ball from the line-outs and scrums, passed excellently, and delighted the spectators with some clever in-passing. Durham fought gamely and tackled well, but our weight, pace, quick passing and backing up outwitted them.

Result: New Zealand 43.
Durham . . 7.

The teams were:—**Durham:** H. Lister, L. Chiverton, V. G. Davies, W. Alderson, J. Manchester, J. McNall (Capt.), T. Short, G. S. Conway, R. Hillard, H. Dawes, W. Carroll, R. Clarke, R. Hymsers, J. Middlemass, Dr. H. A. Eccles.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Lucas, Svenson, Badeley, McGregor, Mill, Porter, Irvine, McCleary, Masters, West, White, Stewart, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. J. Brunton, Northumberland.

During the evening we attended a dinner at the Grand Hotel, as guests of the Durham Rugby Union. Mr. C. Pickersgill (President D.R.U.) occupied the chair. The dinner was followed by a dance.

THE LAUNCHING OF THE S.S. "QUERIMBA."

The next day we were entertained to lunch by the Sunderland Rotary Club, and afterwards proceeded to the Wear Shipyards, where, as guests of Sir William Gray, we witnessed the launching of the s.s. "Querimba" (British India Steam Navigation Company Liner, 12,500 tons). The launching had been very kindly delayed two days pending our arrival. Miss K. I. Gray, daughter of Sir William, christened the ship by breaking a bottle of wine on its bows just as it started to move towards the water. After the launching we proceeded to a pavillion attached to the shipyard, where we drank to the success of the "Querimba." This toast was proposed by the son of Sir Wm. Gray, and responded to by the

Hon. Kenneth McKay, son of Lord Inchcape. Mr. F. C. Pyman, Managing-Director of the Company, proposed our health, and said that Durham had fallen on lean days as far as Rigger was concerned, but thought that it was only temporary. He hoped we would cherish happy memories of our visit to the Wear Shipyards. Mr. Dean, replying to the toast, thanked the Company for inviting us to be present at the launching, and stated that it was a sight we had never witnessed before, and might never see again.

As guests of the Rotary Club, we spent a very enjoyable evening at the theatre. The Comedian Billy Percy, a New Zealander, was a great success, particularly when he appeared dressed as an "All Black" and said "Oamaru, Timaru, Waipukurau." The audience, no doubt thinking this was a Maori joke, roared with laughter!

CHAPTER XVI.

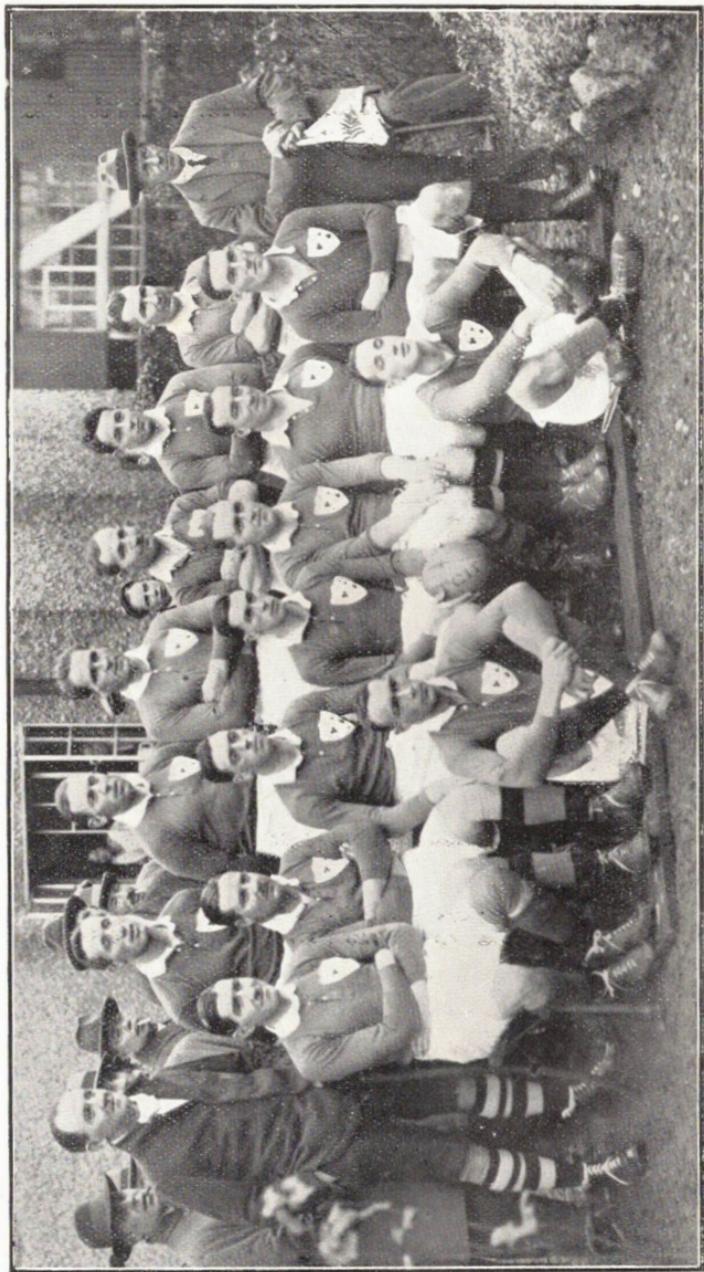
ELEVENTH MATCH, v. YORKSHIRE.

On Friday, October 17th, we left Sunderland at 10.20 a.m., and after breaking our journey at Leeds, we arrived at Bradford at 3 p.m., where we were given a very hearty welcome.

The playing area was in good order, and the weather fine for our match against Yorkshire, played at Lidget Green, Bradford, on Saturday, October 18th. Although the game was more or less one-sided it was full of incident, and the 15,000 spectators—a record number for the ground—followed the game with enthusiasm all through. Our team work being excellent from the kick-off, Yorkshire rarely, if ever, looked like scoring, but they played a good clean game, and fought with commendable determination up to the final whistle. The Yorkshire forwards, who were beaten in the line-outs and 70 per cent. of the scrums, often gained ground with good dribbling rushes, but our tackling was too deadly for their backs to make much headway with their passing movements. The opposing rearguard, who went down to our dribbling rushes gamely, and tackled well, were nonplussed by our well-timed in-passing and constant backing-up. Nepia's eight goals out of ten attempts included some wonderful shots, the most noteworthy being a penalty from near half-way, and two great conversions from the touchline. Yorkshire's points came from a beautiful "pot" by Myers. An injury forced Steel to retire early in the second spell, Parker replacing him on the wing, whilst towards the end of the game Yorkshire lost the services of Wilson Smith, who twisted a leg.

The order of the scoring was:—Richardson, Nepia (penalty goal), Hart, Myers (potted goal for Yorkshire), Svenson, McGregor, Nepia (penalty goal), McGregor, Hart, Hart, Hart, Nepia converted six of the tries. **Half-time:** New Zealand 22, Yorkshire 4.

Result: New Zealand 42.
Yorkshire .. 4.



THE IRISH INTERNATIONAL XV.

The teams were:—**Yorkshire:** S. Walker, F. Adams, W. Smith, F. Roberts, H. Fletcher, E. Myers (Capt.), J. H. Lumby, G. Scarth, C. Wrighton, H. Monk, D. Smith, H. Eastwood, H. Wilkinson, S. Whitefield, E. Winkley.

New Zealand: Nepia, Steel, Svenson, Hart, McGregor, Paewai, Dalley, Parker, McCleary, Irvine, Richardson, Masters, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, Stewart.

Referee: J. T. Bradburn, Lancashire.

ENTERTAINED BY THE YORKSHIRE RUGBY UNION.

In the evening we were the guests of the Yorkshire Rugby Union at a dinner held at the Great Northern Victoria Hotel. Mr C. T. Stubley, President of the Y.R.U., was in the chair, among others present were:—Mr. W. S. Donne, President of the English Rugby Union, Mr. C. J. Wray, the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Alderman H. M. Trotter, and Mr. J. A. Miller of the Y.R.U. Mr. Donne, during the course of his remarks, said he had seen the New Zealanders five times, and the most conservative Rugby Unionist could have no cause for complaint at the manner in which they played the game. Their visit would do more good than they themselves realised. Mr. E. Myers (Captain of the Yorkshire team) said that apart from the big score the New Zealand team had put up, they had taught the Yorkshiremen a lot of good football, and they hoped to turn the lesson to good account in the coming matches for the county championships. The home players were satisfied with one aspect of the afternoon's play, and that was that they did manage to tackle the man they could tackle, and usually when the New Zealanders went over it was because of the extra man they had in the back division. Mr. Miller, in proposing "The Rugby Union," said that some people thought that the Rugby body was behind the times, and that it would be better if the rules were altered so that the play could be speeded up. In his opinion the rules were all right, and if the game were speeded up beyond the capacity of the players, who would stand a certain amount of training, and no more, it would lead to professionalism. Mr. C. J. Wray, in referring to Mr. Miller's remarks about speeding up the game, said the rules as interpreted in New Zealand produced a faster and better game. Even the big 15 stone forwards admitted that the fast, open game was easier than having continual scrummagings, and he endorsed that opinion without hesitation.

CHAPTER XVII.

TWELFTH MATCH, v. LANCASHIRE.

THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL AND ROYAL EXCHANGE.

We left Bradford on Monday, October 20th, at 3.50 p.m., and arrived at Manchester at 5.30 p.m. On Tuesday afternoon we visited the Manchester Royal Exchange, and from a balcony saw approximately 6,000 brokers buying and selling. The building, which is a magnificent structure, cost $3\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds, and the Exchange had a membership of 12,000 at the rate of £8 per member a year. At 3 p.m. we proceeded to the Pomona Docks, and there boarded a launch for a trip on the Manchester Ship Canal. The Canal, which cost about £20,000,000, was commenced in 1887, and officially opened by Queen Victoria on May 1st, 1894. It contains five sets of locks at irregular intervals, by means of which ships entering the port are raised approximately 65 feet to the level of the River Irwell, which provides the necessary water to keep the depth in the docks and canal at 28 feet. Experts declare that, in both construction and operation, the Manchester Ship Canal, which constitutes the Port of Manchester, stands out as the most efficient port in Europe. The facilities at the large Docks—their railways, electric cranes, capstans, their sheds for goods in transit with refrigerating chamber for perishables—are most complete. In subways beneath the quay run electrically driven belts, which convey grain in bulk from ships to one of two huge storage elevators situated perhaps half a mile away. These elevators hold up to 40,000 tons each. Exceptionally good warehouses and large timber grounds are in direct railway connexion with the quays. The Canal can be freely navigated by ships of 15,000 tons. Our tour of the Canal and Docks, which occupied three hours, proved extremely interesting, despite the fact that heavy rain was falling all the time.

THE MATCH.

Their own grounds being considered inadequate to accommodate the anticipated crowd, the Rugby Union arranged for our match against Lancashire to be played on the excellently appointed Manchester United Association Football

Ground at Old Trafford. The weather was fine, but the playing area heavy for the game, which took place on Wednesday, October 22nd, in the presence of 35,000 spectators. From the kick-off Lancashire tore into the play with grim determination, and having the advantage of a strong wind kept us on the defensive for about 10 minutes. We then gained the upper hand, and held it for the rest of the spell. One attacking movement followed another in rapid succession, and although our opponent's tackling and rush-stopping was good, our pace soon began to tell. Porter scored for Nepia to convert after 15 minutes' play. This was quickly followed by a try by Richardson. Lancashire then attacked for a brief period, but were driven back for Svenson, Porter, and Cooke to get across in that order.

**Half-time: New Zealand 17.
Lancashire Nil.**

Immediately after recommencement the Lancashire forwards almost scored from a first-class dribbling rush, Nepia forcing just in time. A forward rush by us following the drop-out, terminated in Masters scoring when the second spell was only four minutes old. Only one more try resulted, and that was scored by Cooke some 20 minutes later. Although we won comfortably, and quite outclassed Lancashire in every department, except scrummaging, our display was not so polished, either back or forward, as in some of the preceding games. Play became very scraggy, and rather too keen in the second half, the referee once having to issue a general warning to both packs of forwards. One member of the Lancashire vanguard played rather questionably from the early stages of the game, and as the play progressed his illegal tactics, such as obstructing in the scrums and line-outs, reckless swinging of arms, and kicking in the tight play, etc., increased. It was not until we commenced to quieten him, in case he seriously injured someone, that the referee thought fit to intervene. We repeatedly failed in the scrums through the ball being thrown in behind the heels of the opposing middle man. Our goal kickers were most unsuccessful, Nepia converting only one try out of four attempts, and Richardson failing with all three shots.

**Result: New Zealand 23.
Lancashire Nil.**

The teams were:—**Lancashire:** R. Melhuish, G. Lammert, S. Jackson, A. Astlett, J. Samuels, E. Massey, S. McQueen, G. Wood, A. A. Blakiston, S. Brown, H. Periton, A. Gould, G. Rutter, M. Robinson, P. Wooler.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Cooke, Hart, McGregor, Paewai, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, White, Masters, M. Brownlie, Richardson, Cupples, Stewart.

Referee: Mr. D. Helliwell, Yorkshire.

After the match we were entertained to dinner by the Lancashire Rugby Union, at the Grand Hotel, the President, Mr. A. T. Brettargh, presiding. Mr. Dean, during the course of his remarks, expressed his disappointment that the game had been so ragged, and considered that if the referee had been firmer from the start, much that occurred would have been avoided. The referee, Mr. D. Helliwell, in replying, said, "The keenness that had crept into the game was little or nothing. The "All Blacks" are following the famous 1905 team, and are naturally out to beat their fine record. They will have harder games than the one to-day, but having refereed two of their matches, and watched a third, I would say to them, 'You are doing a lot of good here, but don't spoil the game by attaching too much importance to the result.'"

CHAPTER XVIII.

THIRTEENTH MATCH, v. CUMBERLAND.

We left Manchester at 3 p.m. on Thursday, October 23rd, and arrived at Carlisle at 6.30 p.m. In the evening we attended a very enjoyable dance which the Carlisle Football Club had organised to commemorate our visit. At 12.30 the following morning we were accorded a civic reception at the Town Hall, when Major Sewell, Mayor of Carlisle, extended us a very hearty welcome on behalf of the citizens. The Town Hall is a quaint old building, parts of which date back to Elizabethan times. The City Sheriffs, who attended the Mayor, bore a sword and mace. The former, which dates back to the reign of Charles I., was presented to the City of Carlisle by James II. in 1635, and the latter by Col. James Graham, Keeper of the Privy Purse to James II., who was M.P. for Carlisle the same year.

The City of Carlisle is of great antiquity. Its recorded history is complete since the year 1092 in the reign of William Rufus, when the present boundaries between England and Scotland were determined, and the City came within the English kingdom. For many years after this the town was the scene of fierce struggles between English and Scottish forces. Of special interest is the historic old castle, which is now the depot of the Border regiment. The unhappy Mary Queen of Scots was a captive within its gates, where under close surveillance she hunted and walked about the grounds, or watched her retinue play football. In the basement of the Keep are weird and gruesome dungeons where prisoners and Scottish hostages were imprisoned in the 14th century. There is only one small air passage to the dungeons, through a stone wall 25 feet thick; it is therefore not surprising that many prisoners died in such unhealthy surroundings. Set in the wall of one of the dungeons is a stone which always retains moisture, and by licking it prisoners were able to moisten their parched tongues. To this day adjacent stones bear the imprints of hands and faces, said to have been worn there by prisoners grasping in desperation to get at the "licking stone."

A visit was paid to Gretna Green, 10 miles from Carlisle, across the Scottish border. Here we saw the famous old blacksmith shop, the scene of numerous runaway marriages many years ago. The marriage laws in England being very stringent, ardent wooers who wished to hoodwink their parents by a hasty marriage, would escape to Scotland. Here the law was simplicity itself—any two single persons declaring themselves man and wife in the presence of witnesses, were, to all intents and purpose legally married. Gretna Green was the first village across the border, and the blacksmith an old favourite with eloping couples.

THE MATCH.

We met Cumberland at Carlisle on Saturday, October 25th. The weather was fine, but a shower of rain at mid-day had made the ground at Brunton Park a trifle slippery. There were 17,000 spectators present, a number of whom had journeyed from Scotland. Many of our players were suffering from injuries, and it was necessary to play Jim Parker wing-three-quarter. We expected Cumberland, which was England's champion county, to give us a hard tussel. For the first few minutes of the game it seemed that our anticipation would be fulfilled, as the Cumberland forwards started off with great dash, and, using their feet well, rather flurried our rearguard. We, however, soon settled down, and carrying practically all the scrums and line-outs, gave our backs plenty of chances, which they generally made good use of. It was only the brilliant tackling by Brough, the opposing full-back, that prevented the score from mounting very rapidly during the first spell. As it was we scored five unconverted tries, four of them from good passing rushes, in the following order:—Parker, Mill, Mill, Cooke, and Hart.

**Half-time: New Zealand 15.
Cumberland Nil.**

The opening of the second spell saw Cumberland putting more dash and spirit into their play, and although we did the bulk of the attacking, they, by good line kicks and determined tackling, successfully defended their line for 20 minutes. Eventually Hart raced across for a try after seven men had handled the ball. From then on we completely outclassed our opponents, and having a monopoly over the ball from scrums and line-outs bewildered them with dazzling passing rushes, which resulted in Hart scoring 2 tries, and Stewart, Cooke, and Nicholls one each, during the last quarter of an hour's play.

Nepia converted 1 try out of 6 attempts, White 3 out of 3, whilst Nicholls failed with 2 shots. Porter injured a knee during the closing stages of the first spell, and did not return to the field until the second half had been in progress for ten minutes. The injury eventually forced him to retire, and we finished the game with 14 men.

**Result: New Zealand 41.
Cumberland Nil.**

The teams were:—**Cumberland:** J. Brough, E. E. Cass, E. Johnson, T. Fletcher, W. Burrows, J. Little, T. Little, R. Lawson, T. Lawson, R. Hanvey, W. Walling, J. McCade, H. Wills, T. Cavaghan, J. Ward.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Cooke, Parker, Paewai, Nicholls, Mill, Porter, Irvine, Donald, Masters, Richardson, M. Brownlie, Stewart, White.

Referee: Mr. R. A. Lloyd, of Lancashire.

After the match we were entertained to dinner by the Cumberland Rugby Union. Mr. E. Valentine, Chairman of the Cumberland Rugby Union, presided.

At 10.30 on Sunday morning we left Carlisle in cars for a trip through the beautiful English Lake District. We drove along the shores of lakes Windermere, Ulleswater, Derwentwater, Grassmere, and Rydalwater. Some of the lakes are fairly large, and the country surrounding them more rugged than I expected it to be. In many places the bush and under-
scrub is extremely pretty, and we saw some very fine views. We spent a most enjoyable day in spite of the fact that a steady rain fell all the afternoon.

CHAPTER XIX.

FOURTEENTH MATCH, v. IRELAND.

At 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, October 27th, we left Carlisle for Lancaster, arriving there two hours later. After killing time for an hour we proceeded for a few miles by electric train to the seaport town of Heysham, where we boarded the small steamer "Olive," on which we sailed for Ireland at 9 p.m. After a calm trip across the Irish Sea, we entered the River Liffy near Dublin at 6.30 the following morning, and two hours later berthed at the docks. It was a cold, wet, cheerless morning, and as there were only a few dock hands on the wharf our first impressions of Ireland were not the brightest. Through there being a misunderstanding as to the time of the arrival of our ship there were no members of the Irish Rugby Union to meet us. Those of us who had been selected to train for the Irish Test proceeded to the Salt Hill Hotel, Monkstown (some seven miles from Dublin), whilst the remainder of the party went direct to the Royal Hibernian Hotel, Dublin.

The Salt Hill Hotel, from which a beautiful view of Ireland's picturesque coast could be obtained, proved an ideal spot for the four days' rest (which we had long been looking forward to) prior to the big game. Each morning whilst there we went for a brisk walk before breakfast along a massive breakwater, which acts as a protection to the Kingstown Harbour. Two mornings were spent training on the Palmerston Rugby Football Ground, and on each occasion our methods were keenly watched by many enthusiastic footballers, including some members of the Irish team. A quiet time being considered essential, we were not permitted to visit Dublin whilst training for the Test, consequently we missed an inspection of Guinness's Brewery, which the reserve players thoroughly enjoyed!

Ron Stewart, who had been selected for the Test, developed pleurisy two days before the match, and keen was his disappointment when ordered to the Pembroke Nursing Home for treatment. When he rejoined us in London some 9 days later, he said the nurses had been so kind to him that he would not

mind the experience all over again! Cliff Porter had also been selected for the Test, but an injury he had received to a knee when playing against Cumberland necessitated his being replaced by Jim Parker, whilst Les Cupples filled the vacancy which had occurred through Stewart's indisposition.

The morning of the match we motored to Dublin, where we rejoined our mates. The small liftboy at the hotel rather amused me—after he had taken me to my floor, where a confusion of passages met my eyes, I asked where room, number 78, was. With all seriousness, and obviously under the impression he was giving me all the information required, he replied: "Next to 79."

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

The first Test Match of our tour was against Ireland at Lansdowne Road Park, Dublin, on Saturday. November 1st. The 25,000 spectators (a record for a Rugby match in Ireland) were most appreciative and impartial throughout the game, and gave us a great welcome when we walked on to the field. Heavy rain which had fallen for three hours previously ceased an hour before the game commenced, but it fell again in torrents half-way through the first spell, and continued for the rest of the match. The ground was consequently very heavy and slippery, and the ball extremely difficult to handle. Ireland won the toss, and played with the advantage of a strong wind blowing straight down the field all through the first spell. The wind dropped for a few minutes after change of ends, and then sprung up from the opposite direction—thus Ireland had it with them all through the game.

We had heard a great deal about the bustling tactics of the Irish forwards, and they certainly lived up to their reputation during the opening stages of the game. They hustled our backs a great deal, whilst their rearguard, assisted by the wind, repeatedly gained ground with some magnificent line kicks. Our backs eventually broke through with a promising passing movement, which ended in Hart failing to hold the greasy ball when in a good position. Ireland replied by finding touch a yard from our line. We relieved with a dribbling rush, which terminated in Hart getting over in the corner, but he had put his foot out. Forward play predominated for a while, the backs being content to kick for touch whenever the ball came their way. Our pack was getting the better of the exchanges, but Ireland's plucky rush-stopping and excellent

line-kicking was too good for us to score. Ireland came away with a determined rush and were awarded a penalty kick in front of our posts. Crawford just failed at goal. At last our backs got moving, and handling the difficult ball cleverly from set scrums just failed to score on three occasions—Crawford saving his side by brilliant tackles a few yards from the line. The tackling by the Irish backs at this stage was great, and as the ground was too slippery for side-stepping, our backs were simply mown down like grass before a scythe. Ireland was then penalised in a good position, but White's kick at goal failed to rise. The close of the first spell saw Ireland almost over following a brilliant passing rush, which terminated in Gardiner being brought down a few feet from the line.

Half-time: New Zealand Nil.
Ireland .. Nil.

After spending only a couple of minutes in the pavilion the Irish Captain suggested that we should carry on rather than allow our wet clothes to make us cold. This was agreed to. Following the resumption both sides attacked in turn with loose forward rushes, the respective full-backs proving the stumbling blocks—first Nepia then Crawford would clear with good line-kicks. Ireland now had the wind with them again, and the torrential cold rain was driving in our faces. We soon gained the upper hand, and with sweeping forward rushes kept Ireland at bay. Cooke almost scored after following up a short punt, G. V. Stephenson with a great effort just clearing in time. Shortly afterwards H. W. Stephenson was tackled in possession, the ball rolled loose, Parker picked up, and after a strong run, passed to M. Brownlie, who sent Svenson over at the corner to score our only try. Nepia's kick failed. A few minutes later Ireland's scrum half was penalised in front of the posts for holding the ball, and Nicholls just managed to lift the heavy, greasy ball over the bar. Play was mostly confined to the forwards for the rest of the game, with the "greens" generally on the defensive. Nevertheless they still played with a very determined spirit, and occasionally broke through our defence with dangerous rushes, which Dalley was often responsible for stopping. Effective passing amongst the backs was well nigh impossible, the ball being too slippery to handle, and the ground too heavy and greasy to travel over at any pace. The Irish forwards put in a great rally during the closing stages of the game, and a clever cross kick following a wonderful rush by them, saw G. V. Stephenson in full flight for the line. He, however, slipped when try-

ing to sidestep Nepia with but only three yards to go. We worked play back to the corner flag, where a free kick gave Ireland temporary relief. The next minute saw us hammering away at the line again, and Svenson just missed a try through the ball rolling into touch, which brought the final whistle.

Ireland was unlucky in having one of their best backs, F. S. Hewitt, injured whilst stopping a forward rush early in the second spell. Although he was only off for about ten minutes, during which time Spain, a forward, played wing-three-quarter, his injury, which was to a leg, greatly affected his form.

Our backs were inclined to kick a little too much during the first spell, but under the conditions prevailing, and against the deadliness of the Irish tackling, they worked out some very clever movements, whilst we in the forwards had to throw every ounce into our play to master our opponents. Our dribbling rushes and general forward play was by far the best to date, whilst we collected the ball in quite four-fifths of the scrums, at times pushing Ireland over the top of it after they had secured possession.

A feature of the play was the brilliant touch kicking by the Irish team, both backs and forwards, at which they absolutely excelled, repeatedly gaining quite 50 yards. Although we beat them in every other phase of the game, and held the upper-hand territorily, the atrocious nature of the ground and wind, together with the quickness of our opponents to seize an opening, made victory uncertain for either side at any stage, except perhaps during the last few minutes. The most admirable spirit imaginable existed throughout the game, which was keenly and strenuously contested, with no quarter being shown on either side, but never a semblance of foul play.

Result: New Zealand 6.
Ireland . . Nil.

The teams were:—**Ireland:** Full-back, W. E. Crawford; three-quarters, H. W. Stephenson (Captain), G. V. Stephenson, J. B. Gardiner, T. Hewitt; half-backs, F. S. Hewitt, J. C. McDowell; forwards, T. N. Brand, J. D. Clinch, W. R. Collis, R. J. Callopy, R. Y. Crichton, T. A. McClland, J. M. McVicker, A. Spain.

New Zealand: Full-back, G. Nepia; three-quarters, K. Svenson, F. Lucas, A. H. Hart; five-eighths, A. E. Cooke, M. F. Nicholls; half-back, W. C. Dalley; wing-forward, J. Parker;

forwards, W. Irvine, Q. Donald, J. Richardson, R. R. Masters, M. Brownlie, L. Cupples, A. H. White.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, of Wales, controlled the game in an excellent manner.

The Irish Rugby Union entertained us to dinner during the evening, and the good feeling which prevailed at this function was equally as pleasing as that which had existed during the game. Mr. Henry Thrift, an old Irish International, who played against the All Blacks in 1905, presided, and after the National Anthem had been sung, he proposed the toast of "The New Zealand Team," to which Cliff Porter responded. "The Irish Team," which Jock Richardson proposed, was responded to by their Captain, Harry Stephenson.

SIGHT-SEEING IN DUBLIN.

On Monday several of us hired jaunting carts and visited interesting parts of Dublin. We saw the ruins of the Four Courts, the Post Office, and a number of buildings that were shattered during the fighting in 1916 and 1920. A visit was paid to St. Michan's Church, famous for its wonderful clay vaults, in which bodies buried remain in an extraordinary state of preservation without being embalmed; I saw bodies which had been lying there for centuries, yet the teeth, finger nails, toe nails and sinews connecting the various joints were quite intact, and the skin as tough as leather. The pipe organ at this church was erected in 1742, and Handel is said to have played his "Messiah" on it. In Trinity College Library are 400,000 books, among them being some of the most ancient and valuable volumes in the world. Of special interest was "The Book of Kells," written by monks in the 8th century, the pages are beautifully illuminated in colours that have not faded after all these hundreds of years.

CHAPTER XX.

FIFTEENTH MATCH, v. ULSTER.

At 3 p.m. on Monday, November 3rd, we said good-bye to Dublin, and after spending two and a half hours in the train, journeying through Ireland's pretty countryside, with occasional glimpses of its rugged coast, we arrived at Belfast. We were reminded of the bad feeling that existed between Ulster and the South of Ireland by the fact that after we had passed into Ulster territory Customs officials boarded our train, and searched our baggage for firearms, etc. It looked very strange to see the Belfast police wearing heavy colt revolvers in their belts.

Although a little rain had fallen during the morning, our match against Ulster on Wednesday, November 5th, was played in brilliant weather, and the ground at Ravenhill was in almost perfect order. Among the 16,000 spectators, who gave us a very cordial reception, was the Duke of Abercorn, Governor of Ulster, to whom we were presented prior to the commencement of the game. The Duchess of Abercorn, the Marquis of Hamilton, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, Sir James and Lady Craig, the Mayor of Belfast (Sir William Turner) were also present. The Ulster emblem, a blood red hand, looked very gruesome on the team's white jerseys, and the legend relating to it is a particularly thrilling one.—An Irish chieftain, when he was dying, sent the following message to his two sons: "The one whose hand shall first touch land I give the Province of Ulster." When the message was delivered, the two brothers, who were dining with friends on the opposite side of the bay, immediately selected their boats and crews, and although it was a dark, stormy night, started on the perilous crossing. When morning came the coveted shore was only half a mile away, and a grim struggle against the elements ensued. Fifteen yards from land, when the boats were almost level, one of the brothers, drawing his sword, cut off his hand and flung it ashore. He was hailed by the waiting spectators as their new Chieftain.

The Ulster rearguard, with the exception of one man, was the same as played for Ireland. Their tackling was not one whit

inferior to that which existed at Dublin, but the ground being more conducive to open play, they could not stand up against the pace and resource of our backs. Nevertheless Ulster put up a very creditable display, and had us on the defensive more often than the score of 28 to 6 would suggest. The Ulster pack, though generally beaten in the line-outs and loose play, quite held their own in the scrums. The Referee was extremely difficult to follow, at times being unduly hard on our hookers. No less than eleven free kicks were given against us, most of which came from supposed "feet up" in the scrummages. The opening stages saw Ulster pressing hard and our tackling had to be keen to prevent them from drawing first blood. However, after ten minutes had elapsed Svenson scored as the result of a good passing rush following a breakaway by Richardson from a line-out. Nicholls put us five points ahead by a wonderful conversion from the touch-line. Resuming their bustling tactics, Ulster made it hard for us again for a time, and G. V. Stephenson missed a penalty from an easy position. A great forward rush by us from half-way saw Donald get over, but the try was disallowed. Two minutes later Irvine received a cross-kick from Cooke, and ran in to score for Nicholls again to convert. We continued to attack, and Nicholls soon found a gap in Ulster's defence to send Parker away for our third try. Again Nicholls converted. Ulster then came away with a brilliant passing movement between five of their backs, but Mill brought H. W. Stephenson down with the ball when a try looked certain for them. Play remained in our twenty-five for a brief period, and just before the interval Crawford landed a penalty goal for Ulster.

Half-time: New Zealand 15.
Ulster . . . 3.

We attacked almost continuously for some ten minutes after resumption, but good tackling and touch finding by our opponents kept us in check. Crawford just missed a mighty penalty kick for Ulster from half-way, the ball striking an upright. Our opponents then gained ground with a passing movement, but were driven back by a forward rush, which terminated in Mill securing from a scrum to send Steel over in the corner. Nicholls failed at goal. A few minutes later Mill secured from a scrum, and after beating a couple of men, passed to Parker, who, after a strong run, scored, for Nicholls to convert. Our attack continued to be persistent, and two tries were lost through fumbled passes. We were outplaying our opponents' forwards, but they were putting up a wonderful fight, and at times going

away with great loose rushes, whilst their backs were defending excellently, and always ready to seize the slightest opportunity to attack. Our next try came from a brilliant run by Nepia, who, after gathering the ball in his stride, simply flew for a distance along the touchline, and cutting in made an opening for Lucas to send Svenson over. Nicholls converted. Ulster then rallied and for the rest of the game they had quite as much of the play as we had, whilst during the closing stages they had us defending for all we knew how. We eventually cleared our line and drove the invaders back to half-way, but they came at us again with a great passing movement, and after five of their backs had handled the ball H. W. Stephenson took a difficult pass, raced past two of our backs, swerved round a third, and scored a wonderful try amidst great enthusiasm. Crawford failed with the kick, and the end came shortly afterwards.

Result: New Zealand 28.
Ulster . . . 6.

The teams were:—**Ulster:** W. E. Crawford, H. W. Stephenson, G. V. Stephenson (Capt.), J. Gardiner, T. Hewitt, W. Hall, J. McDowell, T. Brand, W. Browne, J. Campbell, H. Copeland, G. Caruth, J. McDowell, J. McVicker, J. Smyth.

New Zealand: Nepia, Steel, Lucas, Svenson, Cooke, Nicholls, Mill, Parker, Irvine, Donald, Masters, Richardson, M. Brownlie, Cupples, White.

Referee: Mr. J. H. Miles, of Leinster.

Amongst those present at the dinner which followed the match were Mr. Hamilton, who was President of the Irish Rugby Union in 1905, and Mr. A. Telford, an old Irish forward who played against the All Blacks in 1905. Mr. T. J. Greeves, President of the North Ireland Rugby Union, presided, and during his remarks stated that after conversing with the Premier, Mr W. F. Massey, during his visit to Belfast, he considered that if the All Blacks were going to be like him, they must be good fellows. One speaker at the dinner claimed that the three Islands of New Zealand were at one time known as New Ulster, New Munster, and New Leinster.

On Thursday afternoon we paid a visit to the works of York Street Flax Spinning Co., where we saw the whole process of the manufacture of the famous Irish linen. The flax used is much finer and quite different from the flax commonly known in New Zealand. The works proved very interesting, being of enormous size; over 5000 people are employed there.

CHAPTER XXI.

SIXTEENTH MATCH, v. NORTHUMBERLAND.

At 6.25 p.m. on Thursday, November 6th, we left Belfast, and from Larne, three-quarters of an hour later, we sailed from Ireland. After a pleasant two hours' steaming on the s.s. "Princess Maud," we landed at Stranraer, in Scotland, where we caught a train for Newcastle, arriving at our destination at 2.35 the following morning. We were extremely disappointed that our journey through this portion of Scotland was made at night, because this was the only opportunity afforded the majority of us to see that country.

On Friday afternoon we visited C. A. Parsons and Co.'s Heaton Works, where we saw many great turbines under construction. The director, who conducted us over the works, explained everything of interest dealing with these wonderful pieces of machinery. In the evening we were the guests of the Northumberland Rugby Union at the theatre, where we saw "The Mikado" played by the D'Oyley Carte Opera Co.

We met Northumberland on the County Ground, Gosforth, Newcastle, on Saturday, November 8th. Northumberland's representatives delighted the 15,000 spectators with a magnificent defensive display. They were out-weighted forward, and being generally beaten in the scrums and line-outs, had very few opportunities to attack. Although the ground was in fairly good order, a light drizzling rain, which set in at mid-day, made the ball rather greasy and difficult to handle. Our display neither back nor forward was up to our true form, and we lost many tries, particularly during the first spell, through fumbled passes. Our greatest task during the game was stopping dribbling rushes, at which the opposing pack, who were very quick to seize opportunities, were past masters. Notwithstanding the fact that we played against a strong wind during the first spell, our attack was persistent, yet it took us thirty-five minutes to break completely through the solid defence, when Hart got over after a nice bout of passing. Nepia failed at goal.

**Half-time: New Zealand . . 3.
Northumberland Nil.**



AN OXFORD BACK STARTS A PASSING MOVEMENT.

Soon after resumption Cooke followed up a kick by Parker, and scored for Mill to convert. Northumberland replied with a great rush to our territory, from which Catcheside "potted" a nice goal. Our backs from then on played with more certainty, and as the game progressed penetrated through the defence more effectively. Mill was soon over, but failed with the kick. A few minutes later, after a pretty passing movement between McGregor and Brown, the latter scored, Nepia missing the kick. Our continued attack and great pace was wearing Northumberland down. Shortly afterwards Cooke made an opening, and sent Mill away for his second try, the scorer converting. The forwards then smashed through the defence with short, quick passes, which resulted in Richardson getting over, Mill again converting. A try by Steel, which Nepia could not improve on, brought the final whistle.

Result: New Zealand 27.
Northumberland 4.

The teams were:—**Northumberland:** G. Wilkinson, W. Wallace, H. Catcheside (Captain), L. Trotter, J. Yeoman, R. Armstrong, W. Arkless, L. Cartmeal, H. Whitley, H. Davidson, O. Kaiser, M. Lambert, C. Lister, J. Punshon, G. Nicholson.

New Zealand: Nepia, Steel, Brown, Hart, Cooke, McGregor, Mill, Parker, McCleary, Donald, C. Brownlie, Masters, Richardson, West, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. R. O. Jenkins.

After the match we proceeded to Tilley's Restaurant, and attended a dinner as guests of the Lord Mayor (Councillor Stephen Easten) and the City Councillors, who were accompanied by their wives. The Mayor extended us a very hearty welcome to "Canny Newcassel, the pride of the North," and hoped that we would take back to our homeland ineffaceable impressions of the affection and regard in which we were held by our kinsmen in the Mother Country. (A prominent member of the team, whose name invariably appeared on the toast list, was rather perturbed when he heard that ladies would be present at this dinner, and as soon as the game was over settled down to prepare his speech. This he had not completed when it was time to leave for the function, and I was left behind to hustle him along. Eventually we arrived at the restaurant, when he discovered that he had left his notes behind. A taxi was hailed, and the precious notes retrieved. Forty-five minutes after the appointed time saw him at the dinner, at which he was not asked to speak!)

CHAPTER XXII.

A FEW DAYS IN LONDON.

Tommy Burns, the world's ex-champion heavyweight boxer, was one of many people who had gathered at the station to bid us farewell when we left Newcastle for London at 10.30 on Sunday, November 9th. We arrived in the capital at 6 p.m., and proceeded to Berner's Hotel, which had been fixed as our headquarters whilst in London, where we were greeted by Ian Harvey, who had been in London for a month receiving treatment for tonsillitis, and Ron Stewart, whom we had left behind in Dublin with pleurisy.

The following morning we set out for the Honourable Artillery Company's Barracks, situated in the City, where we had very kindly been granted permission to train. The H.A.C., which is one of London's oldest and most famous Territorial Regiments, have very fine football grounds attached to their barracks, and in order to make it possible for us to use them we were made honorary members of the Company. Whilst there we saw a battery of artillery preparing to join in the procession of the Lord Mayor's Show, and a number of men in old-fashioned uniforms representing Mayors of centuries ago. Unfortunately we missed the procession itself, being unable to get through the dense crowds of people that lined the streets.

After lunch many of us visited the Zoological Gardens in Regents Park, and spent some time in the new Aquarium, which was only completed about five months before our visit. It is a very fine building, containing a fresh-water room, marine room and tropical room; the water circulation, air circulation and ventilation are by electricity. In the Reptile House we saw a huge snake twenty-five feet long that is fed on a small goat once a week. The Zoo contains practically all animals that will live in captivity, and is well laid out, but the animals do not have so much room nor are their quarters so natural as those which exist in the Taronga Zoological Park, Sydney. On our return to the hotel we were introduced to "Slip" Carr, the famous Australian sprinter, who had been running in Paris at the Olympic Games.

As guests of the Rugby Union we spent the evening at the London Hippodrome. On our way to the theatre several of us walked down Regent Street to Piccadilly Circus, and were absolutely amazed at the endless stream of traffic, and the wonderful control exercised by the police. Crossing Piccadilly Circus was a work of art, and in many cases it was impossible for pedestrians to do so until the traffic was held up by a helpful policeman. We stood for some time in the Circus watching the splendid illuminated electric signs that flash from nearly all the buildings and theatres in the vicinity. Another experience for us was the underground tube, which forms an intricate network in all directions under the London streets; as it was theatre time thousands of people were ascending and descending by means of lifts and moving stairways.

ARMISTICE DAY.

The sixth anniversary of the Armistice, that stopped the Great War after four years and three months fighting, was celebrated on November 11th, 1924, and training was suspended to enable us to attend the ceremony at Whitehall. We proceeded to St. James Square at 10 a.m., and after troops representing the Territorials, Royal Air Force, Royal Marines, Royal Navy, and the Brigade of Guards, led by several fine bands, had passed, we joined in the procession behind a string of motor-cars full of disabled men, and entered Whitehall. As each detachment passed the Cenotaph its band fell silent, and it was called to the salute. The King, Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York were the first of hundreds to lay wreaths. We marched four abreast, and our manager, on behalf of the "New Zealand Rugby Team," placed a wreath on the Cenotaph. During the great two minutes silence, which began on the stroke of 11—the hour when the Armistice was signed in the private railway saloon of Marshall Foch in the Forest of Compiègne—there was not a sound from the hundreds of thousands of people who had congregated at Whitehall. The silence was broken by a gun which spoke from Hyde Park. Immediately the drums of the Royal Air Force began to roll, and when they had died away their trumpeters sounded the Last Post. Then, led by the choirs of the Chapel Royal and St. Margaret's, the vast assembly sang the hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." The Bishop of London spoke a short collect and the Lord's Prayer, and gave the blessing. Then the buglers of the Royal Marines sounded the Reveillé; one verse of the National Anthem, and a most impressive service was over.

We then proceeded to Westminster Abbey, and passed in reverence by the tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

After leaving the Abbey we saw the change of Horse Guards at St. James Square, and then walked to the end of Pall Mall to see Captain Cook's Memorial, which stands near the Admiralty Arch. Before returning to the hotel for lunch we walked along Pall Mall to Buckingham Palace; en route we saw Marlborough House and St. James Palace, which were occupied by the late Queen Alexandra and the Prince of Wales respectively.

CHAPTER XXIII.

SEVENTEENTH MATCH, v. CAMBRIDGE.

At 10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12th, we left Liverpool Street Station for Cambridge, where we arrived at noon, kicking off against the 'Varsity team at 3 p.m. Rain had fallen steadily for sixteen hours before the game began, and it went on raining. Despite this fact the University Ground was full to capacity with some 8,000 spectators, who gave us a fine reception. The playing area was quickly reduced to a quagmire, and the ball soon became too slippery to handle with any certainty; effective passing and running among the backs was therefore well nigh impossible.

Except for the first ten minutes, during which we attempted passing movements without success, a great battle between the forwards more or less prevailed. The display given by the Cambridge vanguard was really wonderful. Their packing in the scrums, from which they secured the ball more often than we did, was excellent. They almost held their own in the line-outs, whilst some of their dribbling rushes were a revelation. However, the sure rush-stopping, tackling and line-kicking of our backs, and the speed and weight which our opponents had to contend with forward, prevented them from really being dangerous at any stage. The Cambridge backs fought determinedly, and were ever ready to seize an opportunity to break through our defence. Play was in the Cambridge twenty-five for quite three-fourths of the game, but owing to their superb defensive capabilities, our forward rushes, which were very persistent and hard, never bore fruit. 'Varsity forced down five times during the game—thrice cleverly saving tries by determined dives at the rolling ball.

Our only try came from a great solo effort by Mill, almost half-way through the second spell—picking up the ball whilst travelling at full speed, he side-stepped and swerved, fortunately without slipping, to go over under the posts for Nicholls to convert. The gruelling game concluded by the referee, who was rather lenient on Cambridge for "feet-up" in the scrums, blowing the final whistle whilst the ball was still in play.

Result: New Zealand 5.
Cambridge Nil.

The teams were:—**Cambridge:** P. Doughty, Sir T. G. Devitt, B. R. Turnbull, J. H. Bordass, W. Rowe-Harding, T. E. S. Francis, A. T. Young (Captain), D. J. MacMyn, W. E. Tucker, W. B. Scott, D. C. Cumming, W. Idris-Jones, C. S. Barlow, R. G. Howell, W. R. Skinner.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Brown, Robilliard, McGregor, Nicholls, Mill, Parker, Irvine, McCleary, Richardson, C. Brownlie, Cupples, West, White.

Referee: Mr. T. H. Vile, of Newport.

A great spirit prevailed at the dinner which the Cambridge University Rugby Football Club gave for us in the evening. Canon Gray presided, and among the students present were three New Zealanders—J. L. McFarlane, Waiiau; V. B. V. Powell, Hokitika; and N. Williams, Gisborne. The usual toasts were honoured, but they had to be cut very short to enable us to catch the 8.40 train for London.

CHAPTER XXIV.

**EIGHTEENTH MATCH, v. LONDON
COUNTIES.****GUESTS OF COLONEL FREYBERG, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O.**

At 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 13th, Colonel B. Freyberg, V. C., C.M.G., D.S.O., entertained fifteen of us to dinner at his residence in Clarendon Place, Hyde Park, to meet General Sir Ian Hamilton, G.C.B., Lord Wodehouse, M.C., and Col. Sir James Allen, K.C.M.G. (High Commissioner for New Zealand). We also met Mrs. Freyberg and the Colonel's son and heir, a beautiful child of about eighteen months old, before he was put to bed. The dinner was a very pleasant one, and was followed by a fine speech by Sir Ian Hamilton. He referred to the brilliant attack which the New Zealand Mounted Rifles made under Major Craddock during the Boer War in South Africa, about August 10th, 1900. "From that day onwards," said Sir Ian, "I always hoped that in the event of another war it would be my privilege to be associated with the New Zealanders." He declared that his hopes had been realised when he had the pleasure of inspecting the New Zealand troops in Egypt on March 29th, 1915. He referred at some length to the fighting in Gallipoli. "From my experience there," he said, "I know what determination and resolution New Zealanders possess, therefore I am not surprised at their victories on the football field." He spoke of his pleasant tour of New Zealand some years ago, and referred to Wellington's elastic air, which often "lifts one's hat from one's head!" During a conversation with me, Sir Ian stated that he considered Christchurch the finest city in New Zealand. Sir James Allen also made an interesting speech. Mr. Dean, in proposing Colonel Freyberg's health, thanked him for the wonderful time he had given us, and assured him how proud New Zealand was of his great war record. In replying, the Colonel stated that he was delighted to have had us at his residence, and hoped to entertain the remainder of the players at a later date. He said his one disappointment during the War was that he did not have the opportunity to serve with his own countrymen. "Not that I was dissatisfied with the splendid men I was associated with," said Colonel Freyberg, "but I would have liked to fight side by side with my own schoolmates." At 9.30 p.m.

we proceeded to the Empire Theatre as the Colonel's guests. Lord Wodehouse, who is recognised as the champion polo player of England, also accompanied us.

On Friday afternoon the Manager of the Kiwi Polish Co. paid a visit to our hotel, and presented us each with a particularly nice gold Kiwi tiepin.

OUR FIRST GAME IN LONDON.

The weather was fine, and the famous Twickenham Ground, with its splendid stands, in good order for our first match versus London Counties, on Saturday, November 15th. The huge crowd of spectators was estimated at 50,000, and their roar of encouragement to the London team, especially during the first half, was deafening. In many quarters it was expected that we would lose this match, and at the end of the first spell London's backers probably thought that their optimism was justified. During the early stages neither team was dangerous, play being practically confined to mid-field. The Londoners, who tackled well, usually drove us back with forward rushes or line-kicks whenever we approached their twenty-five. But their great defence could not stand up to M. Brownlie, who, after twelve minutes' play, followed up a high punt by Hart, secured the ball, and dashed across the line for Nicholls to add the major points. Eight minutes later, during which time we had our opponents on the defensive, their backs went away with a great passing movement, which terminated in Miller scoring a good try in the corner after a determined fifteen yards dash along the touchline. Some stern forward battles took place in the up-and-down play that followed, and although our backs were given the ball from many scrums, the defence was too solid for them to make much headway. Then Miller put in another sensational run after some brilliant passing. A loose scrum resulted, London secured, the ball reached Miller, who cleverly beat our backs to score again in the corner. J. V. Richardson failed to convert either try, but London were one point ahead, and were cheered to the echo. The cheering had scarcely died down, however, when a dribbling rush saw us on our opponent's line, who saved by kicking to touch. From the resultant line-out M. Brownlie secured, and after a nice run scored under the posts for Nicholls to place us four points ahead, and a very gruelling 40 minutes ended, during which our backs were rather inclined to kick too much.

**Half-time: New Zealand 10.
London Counties 6.**

The referee, who had rather peculiar ideas of wing-forward play, was unduly hard on Jim Parker during the first spell, so it was decided that he should play as an extra back during the second half. The resumption saw us in our stride immediately, and a try was scored within three minutes—Cooke made a nice run, then cross-kicked to Parker, who started a passing rush, the ball travelling back along the line of backs to Cooke, who got over. It was a brilliant effort that bewildered the defence, and pleased the crowd. A few minutes later another wonderful passing movement between Svenson, McGregor, Cooke and Parker saw the latter score. Our backs, who were being given the ball from the scrums and line-outs, continued to attack at an amazing pace with sweeping passing rushes. London, who were being out-paced, out-manœuvred, and out-classed, occasionally attempted to attack, but seldom got far before we were on the top of them. The hard-fought first half and our persistent pace was now telling on the Londoners, who were becoming weaker, whilst we were only just getting our second breath. Three more tries were scored before the game ended—Richardson, Cooke, and Parker all getting across after excellent movements by both backs and forwards. Nicholls converted the three of them, whilst he failed with the two previous ones.

Result: New Zealand 31.
London .. 6.

The teams were:—**London Counties:** H. Franklin, R. Hamilton-Wicks, A. Aslett, J. V. Richardson, R. K. Miller, A. T. Lawton, A. Guthrie, W. W. Wakefield (Captain), W. Brown, J. Drysdale, A. W. Row, D. Ryder, B. Scholefield, R. R. Stokes, R. Cove-Smith.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Cooke, Svenson, McGregor, Nicholls, Mill, Parker, Irvine, Donald, Masters, Richardson, M. Brownlie, Stewart, White.

Referee: Mr. R. A. Lloyd, of Lancashire.

A dinner was held at Oddenino's Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, in the evening, when we were the guests of the London Union Rugby Football Club. Mr. Mark F. Waters, Ex-President of the Rugby Union, presided. Amongst those present were Lord Tenterden, and Mr. G. H. Harnett, Manager of the British Team, which toured New Zealand in 1908. After the usual toasts, we proceeded to the theatre as guests of our hosts.

CHAPTER XXV.**HOSPITABLE LONDON.****A FLIGHT OVER LONDON.**

On Sunday morning, November 16th, at the invitation of Colonel Sereal, Managing-Director of the Imperial Airways, we motored to the Croydon Aerodrome. After a tour of inspection, which proved most interesting, we saw the large aeroplane, "Princess Mary," leave for Paris with its daily complement of cargo and passengers. Three aeroplanes were then placed at our disposal, and we were taken for half an hour's flight over London and the suburbs. Fourteen of us were given seats in the body of the "Prince Henry," which, inside, was like a glorified railway saloon, and away we went, rising to a height of 2,000 feet, and travelling at the rate of 80 to 90 miles an hour. A fairly thick fog partly obscured our view in places, but we obtained a fine panorama of Croydon, Crystal Palace, the River Thames, Tower Bridge, the Docks and Woolwich. We passed over Crystal Palace three times before returning to the Aerodrome, when Mr. George Payne, who was responsible for arranging this wonderful trip, thanked Colonel Sereal for an experience which none of us had hoped to enjoy during our stay in London.

The following afternoon many of the boys paid a visit to Pascall's Chocolate Works, and were shown everything of interest. Afternoon tea with the directors was served in the Recreation Hall, when a specially arranged programme of ballet dancing by a number of the girl employees was much appreciated.

That evening we were the guests of Mr. Templer Powell (late of Christchurch, New Zealand, who is now the owner of the Playhouse Theatre), and saw the play "White Cargo." It was splendidly acted, and quite the best play I have seen. At the conclusion of the show we had supper on the stage, and met all the clever artists.

A VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

On Tuesday afternoon Lord Tenterden conducted us over the Palace of Westminster (the Houses of Parliament). This immense building covers an area of eight acres; there are 1,100 apartments, 100 staircases, and 11 courts or quadrangles. The famous clock tower is 40 feet square and 316 feet high, the clock dials are 23 feet in diameter, and the minute hands 14 feet long. The hours are struck on the famous bell "Big Ben," weighing $13\frac{1}{2}$ tons. We ascended the Royal Staircase to the Norman Porch, from which we entered the King's Robing Room. Here the King is robed on the occasion of his opening Parliament, and, followed by his attendants in procession, passes through the Royal Gallery to the House of Lords. The great feature of this handsome Gallery are two huge frescoes by Maclise, representing "The Death of Nelson," and the "The Meeting of Blucher and Wellington after Waterloo." The House of Lords certainly justifies its unofficial name of "The Gilded Chamber;" its size, 90 feet long by 45 feet high, is very impressive, and it is richly decorated. The Thrones of the King and Queen, under their gorgeous gilt canopies, are very handsome. On State occasions, when the Peers in their robes and Bishops occupy the red morocco benches, and the Royal Family and officers are grouped about the Thrones, the scene must be very brilliant. In the House of Lords and in the Peers Corridor are wonderful frescoes representing incidents in history, including "Edward III. conferring the Order of the Garter on the Black Prince," "Judge Gascoigne committing Prince Henry to the Tower," "The Funeral of Charles I.," "Defence of Basing House by the Cavaliers."

The House of Commons is a much plainer and smaller apartment than the House of Lords. The Speaker's Chair takes the place of the Thrones, and the mace, which rests on the table before him, is a symbol of the House's dignity and privileges. The members total 670, but there is only seating accommodation for 470, and the rest, when there is a full attendance, stand at the back or occupy the gallery on either side. They cannot, however, address the House from that position, but return to the floor to take part in a division.

Descending a few steps at the end of St. Stephen's Hall a fine view is obtained of Westminster Hall, said to be the most magnificent and interesting in England. The size and wonderful span of the roof is surprising—the breadth 68 feet, length 238 feet, and height 90 feet, making it the largest

hall in the world with a timber roof unsupported by pillars. This extraordinary span is recognised as the finest feat of carpentry in existence. Although built by William Rufus, it was practically rebuilt by Richard II., and in 1820, the neglect of the roof having led to some decay among the timber, it was carefully restored with oak from the old men-of-war. During all the years the Kings resided at Westminster, this was the great banqueting hall, where the feasts were held and public honour paid to rulers of other countries. For yet another purpose it was used by Henry III. in 1248, who commanded his treasurer to fill the King's Great Hall with poor people from Christmas Day for one week, and feed them. It was associated with the pageantry of the Coronation for many centuries, until Queen Victoria's accession, the State banquet being given there, when the King's champion would ride in at the door to challenge all who disputed the right of his master to ascend the Throne.

Several of us paid a visit to the cellar which Guy Fawkes filled with gunpowder during his conspiracy to blow up the Lords and Commons in the year 1605. Tea with Lord Tenterden, in the restaurant of the Members of Parliament, concluded a very interesting afternoon.

CHAPTER XXVI.

NINETEENTH MATCH, v. OXFORD

Our journey from Paddington Station to Oxford occupied one hour from 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 20th. The crowd, of approximately 15,000, said to be the largest to witness a Rugby match at Oxford, cheered wildly when we took the field against the Dark Blues at 2.45 p.m. The Iffley Road Ground was in fairly good order, and the weather conditions ideal, there being no wind and very little sun.

Oxford assumed the aggressive from the kick-off, and a smart bout of passing saw them almost over during the first thirty seconds. A forward rush drove them back, and honours were even for ten minutes, when the ball reached Wallace after an accurate bout of passing. The speedy "winger" raced down the touch-line and crosskicked. The ball screwed off Cooke's boot when trying to clear, and Jacob, who was following up fast, threw himself at the leather, which had rolled over the goal-line. Tremendous cheering followed, and was renewed when Berkley converted, to place Oxford five points ahead. 'Varsity held this lead for eight minutes, when Nicholls reduced it by a splendid drop goal. A minute later our forwards broke away from a line-out with short, quick passes, which ended in White scoring for Nicholls to convert; and so we were ahead for the first time in the game. The play of our backs, who were now being served fairly well from the scrums, brightened up, and Oxford were getting plenty of tackling practice, which they made an excellent job of. However, we were not by any means monopolising the play, Oxford doing their share of attacking, and it was all we could do to stem some of their determined movements. Some time elapsed before we scored again. Dalley secured from a scrum and passed to McGregor, who cut in cleverly to send Cooke away. The latter side-stepped and swerved in an out of the opposing backs to score under the posts with Raymond on top of him. Nicholls converted. The Dark Blue's second try, which was scored just before half-

time, came from another clever crosskick by Wallace—a perfectly judged shot after a good run saw MacPherson beat Nepia to the ball and dive across for Berkley to again convert.

**Half-time: New Zealand 14.
Oxford 'Varsity 10.**

Oxford, upon recommencement, instilled the same determined spirit into their play, and their three-quarter line was considerably strengthened by Raymond, who moved up from full-back, his place being filled by Wesche, a forward. We now had only seven forwards against us in the scrums, and our hookers got a good share of the ball. Give and take play prevailed for some twenty minutes, during which McGregor brilliantly sent M. Brownlie over under the posts for our third try. Nicholls again converted. Then came a dramatic third try for the Dark Blues—we were attacking hotly on the Oxford line when Wallace, in tackling one of our backs, wrenched the ball away from him, and dashed down the touchline with Raymond in support. After some clever passing between these two, Raymond drew Nepia, and handed the ball to Wallace at half-way, and sent the wing man away for the goal-line with a clear field in front. A great race ensued, Wallace, running like a hare with several of our backs in hot pursuit, just reached his objective in time. The tremendous cheering that followed this very spectacular try, was surely heard all over England! Berkley again converted with a good kick, and once more Oxford were only four points behind. For the rest of the game we held the upper hand, though Oxford, being ever ready to break through, were always dangerous. Fourteen points were added to our score during the last quarter of an hour. Dalley secured from a scrum, and after McGregor, Nicholls, and Steel had handled, the latter went over for Nicholls to again convert. Nicholls soon afterwards placed another beautiful “pot” between the posts. Just on time Dalley secured again from a scrum, the inside backs handling and cutting in cleverly sent Robilliard away for our fifth and last try, which Nicholls again managed to improve on. The final whistle saw us attacking hotly, and brought the end to a fast, strenuous, hard, but clean fought game.

Oxford played good and inspiring football. Their team work was excellent. Unlike many of the teams we have met, instead of concentrating on defence, they met attack with attack. The result of the game was not by any means a foregone conclusion, except, perhaps, during the last ten minutes, when our fitness told its tale. The pace was a cracker all

through, Oxford, neither back or forward, letting up for one minute. We had plenty of our own way in the line-outs, and if anything, the best of the scrums, but the opposing pack, whose determination was a feature of the game, kept us very busy in the loose. Eighteen of our points came from Nicholls's boot; he kicked every goal he attempted. Oxford's three tries were also converted by one man, Berkley, but this player missed several fairly easy shots from penalties.

**Result: New Zealand 33.
Oxford University 15.**

The teams were:—**Oxford:** R. L. Raymond, A. C. Wallace, G. G. Aitkin, G. P. S. MacPherson, H. P. Jacob, W. Strong, H. J. Kittermaster, A. C. Valentine, G. E. Abell, R. J. Hillard, C. R. Wordsworth (**Captain**), W. N. Roughead, V. G. Wesche, W. V. Berkley, A. Boyd.

New Zealand: Nepia, Robilliard, Cooke, Steel, McGregor, Nicholls, Dalley, Porter, Donald, Irvine, Masters, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, Cupples, White.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, of Neath, Wales.

A very happy time was spent at the Clarendon Hotel after the match, when we were the guests of the Oxford University Rugby Club to dinner. Mr. C. R. Wordsworth, Captain of the team, presided, and proposed the health of the New Zealand Rugby Union. Cliff Porter, during the course of his reply, referred to the great pleasure it was for the "All Blacks" to renew acquaintance with George Aitkin, of "All Black" fame, and "Pup" Raymond and A. C. Wallace, who had played for New South Wales against New Zealand on various occasions. We left Oxford by train at 8 p.m.

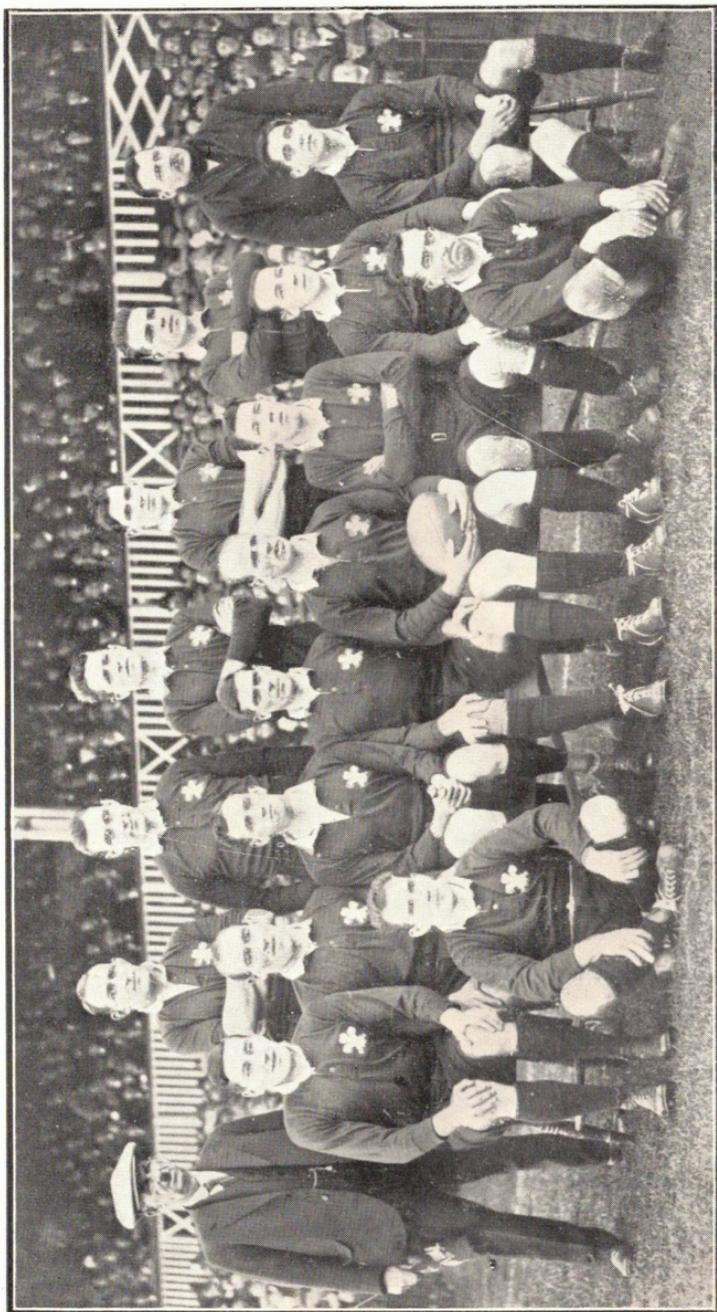
CHAPTER XXVII.

TWENTIETH MATCH, v. CARDIFF.

Ian Harvey, being obliged to undergo another operation, did not accompany us when we left London at 11.55 a.m. on Friday, November 21st. We arrived at Cardiff three hours later, where, upon alighting from the train, were given an enthusiastic reception by a large crowd that had gathered at the station. We then proceeded to the City Hall, where we were received by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Alderman W. H. Pethybridge), who accorded us a very hearty welcome, and reminded us that it was in his City that the 1889 and 1905 New Zealand teams were defeated. He hoped that the best side would win to-morrow's match, and that Cardiff Arms Park, in accordance with its traditions, would prove the field of Waterloo to us. Sir Thomas Hughes asked us to return to Cardiff to play a charity match on January 1st. This Mr. Dean in his speech said, we would be unable to do owing to our match against England being fixed for January 3rd. We then inspected the City Hall, which is a magnificent building, and in the Council Chamber saw the flag which Captain Scott took with him on his last fateful expedition to the South Pole. We were also shown the jersey the late Bob Deans wore when he scored the famous try that was disallowed!

A half an hour prior to the commencement of our game against Cardiff, on Saturday, November 22nd, the gates at Cardiff Arms Park were closed, and many hundreds of disappointed people were shut out. Every available space was packed with some 40,000 spectators, whom we could hear singing "Land of My Fathers" very impressively, before we left our hotel for the Park. The cheering was deafening when we took up our positions on the field. Fine weather prevailed, and the turf was in good order.

There was comparatively little back play in the game, which developed into a grim forward struggle. No quarter was asked or given, and despite the vigour introduced, a fairly good spirit predominated. The Cardiff forwards many times came within



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an ace of scoring (especially during the second half, when they had us penned on our line for long periods), but they did not receive the necessary support from their backs. The great perseverance and lion-hearted manner in which the opposing forwards fought, spurred on by the huge crowd of spectators, was equal to any pack we had met to date. Our backs got through a gruelling afternoon's work, and when the game finished many of them were very sore, as the result of stopping hard forward rushes. We secured the ball in more scrums than our opponents, but owing to the obstructionist tactics of O'Leary—who, instead of playing in the pack, was invariably waiting off-side to pounce on our half-back—it was on many occasions inadvisable to let the ball out. Delahay, one of the opposing halves, was also waiting off-side on many occasions. Although several free kicks were given against these two men, from one of which Nicholls opened our scoring, the referee could have penalised them many more times. This illegal play, combined with the fast breaking up of the Cardiff pack, who were generally on top of our backs whenever they did get moving, reduced passing rushes to a minimum. "Son" White played on under difficulties from half-way through the first spell when he injured a shoulder, which necessitated his leaving the field for a time.

Cardiff went away with rare dash from the kick-off, and we were placed on the defensive for some minutes, when the position was reversed. Each side in turn narrowly missing tries through good tackling and rush-stopping, whilst line-kicking relieved the pressure. The game had been in progress some time before Nicholls registered our first score with a good penalty kick from a long range. This reverse spurred our opponents on, and some determined play ended in Nepia having to force down. We soon had them defending again, but their tackling was solid. Up and down play prevailed for a time, when Richardson, securing from a line-out, sent Lucas over. Nicholls just failed to convert. Cardiff continued to have a good share of the play, but shortly before half-time we broke through their defence again for White to score under the posts after good, quick passing among the forwards. Nicholls converted.

**Half-time: New Zealand 11.
Cardiff .. Nil.**

Porter and Parker changed positions for this spell. Cardiff now had the wind in their favour, which we had benefited from up to the interval. The game had only been resumed two minutes when Porter picked up following a fast,

lose, forward rush, and got over near the posts. For some unknown reason this try, which Nicholls converted, was resented by a section of the crowd, who demonstrated against the referee. We were now sixteen points ahead, but our opponents, instead of despairing, played with even more terrific dash, and at times their forwards harried our backs, who, nevertheless, defended excellently and found the line with good kicks. Well on in the second spell Cardiff were awarded a penalty, which Wallace placed between the posts from a difficult angle. Some great tussles then took place on our line, and we had to strain every muscle to keep our opponents out. Eventually, Delahay secured and "dummied" his way over to score Cardiff's only try, which was well deserved. Wallace converted, and the crowd roared their appreciation. For the remainder of the time forward play prevailed with no further score on either side, and eventually a solid spell ended with our opponents having scored eight points to our five.

Result: New Zealand 16.
Cardiff . . . 8.

The teams were:—**Cardiff:** Dr. T. Wallace, T. Johnson (Captain), R. Cornish, J. Powell, P. Rayer, W. Delahay, D. Davies, I. Richards, F. Stephens, S. Hinan, W. Ireson, T. Lewis, J. Brown, C. O'Leary, W. Ould.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Brown, Lucas, Nicholls, Cooke, Mill, Porter, Donald, Irvine, M. Brownlie, Masters, Richardson, White, Parker.

Referee: Captain A. S. Burge, of Penarth.

At the conclusion of the match we were entertained to dinner by the Welsh Rugby Union at the Grand Hotel. Mr. W. T. Morgan, President of the Cardiff Athletic Club, who scored the winning try for Cardiff against the Maori team in 1889, presided. Mr. Dean, replying to the toast, "The New Zealand Team," stated that as Cardiff Arms Park had been the Waterloo of every International overseas team that had toured Wales, he was glad that the present New Zealand Team would not have to play there again.

At the conclusion of the dinner, Stan Dean, Cliff Porter, Major Dansey (a Maori, and ex-Otago Representative), Louie Paewai, "Abe" Munro, Judge Acheson and myself proceeded to the Cardiff Broadcasting Station, where, after Mr. Dean had broadcasted a fine speech dealing with New Zealand, and Judge Acheson had told "listeners-in" the origin of the Maori War Cry, we broadcasted our Haka to an audience of approximately

four million people! George Nepia was "billed" to sing two Maori songs, but when it was time to leave for the station he was missing! Major Dansey saved the situation by singing under his name.

CARDIFF CASTLE.

On Monday morning, at the invitation of the Marquis of Bute, we visited Cardiff Castle. The Castle is a unique historical object lesson, from the first century, when the Romans established their camp, the site has been in constant occupation, and on entering the gateway, works may be seen covering a period of twenty centuries. The Roman, Norman, and those of the Mediæval Age, as well as builders of each successive century, have all left their traces. In the year 1316 the wage paid to castle employees was 2d a day! The Marquis of Bute being absent, his Secretary conducted us over the wonderful Castle. The library is a magnificent apartment, 75 feet by 23 feet, beautifully furnished and decorated. It contains many valuable books pertaining to ecclesiastical history and architecture, among them being a Charles I. Bible. The drawing-room contains many objects of interest, including a Louis XIII clock; the various dials refer to the calander, and diamonds represent the stars. This clock was invented by the Fourth Earl of Bute, who was Prime Minister: three were made, one of which is at Windsor Castle. The Banqueting Hall, where we had a glass of wine, is the most notable apartment in the Castle; it was there that the late King Edward VII. lunched on the occasion of his last visit to Cardiff. King George V., when Prince of Wales, also lunched there. Lovely were the decorations of the Arab Room, reproduced from an actual room in Arabia; it is quite modern, has a gilded ceiling, stained glass windows with coloured prismatic lights, and a polished marble floor. The carved inlaid shutters, after Mohammedan fashion, arranged for the ladies to see out without being seen themselves, are very quaint. The chimney-piece is a fine example of carved marble inlaid with lapislazuli, etc. Around the walls are seven small recesses containing statuettes of gods and goddesses. We saw many other interesting and historical rooms, and spent a most enjoyable morning.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

RESTING AT TENBY FOR THE WELSH TEST.

At 3 p.m., on Monday, November 24th, we left Cardiff by train, and those of us who had been selected to train for the Welsh Test arrived at Tenby, in Pembrokeshire, some four hours later. Messrs. Paewai, Munro, Robilliard, West, Lucas, McCleary, and Badeley, together with members of the official party, under the management of Mr. S. F. Wilson, left us at Landore to proceed to Swansea, where they awaited our arrival on the following Friday. A vast number of people had congregated at the Tenby Railway Station, and they accorded us the heartiest of greetings when the train drew up. We then proceeded to the Royal Assembly Rooms, where we were accorded a civic reception. In his speech the Mayor said that the people of Tenby were very pleased that we had selected their town to train for our great match, and hoped we would take back happy memories of our visit.

After so many strenuous matches and tiring travelling, it was really a rest we required rather than solid preparations for the Welsh Test. Therefore, very heavy training was not indulged in. A walk and physical jerks on the beach before breakfast, a moderate amount of running and scrum practice on the Tenby United Football Ground at 10 a.m. was our morning programme during our stay in the quiet little town.

On Tuesday afternoon we took advantage of Squire Seymour Allen's invitation to be present at the meet of his hounds at Milton, Carew, where we were conveyed in private cars. Upon our arrival Mr. Allen extended us a hearty welcome, and invited us to visit his residence the following afternoon. We then watched the hounds being put to covert, and were disappointed in not witnessing a run before the time came for us to return to Tenby.

Some two hundred people were present at a dinner, which was arranged in our honour at the Assembly Rooms, at 7.30 that evening. The Mayor, Councillor T. Hall, presided.

On Wednesday afternoon we motored to Carew, and inspected Carew Castle, a magnificent ruin which presents a most picturesque assemblage of turrets, bastions, and battlemented walls richly mantled with ivy. The Castle exhibits very remarkably two distinct stages in castle architecture—the Edwardian west front illustrates the feudal castle of a Norman knight; the north side shows the facade of a beautiful Elizabethan mansion, which was begun by Sir John Perrott, but never completed. We were then taken to Pembroke Castle. Upon our arrival at the Castle gates, the Mayor and Corporation, together with a number of townspeople, greeted us. The Mayor made a very fine speech, and presented our Manager with a handsome illuminated address from the people of Pembroke. The Castle, which has a long and very eventful history, commencing early in Norman times, and ending with its dismantling by Cromwell, is a noble ruin, strikingly situated on a rocky hill. It must have been almost impregnable before the introduction of artillery.

A large crowd of people gathered at the station to bid us farewell when we left Tenby at 2.30 on Friday, 28th, to arrive at Swansea three hours later.

 CHAPTER XXIX.

TWENTY-FIRST MATCH, v. WALES.

Saturday, November 29th! The day for the one match of the tour we wanted to win, had arrived. Knowing that New Zealanders were looking to us to avenge the defeat of 1905 Team, we realised we must "do or die." After a restful time at Tenby we felt "brand new," and quite equal to anything Wales could send along. The following cablegram, which Mr. Dean read just before we left for the park, reminded us of the fact that "Good Old New Zealand" was with us:

Wellington, New Zealand, Friday.

"New Zealand sends its 'All Blacks' best wishes for to-morrow's great contest. Whatever the result we are confident that it will be received by both sides in the best spirit of British sportsmanship. Kia Kaha, Kia toa, Kia ora."

(Signed) W. F. Massey.

Premier.

White was unable to play owing to the injury he had received at Cardiff, whilst the half-back was not chosen until the morning of the match—Dalley would have filled the position if the weather had been wet.

The gates were closed at 2.15 p.m., and thousands were shut out. The vast audience could be heard singing "Cwm Rhondda," "Aberystwyth," and other Welsh hymns with great fervour and enthusiasm, whilst we were in the dressing shed. Fifty-five thousand people absolutely packed the St. Helen's Ground, whilst hundreds could be seen on the roofs of houses and all other vantage points in the vicinity. The band ceased playing, the singing stopped, and a truly wonderful reception was given us when we walked on to the field, which was a trifle slippery, but in comparatively good order considering the amount of rain that had fallen for some days previously. The weather was overcast. After Mill had led our Haka, the Welshmen performed a little parody thereof, which greatly amused the crowd.

After the Welsh Captain had kept us standing in the cold whilst he objected to four balls, which were thrown on and off the field in turn (this unusual incident no doubt being the outcome of several players having balls "earmarked" for the match, which they hoped to secure afterwards), the referee intervened and decided which one should be used. With the exception of Eddie and Cliff Williams, the whole Welsh Team had previously represented their country. Wales, who kicked-off at 2.30 with a slight breeze in their favour, played seven forwards and eight backs—the formation of the rearguard being three halves, four three-quarters, and a full-back.

Wales went away with a great dash from the kick-off, and their forwards worked play to our line, where, after we had relieved the pressure with a dribbling rush, our backs went way with a wonderful passing movement, which ended in Steel being grassed in the nick of time. Our attack continued, the ball being thrown about in great style. Wales were tackling stubbornly, and relieving with good line-kicks. Ten minutes after the start Nicholls put us three points up by a free kick, awarded for off-side play near the posts. Wales made a desperate attempt to equalise, but were driven out of our territory. They eventually broke through again, and well-judged passing saw Finch dangerous, but Nepia was equal to him. We were shortly in the Welsh territory, where one attack followed another only to be met with brilliant tackling—twice Svenson being brought down within an ace of scoring. After some grim forward struggles on our opponent's line, M. Brownlie dragged two Welshmen over the line with him to score our first try. Nicholls converted, and the spell was half over. This second reverse spurred Wales on, and their forwards, ably assisted by their backs, held the upper hand for some minutes. A penalty to Wales saw Johnson miss the posts by a few feet. Wales kept up the pressure until Wetter, their Captain, had to be assisted off the field through having collided with Nepia when heading a promising dribbling rush. Rain was now falling. For the rest of the spell we were continually dangerous, attacking persistently, first with dribbling rushes and then with passing movements. Wales defended excellently, their tackling being of the highest order. Six minutes before half-time Irvine scored from some lose forward play near the Welsh line. Nicholls missed the kick.

Half-time: New Zealand 11.

Wales .. Nil.

Wetter returned with his team, but was limping badly. Again Wales pressed from the kick-off, and some desperately hard forward play took place on our line, but our opponents could not break through our rock-like defence. After a brief relief Wales came at us again with a clever passing rush, which determined tackling prevented from bearing fruit. We soon drove the invaders out, and transferred play to the other end of the field with good line-kicks by the backs, and quick, short passes amongst the forwards. From a scrum the ball reached Steel, who made a strong run and got over in the corner, but he had put his foot out. After we had attacked for a time, some very willing forward struggles took place at half-way, where, as a precautionary measure, the referee stopped play and issued a general warning to both packs. Wales went away again with a forward rush, and Nepia, who took the ball off their toes, brilliantly relieved with a great run and a magnificent line kick. The Welshmen, who were taking scrums instead of line-outs, kept up the pressure, but could not make much headway. Our backs then worked play into the Welsh twenty-five with some great passing, and the spell was half an hour old, when Mill, securing from a scrum, sent Svenson over on the blind side. Nicholls failed to convert from the touchline. With only fifteen minutes to go, and fourteen points up, our backs threw the ball about in great style, but could not get past the Welsh tackling. Wales rallied and both their backs and forwards fought magnificently in our half for a period. They worked play to our line, where, after some hot exchanges, our forwards broke away, and after they had dribbled the ball practically the whole length of the field, Irvine touched down under the posts for Nicholls to improve upon. The game ended a few minutes afterwards, with Wales well and truly beaten.

Result: New Zealand 19.

Wales .. Nil.

The Welshmen, who were decidedly out-classed in speed and combination, played a great losing game, and, never despairing, fought gamely all through. They were most unfortunate, and undoubtedly handicapped through, more or less, losing the services of their "skipper," who, up to the time of his injury, had been in everything worth while. He was certainly only off the field for ten minutes, but, realising his injury would prevent his doing his job at half-back, he put himself in the pack for the second spell, and obviously in pain, gallantly hobbled along until the game was finished.

Our pace was too great for the Welsh backs to be a dangerous attacking force, but they certainly shone in defence, many tries being prevented by brilliant tackles and determined rush stopping, whilst their line kicking was of a high order. The Welsh forwards, who played with great "devil," and were keyed up to the highest pitch of battle all through, introduced rather more vigour than brains into their play, and at times kicked recklessly in the tight and barged in the line-outs. They were well beaten in the loose play and line-outs, but gained possession in the scrums more often than we did, very often due to obstruction in the front row. They dribbled very cleverly at times, and often gained a lot of ground with great rushes. Our inside-backs, especially McGregor, who repeatedly had to go down to these rushes, bore many bruises and were very pleased when the game ended.

Our rearguard all played exceptionally well, kicking and passing with great judgment, but the palm must go to Nepia. There were times when the hopes of the great crowd were aroused by the sight of the scarlet jerseys sweeping down the field taking the ball at toe, but Nepia invariably dashed their hopes. One marvellous effort by Nepia resulted in Wetter getting his injury—three Welshmen were dribbling the ball in a dangerous position with only our full-back to beat, when he, rushing up the field at full speed, took a flying leap at their toes, and after securing the ball, turned a couple of somersaults, landing on his feet, and raced up the field leaving two of the Welshmen knocked out—one being Wetter. "Observer" in the "Western Mail" pays the following tribute to George:—"Nepia has won distinction wherever he has played in this country, but he has never given a better display than on Saturday. There were times when it appeared that nothing would stay the fierce rushes of the Welsh pack. By sheer strength they barged their way through with the ball, and there stood Nepia alone between them and the desired objective. Wing men dashing to the rescue appeared to have little chance of aiding the youth. Then suddenly the rush, so typical of the forwards of the country, has broken up in a remarkable manner. Nepia creeps forward and unexpectedly dives at the ball. His judgment is uncanny and his pluck magnificent. He has snatched the ball from the toes of the men, and his bullet-like rush carried him through the mass. By a miracle he has kept his feet, and with the kick, which comes in his stride, he has cleared. There was a gasp from the crowd, which has been in a frenzy because a try had seemed certain, and then there is a cheer for the brave full-back."

The teams were:—**Wales:** Full-back, T. Johnson; **three-quarters**, E. Finch, A. Stock, A. Jenkins, W. Rowe-Harding; halves, W. J. Delahay, J. Wetter (Captain), E. Williams; forwards, S. Morris, D. Marsden-Jones, D. Hiddlestone, D. Parker, C. Pugh, J. Gore, C. Williams.

New Zealand: Full-back, G. Nepia; three-quarters, J. Steel, A. E. Cooke, K. Svenson; five-eighths, M. F. Nicholls, N. P. McGregor; half-back, J. Mill; wing-forward, J. Parker; forwards, W. Irvine, Q. Donald, M. Brownlie, R. R. Masters, J. Richardson, C. Brownlie, L. Cupples.

Referee: Colonel Bruton, of Northumberland.

CHAPTER XXX.

TWENTY-SECOND MATCH, v. LLANELLY.

At 12.30 on Tuesday, December 2nd, we left Swansea in motor buses, and upon arrival at Llanelly an hour later were given a civic reception by the Mayor (Alderman R. P. Thomas), a member of the Welsh Rugby Union. A huge crowd of people had congregated in the vicinity of the Town Hall, amongst them being hundreds of girls armed with autograph books, who besieged us. It would have taken hours to sign them all, so many were disappointed.

McGregor and Nicholls were unable to play through injuries received at Swansea on Saturday. Cooke played against doctor's orders, whilst the majority of the remainder of us were still feeling the effects of the gruelling Test Match, and not altogether looking forward to another game so soon.

The weather was fine, but the Stradley Ground was very sticky and treacherous. Twenty-two thousand spectators indulged in singing before the kick-off. Playing with the advantage of a slight wind, we went away with great speed—Llanelly twice forcing badly judged kicks during the first two minutes. Our attack continued vigorously for a further ten minutes, during which time our opponents were over-run, but they knew how to defend, and prevented several tries by inches. Hart then accepted a screw kick from an opponent, and breaking through, "put his ears back" and galloped for 60 yards with the whole Llanelly team in pursuit, to score under the posts. Nepia converted. Our opponents replied with great forward rushes, which we had much difficulty in stopping, but when the game was 20 minutes old M. Brownlie picked up, and after a fine rush in which he, Irvine, Paewai, Dalley, and Svenson handled, the latter got over in the corner for Nepia to fail at goal. This was to be our last score, for the rest of the game Llanelly more or less holding the upper hand. Our opponents were now properly warmed up and playing with wonderful determination, kept us in our territory with good line-kicks and dribbling rushes. Some minutes before half-time their efforts were re-

warded with a try, which the referee thought fit to give—a line-out was formed some 15 yards from the goal-line; whilst we were waiting for Finch, the Llanelly three-quarter, to bring the ball back to throw in opposite the touch judge, one of his forwards went to meet him, and following a throw-in quite four yards away from the touch judge, the ball was returned to Finch, who walked over unopposed for an unconverted try! The touch judge pulled his flag down and the crowd went mad.

Half-time: New Zealand 8.

Llanelly . . 3.

With our play being somewhat below par, a great struggle, chiefly confined to the forwards, ensued for the whole of the second spell, with Llanelly having the best of the game territorially, our line being in great danger on several occasions. We were rarely dangerous, and whenever we did attack, rocklike defence was met with. The opposing pack, never slackening off for a minute, fought like tigers in the tight, and used their feet to great advantage in forward rushes, which Dalley and Nepia went down to bravely. We did not get the ball from the scrums as much as Llanelly, but when we did one of their forwards was either waiting with Dalley for it to come out, or Davies was standing a mile off-side to spoil. Solid defence kept Llanelly out, and eventually the final whistle relieved the tension. Our last game in Wales was over with our having created a record, inasmuch that we were the first touring team to go through Wales undefeated.

Although we won the match, it was not the fault of the referee or the crowd. The former, who was "ridden" by the latter, was too intent on looking for our irregularities to observe many of our opponents. The crowd, though great people after the match, were the worst imaginable during the play. They invariably hooted whenever the referee gave us a decision, and almost every time our line umpire lifted his flag.

Result: New Zealand 8.

Llanelly . . 3.

The teams were:—**Llanelly:** E. Thomas, E. Finch, A. Jenkins (Captain), W. Davies, E. Evans, A. John, D. John, C. Williams, G. Francis, F. Harris, W. Lewis, E. Philips, B. Evans, W. Hopkins, W. Jones.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Brown, Svenson, Paewai, Cooke, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, McCleary, Masters, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, Richardson, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, Bridgend.

Following the game, we were entertained to dinner by the Mayor, who in proposing our health said, that after the Welsh match his spirits dropped to zero, but he was that night proud of the achievement of the Llanelly team, against one of the finest Rugby combinations that had ever left the shores of New Zealand. Mr Dean, in responding, said he wished to take the last opportunity that he would have in Wales to pay tribute to the Welsh people, particularly to members of the Welsh Rugby Union, for the splendid hospitality that had been accorded us everywhere. He said he was proud of the fact that we had done something which no other Colonial team had ever done, and that was that we were taking our record intact out of Wales. We arrived back in Swansea at 9 p.m.

The boys received a hearty send-off when they left Swansea for London at 10.45 on Wednesday, December 3rd. Mr. S. F. Wilson and myself remained behind to give a lecture in the evening on "Rugby Football in New Zealand." Some four or five hundred players and supporters gave us an enthusiastic reception. Mr Wilson dealt with Rugby in schools, the advantage of amended rules, etc.; I dealt with club matters, subscriptions, sports protection, insurance, etc. In proposing the vote of thanks, Mr. Albert Harding remarked, that the way in which Rugby was administered in New Zealand was an object lesson to the Homeland. At the conclusion of the evening the Committee of the Swansea Rugby Supporters Club presented both Mr. Wilson and I with a fine pipe. We joined the rest of the party in London the following morning.

CHAPTER XXXI.

**TWENTY-THIRD MATCH, v. EAST
MIDLANDS.**

We left London at 9.30 on Friday morning and arrived at Northampton at 11.15. Quite a number of people had congregated at the station, and gave us a rousing welcome as we left the train.

The weather was brilliant, and the turf of the Northampton County Cricket Ground in good order when we took the field against East Midlands on Saturday, December 6th. Sixteen thousand very enthusiastic spectators gave us a good hearing. The game was splendidly fought from start to finish, and with us playing slightly below true form, East Midlands had more of the play than the final score would suggest. The defensive work of our opponents (particularly tackling, which was a feature of the game) was excellent; whilst their backs did not hesitate to throw the ball about whenever opportunity offered, with the result that our defensive capabilities were often fully extended. The East Midland forwards, although beaten in the line-outs and scrums, were very good in the loose, and never ceased to fight their hardest, several times their determined battling spirit kept us on our line for some minutes, whilst play was often in our own territory. However, in the second spell the team could not stand up to our pace, backing up, and reverse passing, which often completely bamboozled them.

East Midlands were the first to score—eight minutes after the start the ball was kicked past Nepia, and Jones, who followed up fast, secured and dashed over wide out. The try, which was not converted, was followed by tremendous cheering. Our opponents held this lead until the game was over half an hour old, when good passing amongst our backs saw Steel get over for Nepia to convert. Just before the interval C. Brownlie scored from passing between the forwards. Nepia failed at goal.

**Half-time: New Zealand 8.
East Midlands 3.**

Six minutes after resumption C. Brownlie got over again from a loose forward rush. Nepia was successful with the kick. Seven minutes later Brown scored after Lucas and McGregor had handled. Nepia converted from the touch-line. East Midlands then went away with a passing rush, and following a scrum in our twenty-five, Jones secured to drop a neat goal. Our backs replied to this reverse with clever passing, which ended in Cooke scoring. Nepia again converted. East Midlands rallied, and by sheer determination kept us on the defensive for a time. However, they were eventually in trouble again, and before the game ended Steel scored two more tries for us, one of which Nepia converted with a magnificent kick.

Result: New Zealand 31.

East Midlands 7.

The teams were:—**East Midlands:** C. J. Churchill, L. A. Fensome, D. Williams, W. R. Dodgson, P. Johnstone, R. Jones, S. H. Townell, W. H. Weston, A. E. Luck, R. Webb, T. Harris, J. C. Binyon, E. Coley, A. H. Greenwood, L. H. Nicholson.

New Zealand: Nepia, Lucas, Brown, Steel, Cooke, McGregor, Mill, Porter, Donald, Irvine, Masters, Richardson, C. Brownlie, Cupples, Parker.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, of Neath.

After the match a very enjoyable evening was spent at a banquet given by the Mayor of Northampton.

On Sunday afternoon we motored to Great Brington, and were shown through Althorpe House, which is occupied by the seventh Earl of Spencer. This beautiful mansion contains a wonderful collection of valuable paintings of ancient Kings and Queens, etc., which had recently been assessed at over one million pounds. We also visited Brington Church, which dates back to Saxon times. In this church we saw the tomb of Lawrence Washington, an ancestor of George Washington; I was told that a replica of this tomb is in the Doric Hall at Washington, U.S.A. Tradition asserts that the head of Mary Queen of Scots, who was beheaded in 1587, was buried beneath the altar, where there is a stone engraved with the Scottish Lion.

On Monday afternoon our Captain placed a wreath at the foot of a fine monument erected in memory of Lt.-Col. Edgar Mobbs, D.S.O., who was killed in Flanders in 1917. Edgar Mobbs, who was an International Rugby Footballer and Captain of East Midlands, was in the first instance turned down

for active service; he eventually organised a battalion, in which he started as a private, and in 18 months rose to be commanding officer with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. Later in the afternoon twelve of us made a very interesting tour of inspection of Bostocks' Shoe Factory. After seeing all the processes that the famous "Lotus" and "Delta" shoes are put through, Mr. Bostock took us into the sample room, and told us to select a pair of shoes each.



A SLIGHTLY PREVIOUS TACKLE OF MILL BY A COMBINED SERVICE PLAYER.



A FORWARD RUSH AGAINST LONDON COUNTIES, AT BLACKHEATH.

CHAPTER XXXII.

**TWENTY-FOURTH MATCH, v.
WARWICKSHIRE.**

We left Northampton for Coventry at 3.45 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9th, and arrived there an hour later. The following morning we paid a visit to the Rotherham Watchmaking and Engineering Works. Some of the fine work girls were turning out on small lathes was wonderful, and it was a great sight to see dozens of girls working large lathes at a high speed in the motor accessories branch. At 2 p.m. we were given a civic reception in the Council Chambers by the Lord Mayor of Coventry.

On Wednesday afternoon we were motored to Rugby, and shown over the famous Rugby School by the Headmaster. The well-known book "Tom Brown's School Days" was written at this school, and I saw statues to the memory of the characters Tom Brown, Little Arthur, and Dr. Arnold. We walked down the staircase, which Tom Brown descended to stop the fight, and saw many things dealing with incidents mentioned in the book. There are many interesting things in the School Museum, one of them being a letter written by Lord Nelson on board the "Victory" to Captain Hallowell about two months before the Battle of Trafalgar. We kicked a ball on the ground where the first game of Rugby was played, and at one end of the field the following inscription appears on a stone set in the wall:—"This stone commemorates the exploit of William Webb Ellis, who, with a fine disregard for the rules of football as played in his time, first took the ball in his arms and ran with it, thus originating the distinctive feature of the Rugby game. A.D., 1823." Before returning to Coventry we had afternoon tea with Mr. Gilbert, the manufacturer of the well-known Gilbert Footballs.

Our match against Warwickshire was played on Thursday, December 11th, on the Highfield Road Ground, Coventry, before a record crowd of 25,000 enthusiastic spectators. The

weather was ideal, and the turf excellent. The first spell was extremely keenly fought, and although our play lacked some of the "sting" which had existed in many games, Warwickshire deserved considerable credit for the way they defended and attacked. Territorially during this half they had as much of the game as we had, and on several occasions their forwards, whom the backs ably assisted, had us penned on our line. However, our line kicking and general defensive work was too solid for them to score. In the loose their vanguard was extremely good, but our weight was too great for them in the scrums and line-outs. Our first try came thirteen minutes after the start, following great passing between Dalley, McGregor, Paewai, Brown, and Steel, the latter scoring for Nepia to convert. Sure tackling by both sides prevented any further score until just before the interval, when we went further ahead from a try by Hart, after McGregor and Brown had handled. Nepia missed the kick.

Half-time: New Zealand . . 8.
Warwickshire Nil.

We held the upper hand all through the second spell, except for brief periods, when the never-despairing Warwickshire team fought their way into our territory by sheer perseverance and determination. Our backs were well served from scrums and line-outs, and throwing the ball about freely, often bewildered the opposing rearguard, whose great tackling prevented the score from mounting rapidly. However, our speed and backing up told its tale once again, and at intervals during the spell Paewai, Steel, McGregor, Steel, got over in that order after good passing movements. Nepia missed three of the kicks and Steel one.

Result: New Zealand 20.
Warwickshire Nil.

The teams were:—**Warwickshire:** O. Hicks, J. M. Wale, H. J. Pemberton (Capt.), F. Wood, I. Davies, G. W. Wood, A. P. Wayte, T. Carter, T. Coulson, A. H. Evans, R. V. Howell, N. Pugh, E. H. Coleman, C. W. Streater, W. J. Streater.

New Zealand: Nepia, Hart, Brown, Steel, Paewai, McGregor, Dalley, Porter, Donald, Irvine, Harvey, C. Brownlie, M. Brownlie, West, White.

Referee: Mr. T. Bradburn, of Lancashire.

After the match a very enjoyable evening was spent at a dinner given by the Mayor of Coventry, Alderman F. Snape, at the Queen's Hotel.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

TWENTY-FIFTH MATCH, v. COMBINED SERVICES.

On Friday, December 12th, we left Coventry at 9.30 a.m., and arrived in London an hour and a half later. After lunch a number of us visited Madame Tussauds. This exhibition, which consisted of lifelike wax figures of most of the world's noted men and women from centuries ago until the present time, was very wonderful. Some of the figures looked so real that it was difficult to refrain from speaking to them! We saw figures of the King and Queen, and other members of the Royal Family, all standing together in a most natural manner; Lord Kitchener, Lord Roberts, Lord Nelson, Earl Haig, Bonar Law, Winston Churchill, Baldwin, Asquith, Lloyd George, W. F. Massey, etc., etc. Upon our return to the hotel we met Lord Ranfurly, the ex-Governor of New Zealand, who donated the much sought after Ranfurly Shield to the New Zealand Rugby Union.

THE KING AT TWICKENHAM.

His Majesty King George, a keen Rugby follower, was present at Twickenham on Saturday, December 13th, to see our match against the Combined Services Team, that represented the Army, Navy, and Air Force. His Majesty, who was given a wonderful ovation by the 25,000 spectators, was received by officials of the Rugby Union, and as he came on to the playing field, both teams, who were lined up to meet him, stood to attention, whilst the band of the Royal Air Force played the National Anthem. The King then shook hands with all of us, and afterwards watched the game from the Royal Box.

The weather was overcast, the turf slightly soft, and the spectators extremely enthusiastic. As staleness was somewhat evident in our last two matches, we thought the reputedly well chosen, well trained Service Team would fully extend us, if not secure a victory. However, we rose to the occasion, and, playing one of the best games of the tour, won handsomely. The Ser-

vices were unfortunate, inasmuch that they lost their tallest forward—Loriston-Clarke—who was compelled to leave the field with a dislocated shoulder just before half-time. Although our opponents were badly beaten in the scrummages, they were even more severely trounced in the line-outs, with the result that when it was their throw-in they invariable chose scrums. Our backs took advantage of this more or less monopoly of the ball, and throwing it about in a truly magnificent fashion, provided thrill after thrill. The Services were rarely dangerous at any stage of the game, but always fought determinedly, and attacked whenever possible, whilst at times their tackling was excellent. Their forwards effected some great loose rushes, particularly during a period of about 15 minutes in the first spell, when we were seldom able to get past half-way.

We had the advantage of a slight wind in the opening 40 minutes. The Services forwards rushed play into our twenty-five from the kick-off, but were soon driven back. The game was only five minutes old when M. Brownlie got away, and after Porter, Lucas, Cooke, and Steel had handled, the latter ran round under the posts for White to convert. The pace was a cracker, and our attack continued for ten minutes, the ball rapidly travelling first out to one wing and then to the other, but deadly tackling kept the score down. The Services, then playing like men inspired, kept us at bay for a time, and on several occasions were nearly over; once was when Stephenson ran for about 50 yards to be beautifully tackled by Nepia within a few yards of his objective. From a line-out in mid-field, a half an hour after the commencement, the ball reached Mill, and in turn McGregor and Cooke cleverly paved the way for Lucas to score in the corner. White's kick hit the cross bar. A minute later Forrest took a penalty for the Services from near half-way, and a great kick against the wind, hit the cross-bar to bounce over.

Half-time: New Zealand . . . 8.
Combined Services 3.

We were over again a few seconds after resumption—following up our kick-off, Masters secured in a jump for the ball, and after M. Brownlie, Porter, and the whole line of the backs had handled, Lucas scored, without the ball having previously touched the ground. White missed the kick. Up-and-down play then followed for a time, with the Services forwards putting great dash and vim into their work. Eventually, Masters sent us further ahead by forcing his way across, after following up a high kick by Cooke. Nepia did not convert. A few

minutes later the backs were off again at a terrific pace, which ended in Steel scoring for Nepia to convert. Our attack continued very persistently, and before the game ended great passing movements saw both Lucas and Richardson add a try each to our score. Nepia missed both kicks.

Result: New Zealand . . 25.
Combined Services 3.

The teams were:—**Combined Services:** Lt.-Commdr. A. E. Thomson, Lt. H. W. Stephenson, Lt. A. R. Aslett, Lt. J. A. S. Coutts, Lt. R. K. Miller, Lt. J. R. B. Worton, Squadron Leader J. C. Russell (Captain), W. E. Luddington, E. R. Gardner, Lt. J. A. Ross, Lt. G. N. Loriston-Clarke, Sub.-Lieut. J. W. Forrest, Flight Lieut. J. S. Chick, Lt. W. F. Browne, Lt. T. G. Rennie.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Lucas, Steel, Cooke, McGregor, Mill, Porter, Irvine, Donald, Masters, M. Brownlie, Richardson, White, West.

Referee: Mr. F. C. Potter-Irwin, of London.

At night we were entertained to dinner at the Hotel Metropole, London, by the Combined Services Rugby Football Committee. Lieut.-General Sir Charles Harrington presided, and he was supported by Sir James Allen, Air Commodore E. L. Lambe, D.S.O., W. S. Donne (President of the Rugby Union), and Rear-Admiral P. Royds. Sir Charles Harrington combined with his toast—"The New Zealand Team"—a fine speech on the value of Imperialism. He congratulated us on our successes, and claimed that Rugby football, in which hard knocks are given and taken in the right spirit, had done more than any other game to strengthen British kinship, which has at last passed from the realms of dreams into the workaday world of fact.

GUESTS OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND

The evening of Monday, December 15th, was spent at the Wharnccliffe Rooms, where Sir James Allen (High Commissioner for New Zealand) and Lady Allen gave a reception in our honour. Upon our arrival we were announced individually, each receiving a wonderful ovation from the 1400 New Zealanders present. An extremely pleasant time was spent dancing until midnight.

**ENTERTAINED BY THE BRITISH OLYMPIC
ASSOCIATION.**

At noon the following day we were entertained to luncheon at the Piccadilly Hotel by the British Olympic Association, Viscount Camden, C.B.E., presiding. Brig.-Gen. R. J. Kentish, in proposing our health, said it was really wonderful to think that we had gone all over the country without a defeat. But, what was better still, we had done so without losing anything whatever of our reputation as splendid sportsmen. He particularly congratulated our Manager, and the Team as a whole, for our silence in the face of certain "unfair criticisms," and for having steadfastly refused to enter into newspaper controversy. In reply, Mr. Dean said he would not touch upon the question of newspapers criticism; it would not help us in our football, or as members of the Empire, to enter into discussions of that sort, and "least said soonest mended."

CHAPTER XXXIV.

TWENTY-SIXTH MATCH, v. HAMPSHIRE.

At 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 17th, we left London for Portsmouth, where we arrived at noon. After having lunch at the Corner House Restaurant we proceeded by motors to Fratton Park; en route, breaking our journey at the docks to make a hurried inspection of Lord Nelson's famous flagship, "Victory."

The spectators were estimated at 12,000 when play commenced at 2.30 p.m. As neither Porter nor Richardson were playing, "Son" White was elected Captain for this match. The ground was extremely heavy and slippery, and the ball soon became very difficult to handle, with the result that our backs dropped many passes. The opposing vanguard put up a great fight, and practically held their own all through the game, whilst their backs supported them in a determined manner, but our pace proved too great. With us leading by 14 points and a quarter of an hour to go, a sea fog came up with great suddenness. In a minute or so the playing field became practically invisible. The goal posts were only discernable at a distance of 15 yards. So far as the spectators were concerned the game was over; so far as the players were concerned it became a mild form of blindman's buff. The referee considered the advisability of curtailing the match, but left it to the Captains, who decided to carry on, with the result that we added another eight points to our score. From the stand a kick would be heard, then several forms would be seen faintly rushing through the gloom, only to disappear again. Nepia had two shots at goal without being able to see the posts, one of which passed through the uprights, but by how much the other missed must always remain a mystery!

Early in the game Hampshire lost one of their forwards, Orr-Ewing, who was compelled to retire with an injured collarbone, whilst our Captain had to be assisted from the field with a severely strained shoulder a few minutes before the final whistle.

Up-and-down play prevailed for the first half an hour, with honours being about even. Play was generally confined to the forwards, who battled in great style. Whenever the backs of either side did get going, the movement was usually frustrated by the ball being dropped or by sure tackling. Good line-kicks often saw a great deal of ground gained by each side in turn. The game had been in progress for 35 minutes before we scored—Donald being successful after Cooke and Svenson had handled. Nepia failed with a difficult kick. Hampshire then worked play into our twenty-five, where both their backs and forwards fought grimly in their endeavour to equalise. We soon drove them back, and after Parker and Cooke had exchanged passes, the latter scored under the posts for White to convert.

**Half-time: New Zealand 8.
Hampshire Nil.**

Hampshire attacked from the resumption, and a scrum on our line saw Kershaw, our opponents' clever half-back, whom we had to watch closely all through the first spell, almost over. Play remained in our territory for some time, until Cooke relieved with a good dribbling movement, from which Parker picked up, and passed to McGregor, who was tackled as he went over to score. White failed at goal. A few minutes later Hampshire were penalised in their twenty-five, and a good kick by Nepia from near the touchline, sent the ball between the posts. The fog now began to settle, and in a minute or two the players could not be seen by the spectators. For the rest of the game we were on the offensive, during which time Svenson and McGregor scored a try each. Nepia could not see the posts for either kick, but one found its mark.

**Result: New Zealand 22.
Hampshire Nil.**

The teams were:—**Hampshire:** C. M. E. Thomas, H. W. V. Stephenson, R. H. Hamilton-Wicks, J. A. Coutts, W. H. Wood, C. A. Kershaw, D. Macdonald, P. Williams-Powlett, T. G. Rennie, K. L. Herbert, J. S. Chick, J. A. Ross, W. G. Agnew (Captain), D. Orr-Ewing, J. W. Forrest.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Lucas, Hart, McGregor, Cooke, Mill, Parker, Donald, Irvine, M. Brownlie, Harvey, West, White, Cupples.

Referee: Major H. E. B. Wilkins, of London.

We caught a train for London at 6 p.m.

FOUR DAYS' LEAVE.

There being a break of 10 days before our next match, we were granted leave for four days—the first since our arrival in England. Some of the boys remained in London, some took advantage of the opportunity to see Scotland, whilst others visited friends and relatives in different parts of England. I spent my leave with relatives at the Isle of Wight. The Island is extremely pretty; its rolling downs, wooded dells and high cliffs overhanging pretty sandy beaches, present a very picturesque sight. I visited the ancient Carisbrooke Castle, the residence of the Royal Governor of the Isle of Wight, H.R.H. Princess Beatrice. It was to this Castle that King Charles I. fled on November 12th, 1647, hoping that the Governor would protect him from his enemies; instead of which he was kept a prisoner for ten months, during which time he made three attempts to escape. A donkey is still used for drawing water from the well inside the Castle grounds. The donkey is placed inside a huge wooden box-wheel, and as he walks the wheel revolves drawing a bucket of water to the surface.

CHAPTER XXXV.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR AT DEAL.

On the afternoon of Monday, December 22nd, we all congregated at Berner's Hotel, London, and at 4.30 p.m. left for Deal, a quiet little town on the South East Coast, where we did our training for the two remaining matches in England. A great assemblage of residents enthusiastically received us at the station.

Deal proved an excellent spot for a quiet time, prior to the Test against England, and we spent eight happy days there. A brisk walk along the promenade before breakfast and practice on the Royal Marine Light Infantry Football Ground at 10 a.m. was the daily order of training. We were made honorary members of the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, also of the Walmer and Kingsdown Links. Those who had not played this game before found it far more fascinating than had been anticipated, and some very enjoyable, and at times most amusing, afternoons were spent trying to master the art. Some of the boys caused a stir in golf circles by claiming that they had gone round the links in "so-and-so," but it transpired that whenever the ball landed in one of the many sand bunkers, it invariably found a coat pocket until a convenient place for an effective drive was sighted! Jim Parker's "great golf" was heartily applauded by a number of experts at the first tee. Three shots missed the ball, a fourth shifted it about five inches, a fifth broke the club, a sixth missed again. By this time Jim was in a rage, and with a mighty swing "pulled" the ball into a neighbouring fowlhouse, which was almost at right angles to the tee! After two hours' play Jim had reached the fifth hole. But he was ahead of some of the others, who had started just after him!

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL.

On Wednesday afternoon we motored to Canterbury, and there inspected the famous old Canterbury Cathedral, which stands on the site of an old Roman British Church, built before the fifth century, and founded by St. Augustine, first Arch-

bishop of Canterbury, when he landed in England on a mission from Pope Gregory in 597. In 1067 the whole Cathedral was destroyed by fire, leaving only a few stones at one end of the crypt to bear witness to the original. It was the Norman Archbishop Lanfranc, who built the major portion of the present Cathedral in 1070, completing the work in seven years. The Cathedral is a magnificent building; one of the most conspicuous events in its history is the death of Archbishop Thomas à Beckett, who was murdered by four knights of Henry II. on December 29th, 1170. We saw the Patriarchal Chair, or the Chair of St. Augustine, in which all Archbishops of Canterbury are enthroned; also the tombs of Henry IV., who died in 1413, and Edward, the Black Prince, who died in 1376. Hanging above the latter tomb is the uniform and parts of clothing which the Black Prince wore.

At 9 p.m. on Christmas Eve a huge Christmas mail arrived for us from New Zealand, and a happy time was spent reading letters from home. The dining-room at the Royal Hotel, where we had our Christmas dinner at 6.30 p.m., was festooned with holly and other decorations. Over the table was suspended the representation of a large Rugby football bearing our colours, whilst the table was adorned with miniature Christmas trees. At the end of the room was a New Zealand ensign with the words "Kia Ora" written underneath it. At the conclusion of the dinner Mr. Dean gave the toast, "Our Loved Ones in New Zealand," which was most enthusiastically honoured and received with ringing cheers. A home-like atmosphere (for which our hostess, Mrs. Luckman, by her great hospitality, was in no small measure responsible) prevailed at the hotel, where we spent a most enjoyable time.

We left for London on Boxing Day to play the second match against London Counties on the 27th; returning to Deal on Sunday, 28th. (A description of the game will be found in the next chapter.)

On Monday evening, December 29th, the Mayor of Deal (Councillor Montgomery) gave a complimentary dance at the Winter Gardens; there was no lack of dancing partners, and a pleasant time was spent. The following afternoon we were motored to Margate, a popular seaside resort, where, at the St. George's Hotel we had tea with the Mayors of Deal, Ramsgate, and Margate. The latter proposed our health, and wished us a limited amount of success against England on Saturday! En route to Margate we passed through the quaint little town of Sandwich, with its narrow, winding streets and

picturesque old thatched roofed dwellings, and broke our journey at Richborough, where we were introduced to Major Wade, who showed us over "the mystery port," from which hundreds of tons of munitions were shipped to France during the Great War without a single mishap.

New Year's Eve was spent dancing at our Hotel. A few minutes before midnight the orchestra stopped playing to enable us to hear, by wireless, London's "Big Ben" strike the last hour of 1924. After the twelfth stroke there was much cheering and proposing of toasts.

Several of us took advantage of an invitation to spend New Year's afternoon with Brig.-Gen. A. Jack, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., and his wife at their residence in St. Margaret's Bay, near Dover. General Jack spent many years in New Zealand, during which time he was a keen player and supporter of Rugby. For some years he was employed by the Public Works Department, and assisted in the survey of the Blenheim to Seddon Railway, as well as taking a prominent part in the construction of a portion of the North Canterbury Railway. At the time of meeting him, he was the General-Manager of the United Railways of Havana, and on sick leave suffering from a bullet wound in his head, which was inflicted by a would-be assassin during a railway strike in Cuba. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent.

We were given a great send-off by many friends we had made during our enjoyable stay at Deal, when we left for London on Friday, January 2nd.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

TWENTY-SEVENTH MATCH, v. LONDON COUNTIES.

On Boxing afternoon we journeyed from Deal to London, and the following day, Saturday, December 27th, played our second match against London Counties, this time at Blackheath instead of Twickenham. The weather was appalling, a heavy wind, accompanied by cold showers of rain, prevailed throughout the game, yet 15,000 spectators—the vast majority of whom were not under cover—braved the elements, and cheered heartily as both teams took the field.

H. L. Price, who had been selected to represent England against us, one of our opponents' best forwards, was injured after 20 minutes' play, but carried on for a time limping badly. He, however, was compelled to retire just before half-time, whilst we lost the services of Cooke, who injured a knee ten minutes before the game finished.

Considering the state of the ground, which was practically a quagmire, a terrific pace was maintained from whistle to whistle. After ten minutes or so, during which time honours were about even, we settled down, and for the rest of the game out-classed our opponents in every phase of play. Whilst our backs put in some great work and handled the difficult ball with uncanny certainty, play was generally confined to the forwards, who gave quite their best loose display of the tour. Our sweeping forward rushes, sometimes with the ball at toe, sometimes with it being rapidly passed from one man to the other, were often absolutely irresistible, and completely bewildered London, who, for the greater part of the game were kept on the defensive. The Counties, however, fought gamely, and by good line kicking, brilliant tackling, and determined rush stopping prevented the score from being a mammoth one. A feature of the game was that all of our eight tries were scored by forwards, though the backs were prominent in many of the rushes from which they came. Our first try was scored after 15 minutes' play—Cooke, following up a high punt by himself, tackled the full-back in possession; the ball rolled clear, Svenson picked up and passed to C. Brownlie, who dashed over. Nicholls converted. A few minutes later a great passing rush

from half-way saw Donald score for Nicholls to fail at goal. London replied in a determined fashion, and after some give and take play Gibbs took a difficult pass in his own half, and swerving round one of our wings, put in a great run down the touchline. On being confronted by Nepia he kicked ahead and raced on to score after a brilliant effort, which was loudly and deservedly applauded. Just before the interval M. Brownlie scored our third try after a great passing rush instituted by Nepia. Nicholls missed the kick.

**Half-time: New Zealand 11.
London Counties 3.**

We were almost constantly in our opponents' half all through the second spell. Play had only been recommenced a few minutes when good dribbling amongst our forwards put C. Brownlie over. Nicholls kick hit a goal post. C. Brownlie was soon over again for his third try, resulting from quick passing between the forwards. Nicholls did not convert. Mill was responsible for our next try—securing from a scrum he cleverly “dummied” a couple of opponents to send Parker away in full flight for the line, which he reached just in time. Nepia took the kick, the ball again hitting the post. Clever passing between Nicholls, Svenson, Cooke, and Richardson saw the latter score our seventh try, which Nicholls converted. Just before the final whistle a scrum was formed near our opponents' line, and their pack was pushed over for Irvine to fall on the ball. Nicholls did not improve.

**Result: New Zealand 28.
London Counties 3.**

The teams were:—**London Counties:** R. K. Melluish, R. S. Hamilton-Wickes, V. G. Davies, H. P. Jacob, J. C. Gibbs, A. L. Gracie, W. I. N. Strong, F. W. R. Douglas, J. H. F. Edminston, R. G. Howell, R. J. Hillard, R. C. Hare, H. P. Marshall, H. L. Price, W. F. Browne.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Cooke, Steel, Nicholls, McGregor, Mill, Parker, Donald, Irvine, M. Brownlie, Masters, C. Brownlie, Cupples, Richardson.

Referee: Mr. T. J. Bradburn, of Lancashire.

The match was followed by a dinner at Odenino's Imperial Restaurant, given by the London Union Rugby Football Club. Mr. Mark F. Waters (President Rugby Football Union, 1923-4) presided. “The Visitors” was proposed by Mr. George Harnett, Manager of the British Team, which toured New Zealand in 1908. After a very enjoyable evening we proceeded to the theatre.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

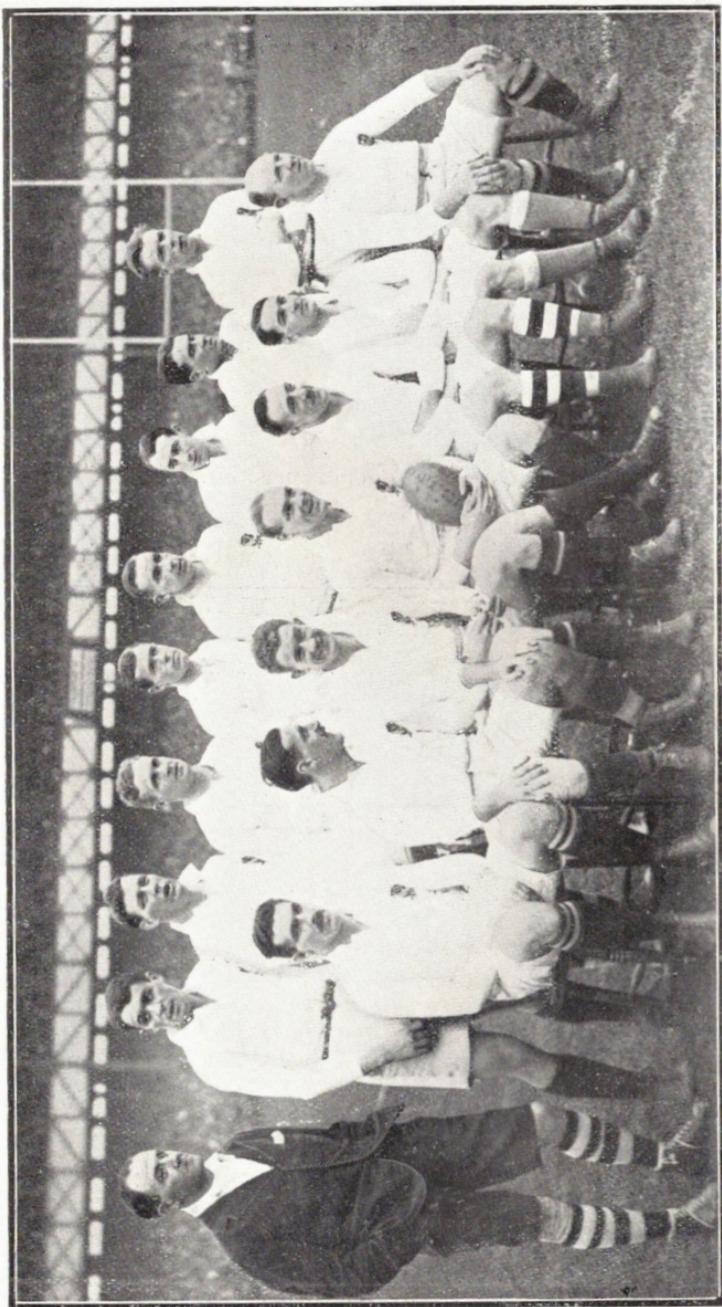
TWENTY-EIGHTH MATCH, v. ENGLAND.

After four days of showery and stormy weather we were favoured with a fine, though overcast afternoon for the greatest match of the tour, that against England, played on the famous Twickenham Ground (the home of English Rugby), on Saturday, January 3rd, 1925. At daybreak a queue was waiting for admission, and by 10 a.m. the crowd outside the gates was estimated at 5,000. Tickets for the stand could not be bought at any price. Twickenham, with its three magnificent stands packed full of people, and every foot of standing room around the arena filled to capacity, presented a great sight as we filed out on to the ground at 2.25 p.m. The cheering by the 60,000 spectators was tumultuous as we lined up. This cheering was renewed with greater enthusiasm when the Prince of Wales walked on the field to shake hands with both teams.

I regret to have to record that the opening stages of this really great match was marred by excessive unpleasantness, but declare with all sincerity that we were the victims rather than the culprits. Through the over-keenness of one of England's forwards—who had also adopted illegal tactics in a previous game—heated play was in evidence in the first scrum, and many subsequent scrums, whilst in the general tight play arms were swung freely. Both packs were soon keyed up to concert pitch, and it was early apparent that our last match in England was not by any means going to be a parlour game. Thrice the referee issued a general warning to both packs and appealed for calmer play. Then came the climax! The game had progressed about eight minutes, when, after some loose play following a line-out, the whistle sounded, followed by the remark, "You go off." Our horror can be imagined when we realised that the remark was directed at Cyril Brownlie. Joek Richardson, our Captain, appealed to the referee, but Mr. Freethy, who seemed to have completely lost his head for a minute, remained firm, and so one of the most good-natured men in our team had to retire. Cyril, without a word, left the field and he was not by any means the only one to feel unhappy as he made his way out of the arena in front of that huge crowd of people.

Never in my life have I experienced anything like the weird silence that fell over Twickenham as he walked away. If England had any chance of winning, and up to this stage it certainly appeared as though they had, it was reduced to a minimum now. We were determined to avenge the unjust charge made against Brownlie—that he had kicked the leg of an Englishman, who was lying on the ground—and a new spirit seemed to obsess us. Not one member of our team or party saw the alleged incident, and it is a hundred to one that none of the spectators did or we should have known it! Every member of the English Team, who was present at the dinner following the match, was asked whether he had received the kick or knew the man who had. It was pointed out to them that we did not want to defend Cyril when we returned to our country if he was guilty of the alleged offence. They were unanimous that he was not guilty, so we could only conclude that the referee had either “seen double” or had considered it necessary to take drastic steps to prevent the game developing into a fiasco, and used Cyril as the “chopping block.” Mr. Freethy was obviously nervous from the start, and apparently afraid the game would get out of control. Wakefield, England’s Captain (a finer man one could never wish to meet), was very much upset over the whole affair, and unmistakably sincere in his assurance that the question of appealing had never crossed his mind, the referee’s decision in England being always considered final.

After Brownlie went off, Richardson filled his place on the side of the scrum, and Parker played in the back row. Naturally we were severely handicapped, not only through losing Cyril’s valuable services, but also through our speedy wing-forward being prevented from playing his usual roving game. We in the forwards were even more severely handicapped for a portion of the second spell, when it became necessary for Parker to play as an extra wing-three-quarters owing to Steel’s services being reduced to a minimum through an injury he had received to a leg early in the game. Thus, for a part of the match, England had eight forwards against our six—only five of whom could play effectively in the set, scrums, because “Son” White did not have a partner to go down with him in the back. Many scrums were re-formed several times before the ball was put in to the satisfaction of the referee. According to Mr. George Payne’s statistics there were 81 scrums during the game—this excessive number being due to Wakefield invariably electing to have them instead of line-outs when it was England’s throw-in.



THE ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL XV.



H.M. THE KING SHAKING HANDS WITH THE TEAM PRIOR TO THE MATCH
v. COMBINED SERVICES.



H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES SHAKING HANDS WITH THE TEAM BEFORE
THE TEST AGAINST ENGLAND.

Although beaten, England played great football, and territorially had a fair share of the game. Their forwards, whose play was hard and vigorous, worked untiringly all through, adopting bustling tactics that were most effective. Their quick breaking up from the scrums and excellent loose play were features of the match, although they were sometimes penalised for breaking round the scrum too soon, obstructing our half-back. They secured the ball from about three-fifths of the scrums in the first spell, but, despite our handicap, we more than held our own after change of ends. They were badly beaten in the line-outs, hence Wakefield choosing scrums instead. We were their superiors in the tight, but in loose play honours were about even. England's backs being an extremely fast combination and very clever at handling the ball, were always dangerous—even when we were in their twenty-five—being ever ready to seize an opportunity to break through. They tackled and went down to rushes gamely, and kicked with wonderful judgment. Notwithstanding the fact that our rearguard did not handle with quite the same certainty as they often had done, they brought off some very spectacular attacking movements, their in-passing being deservedly applauded. However, long runs were rare owing to the sureness of the tackling they were up against. The defensive work of our backs was magnificent—the rush-stopping by McGregor, the great kicking by Nicholls, the breaking through by Cooke, the superb play of Nepia, and the deadly tackling by the whole rearguard frustrated many dangerous attacking movements by England.

England kicked off against a slight wind, and a fumble by one of our wings saw their forwards on top of him. Play settled down in our territory, and for the first ten minutes or so England was all over us. We could not do anything right either back or forward, and were kept hard on the defensive. Twice during this period England lost what looked like certain tries—once Davies in our twenty-five darted through our line of backs, and with three of his team mates in support, including the "flier" Gibbs, had only Nepia to beat, but a delayed pass spoilt a golden opportunity. A few minutes later Voyce, who was well supported, failed to take a pass with practically an open field in front. At this stage we lost the services of C. Brownlie. We then started to warm up, and drove the invaders back with a loose forward rush, but they were not to be denied, and the whole team, playing like men possessed, came at us again, and were rewarded with a thoroughly deserved try—a well screwed scrum formed in our twenty-five saw England's forwards making for the line with the ball at toe; clever

dribbling by Voyce and Wakefield saw Nepia beaten for Cove-Smith to carry on and dive determinedly at the leather, beating a couple of our backs, who made desperate efforts to force down. Brough missed a fairly easy kick. The game was sixteen minutes old, England the first to score, and Twickenham rang with cheers. We then woke up and our play both back and forward, which at times had been appalling, steadily improved.

Whenever opportunity offered the English backs continued to throw the ball about in a stylish manner, but could not get past our tackling. Eventually by continuously trying to barge our way through in the forwards, and, when progress was stopped, by heeling to our backs, we wore our opponents down, and play settled in their twenty-five, where our attack was persistent. The pressure being relieved occasionally by line-kicks, only for us to return. England's defence, however, was marvellous, and the game had progressed for half an hour before we landed our first try—M. Brownlie picking up from the loose, passed to Nicholls, who sent on to Cooke. Cooke cut in nicely, and Svenson, who was there to receive the pass, scored a pretty try. Nicholls' kick was a poster. A few minutes later good line kicking by Nepia saw us again attacking hotly, and from a scrum in England's twenty-five, Mill sent Steel away on the blind side to score in the corner after one of his characteristic bull-dog efforts down the touch-line. There was some booing by a section of the crowd when the referee awarded this try—they were apparently under the wrong impression that Steel had put his foot out, and were demonstrating against our touch judge, Len Simpson. Nicholls just failed to convert. We continued to press tremendously hard, and five minutes later were awarded a free-kick straight in front of the posts, but a long distance out, for illegal play by an English forward. Nicholls landed a great goal, and half-time came a minute or two later.

Half-time: New Zealand 9.
England .. 3.

Some great kicking duels between Nepia and Corbett marked the opening stages of the second spell, which usually resulted in the former coming out on top. Good defensive work by our full-back then checked a dangerous attack by England's backs, who had carried the play into our twenty-five by snappy passing. Our rearguard then broke away, and quick work saw Steel in possession, only to be beautifully lowered by Gibbs. We kept up a continual pressure, and getting the ball from many scrums gave our backs plenty of opportunity, but

England's forwards were breaking quickly, and giving their rearguard great assistance in defending. Play had been resumed for 12 minutes when M. Brownlie, almost on the spot where his brother had been ordered off, picked up from the loose following a line-out, and looking neither to right nor left for support, put his head down and charged for the line. He smashed his way through a bunch of opponents and got across, with Gibbs hanging to him like a terrier, to score the most determined try I have ever seen. Nicholls converted with a magnificent kick against the wind from near the touchline—the ball grazing the inside of the off post.

Good following up and tackling by Cooke, after some great kicking by Nicholls, kept play in our opponents' twenty-five, and eventually White picked up and passed to Parker, who went over with Richardson and Brownlie in attendance. Nicholls did not convert. The score was now 17 to 3 in our favour with about 20 minutes to go. Our attack continued, Mill and McGregor both got over in turn only to be recalled for a breach, whilst Nicholls was brought down by Brough when it looked as though we would go further ahead. The strenuous time our six forwards had experienced battling against England's eight, now began to tell. With about ten minutes to go England took a turn in the attacking, and spurred on by tremendous shouting from the huge crowd round the arena, played with great vigour. After nice passing amongst their backs, Gibbs flew away at a terrific pace from half-way; and evading Steel and Cooke, kicked when confronted by Nepia; a great race resulted in Mill beating him to touch down. A minute later Gibbs was off again, but the bounce of the ball beat him after he had been forced to kick past Nepia. We were then penalised for off-side play, and Corbett dropped a fine goal for England, increasing their score to 6 a few minutes before the finish. From the kick-off we forced play to our opponents' twenty-five, where Young set England's backs in motion—a great round of passing saw Hamilton-Wicks break away. Swerving beautifully he ran to Nepia, and then gave a well-timed pass to Kittermaster, who "bolted" like a racehorse from half-way with several of our backs in pursuit. The crowd "rode him" with cheers, which became louder and louder as he drew nearer his objective, and ended in a thunderous roar when he dived over under the posts. The applause had not died down when Conway converted, and the hardest and most gruelling game I have ever played in ended soon afterwards.

Result: New Zealand 17.
England 11.

The teams were:—**England:** Full-back, J. Brough; three-quarters, R. H. Hamilton-Wicks, V. G. Davies, L. J. Corbett, J. C. Gibbs; half-backs, H. J. Kittermaster, A. T. Young; forwards, A. F. Blakiston, R. Edwards, G. S. Conway, R. J. Hillard, A. T. Voyce, R. Cove-Smith, J. S. Tucker, W. W. Wakefield (Captain).

New Zealand: Full-back, G. Nepia; three-quarters, K. Svenson, A. E. Cooke, J. Steel; five-eighths, N. P. McGregor, M. F. Nicholls; half-back, J. Mill; wing-forward, J. Parker; forwards, Q. Donald, W. Irvine, C. Brownlie, R. R. Masters, M. Brownlie, J. Richardson, A. White.

Referee: Mr. A. E. Freethy, of Neath, Wales.

At 8 p.m. we attended a fine dinner at the Café Royal as guests of the Rugby Union. Mr. W. E. Donne (President of the R.F.U.) occupied the chair, and after he had proposed "The King," Mr. G. Rowland Hill proposed "The High Commissioner of New Zealand, Sir James Allen, K.C.B.," to which Sir James responded. Mr. Donne then proposed the "The New Zealand XV.," and congratulated us on the splendid success of our tour. Many other toasts were honoured, including a number of impromptu ones at Berner's Hotel later in the night.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.**FRANCE.**

At 2 p.m. on Monday, January 5th, we left London for Folkestone, where we boarded the steamer "Maid of Orleans" and crossed the English Channel to Boulogne; here we entrained for Paris, arriving at the Hotel Palais D'Orsay at 9.30 p.m. The trip across the Channel was very rough, and several of the boys were what might be termed "off colour!"

The following afternoon we were motored through the beautiful city of Paris. En route we passed the Louvre and Tuileries Palace (which was occupied by the Kings of France from 1545 to 1871, but now used as a museum) the Mint, Law Courts, Latin Quarter, University of Paris, the ruins of the old fourth century Roman Baths. We broke our journey at Notre Dame Cathedral in order to inspect this wonderful church, which stands on an island in the River Seine, where Paris was founded in the fourth century. We then proceeded to the Tower of St. James, Town Hall, the Church of St. Gervais (on which a "Big Bertha" shell fell on Good Friday, 1918, killing 150 people who were attending a service), the Bastille Column, which stands on the site of the old Bastille Prison, being erected after the Revolution of 1830. We also saw Madelaine Church, an enormous building that does not contain any windows; the necessary light being obtained from skylights and artificial means.

THE BATTLEFIELDS.

On Wednesday we left the Gare du Nord at 8 a.m. for a tour of the Battlefields. The train, which arrived at Lille at 11 a.m., passed through Albert—where, on a ridge, we could see a large monument to the memory of British soldiers—Thiepval, Achiet, Hamel, Miramont, Boisleuh, Arras—which was demolished during the war, but is now practically rebuilt—Rouex, Vitry, Brebières, Douai, Leforet, Ostricourt, Libercourt, Phalampen, and Pouchin. We left Lille in char-a-bancs, and at 12.30 were held up at Armentières, on the French and Belgian Frontier, to pass the Customs Officials. Both Lille and Armentières were occupied by the Germans, who did not harm the former town, but practically demolished the latter after evacuating it; the reconstruction of which was well in hand.

We motored along Menin Road (known during the War as "The Strand"), Ploeg Street, around "Hyde Park Corner," past Hill 63 to Messines Ridge, where, with all reverence we inspected the beautiful New Zealand Monument, which stands on the German front line, in memory of New Zealanders who lost their lives in their gallant fight for, and capture of Messines. We then proceeded to Ypres via Kemmel, Dicky Bush, La Clytte (where New Zealanders were encamped) Reninghelst (N.Z.A.S.C. Headquarters), and Poperinghe. At Poperinghe we broke our journey to enable Cliff Porter and Fred Lucas to place wreaths on Sergeant David Gallaher's grave, whose body lies in the Nine Elms' Cemetery. Porter's wreath was from "Members of the 1924-25 All Blacks" and Lucas' from his club in Auckland, to which Gallaher belonged. We saw many cemeteries in and near Poperinghe, including the largest in France or Belgium, which contains 11,000 graves of soldiers. The cemeteries were kept in perfect order, the lawns between the rows of tombstones being nicely mown and trimmed. At Ypres, where we had lunch, we saw the remains of the Cloth Hall and hundreds of buildings that had been blown to pieces. Unfortunately darkness prevented us from visiting Paschendale. We returned to Lille and caught the train for Paris, having spent the most memorable day of the tour.

HOTEL DES INVALIDES.

Thursday morning was spent training on the Park of the Princes, where the New Zealand team played on January 1st, 1906. In the afternoon we visited the Hotel des Invalides, which is now used as a military museum and barracks. In the Hall of Tureme we saw Napoleon's flags, medals, coats, hats, pistols, swords, etc. This hall contains a brilliant array of all the flags used by the French division during the Great War; here also was a casket containing the cinders of the flags captured by the Germans in the Franco-Prussian War in 1870—one condition of the Armistice of the Great War was that the Germans should return these flags to France; they, however, burnt them and returned the cinders. In another part of the building we saw the slabs of stone which covered Napoleon's grave at St. Helena from the time of his death in 1821 until 1840, when his remains were removed to Paris. Napoleon's Tomb, which rests under the magnificent dome of the Chapel attached to the Hotel des Invalides, is a wonderful piece of work made out of polished marble, which was presented to France by his greatest enemy—Alexander I., Czar of Russia. Napoleon's last words: "I desire that my remains should be buried

on the banks of the Seine amongst the French people whom I love so much," are engraved on one side of the tomb. In the courtyard of the barracks we saw the Railway Saloon (surrounded by big guns captured from the Germans) in which Marshall Foch signed the Armistice in the Forest of Compiègne, 30 miles from Paris, on November 11th, 1918.

THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES.

During the morning of Friday, 9th, we visited the Eiffel Tower, a wonderful structure 963 feet high, and from a height of 400 feet obtained a splendid view of Paris. After lunch we motored to the Palace of Versailles, said to be the most perfect building in France. It was built in the reign of Louis XIII., and enlarged by Louis XIV. to its present immense size, and inhabited by the Kings of France up to the French Revolution. It was in this Palace that Queen Victoria was received by Napoleon III. in 1855. In 1871 it was occupied by the German forces, and on January 18th King William of Prussia was there proclaimed Emperor of Germany. After the departure of the German troops it became the seat of the Government of France, and continued so until 1880, when the Government was removed to Paris. We passed through many rooms containing beautifully painted ceilings, ancient tapestries, hundreds of magnificent paintings and frescoes representing great battles and famous scenes in French history. The Glass Gallery, which was built by Mansart, and decorated by Le Brun, who painted on the ceiling, in thirty scenes, the history of Louis XIV. from the year 1662 to 1678. This gallery is 244 feet long, 34 feet broad, and 42 feet high. It was in this room, on June 28th, 1919, that the Peace Convention with Germany was signed. On our return journey to Paris we passed through the Forest of St. Cloud, where Blucher made his headquarters after the Battle of Waterloo in 1815.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday morning our Manager placed a wreath bearing the inscription: "In Remembrance—from the New Zealand Rugby Team," on the Unknown Warrior's Grave, which is situated beneath the Arch of Triumph. Afterwards at the War Office we met General Gouraud, who spoke most highly of the New Zealanders at Gallipoli, where he lost an arm.

The afternoon was spent walking along the beautiful wide boulevards, and inspecting the latest Paris fashions in the attractive shop windows! In one street we were much amused to see a butcher's shop that sold nothing but horse flesh; to advertise this fact a stuffed horse's head was fixed over the doorway.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

TWENTY-NINTH MATCH, v. SELECTION FRANCAISE.

Some 50,000 spectators, including Madame Heriot, wife of the French Prime Minister, Lord Crewe (Ambassador for Great Britain), Mr. Winston Churchill (England's Chancellor of the Exchequer), General Gouraud (Military Governor of Paris), and other members of the French and British Governments, were present when we met a team selected from various French Clubs at Colombes Stadium, Paris, on Sunday, January 11th. They were an extremely impartial crowd, giving us a great reception, and heartily applauding all good play. When the teams lined up a band played "God Save the King," followed by the French National Anthem "La Marseillaise." The weather was fine, but the turf at Colombes—a wonderful ground, possessing magnificent stands, which were built for the 1924 Olympic Games—rather sticky as the result of the thawing of a hard frost.

A fine spirit prevailed throughout the game, which was fast and open, and very spectacular. The Frenchmen, who threw the ball about in great style, were ever ready to attack, but our team work and backing up was far too good for them to ever look like winning. Many of our tries were scored with several men outside the scorer waiting for a pass. We started to attack from the kick-off, but our opponents defended gamely, and five minutes after play had commenced, pretty passing between their backs, started in their twenty-five, saw Besson break away from half-way, with only our full-back to beat. He cleverly evaded Nepia, and running strongly scored an excellent try, which the excitable French spectators applauded with great enthusiasm. The kick at goal failed. For the rest of the spell we beat our opponents in all departments, and our attack was persistent, the ball travelling from one man to the other with great rapidity and certainty. Eight tries, all with the exception of one being from passing rushes, were scored before half-time, none of which were converted, Nepia missing three kicks and White five. The order of the scoring was:—Porter, Hart, C. Brownlie, Hart, C. Brownlie, Svenson, M. Brownlie, and Cooke.

Half-time: New Zealand .. 24.
Selection Francaise 3.

France rallied after resumption, and forced play into our twenty-five, where, after a brief period of forward duels, du Manoir secured from a scrum, and kicking ahead followed up fast to score a good try. Pelletey converted with a nice kick. This encouragement seemed to give the Frenchmen more heart, and for the rest of the game their work was much more vigorous and determined than it had been in the first spell. By solid forward play, fast, open attacking movements and effective line kicking they had a fair share of things territorially, whilst many of our dangerous rushes were checked by good tackling and rush stopping. However, before the final whistle was sounded we added another three tries to the eight scored in the first spell, all as the result of long, spectacular passing movements in which both backs and forwards took part. M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, and Svenson were the scorers. Nepia converted the first two, but missed the third. Injuries forced Pelletey and Berrurier to retire towards the end of the game, leaving the Frenchmen with only 13 men. However, they "stuck to their guns" and played even more desperately after these men went off.

**Result: New Zealand .. 37.
Selection Francaise 8.**

The teams were:—**Selection Francaise:** Pelletey, Hallet, Vaysse, de Laborderie, Besson Dupont, du Manoir, Piquiral, Prevost, Lasserre (Captain), Laurent, Levasseur, Berrurier, Marcet, Loury.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Lucas, Hart, McGregor, Cooke, Dalley, Porter, Irvine, Donald, M. Brownlie, Harvey, C. Brownlie, White, Cupples.

Referee: Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, of Wales.

The game was followed by a wonderful dinner at the Hotel Palais D'Orsay, when many fine speeches were made. M. Rigaud, who presided, read a letter from Pelletey, who had his leg broken during the match, and was taken to the hospital, stating that he was pleased to have had the opportunity of playing against us, and wishing us good luck and a safe journey home. This sportsmanlike action was acknowledged by our Manager calling for three cheers for Pelletey, which were given very enthusiastically. M. Rheinold made a fine speech on behalf of the French Government, Lord Crewe responding. M. Bensus (ex-President of the French Rugby Union, and known as "the old father" of Rugby in France) also spoke, and the usual toasts were honoured.

CHAPTER XL.**THIRTIETH MATCH, v. FRANCE.**

We left the Palais d'Orsay Station on Monday, January 12th, at 10 a.m., for Toulouse, and after travelling 480 miles through frozen country, arrived at our destination at 11.30 p.m. Several hundred people gave us a wonderful reception at the station, and Cliff Porter was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers bearing the inscription: "From old Toulousian Players to New Zealand, the Kings of Rugby Men"!

CARCASSONNE.

At 12.30 on Wednesday we left by train for a visit to Carcassonne, and upon our arrival at 2 p.m. we were greeted by a large number of people, who had gathered at the station. We were conveyed in cars to the ancient city of Carcassonne, which in the distance, with its great towers and walls, presented a splendid sight. Such complete and formidable works of the fourth, twelfth and thirteenth centuries do not, I was informed, exist elsewhere in Europe to-day. The city, which is surrounded with inner and outer walls, about 25 yards apart, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in circumference, and 25 feet high, was, with its other ingenious contrivances for defence, at the end of the thirteenth century absolutely impregnable, and could only be reduced by famine. In the year 70 Carcassonne was classed among cities said to be noble or elected. A fine chapel still stands in the centre of the city, and the harmonising of colours in its windows are said to be the most remarkable of the fourteenth century still in existence. The city used to accommodate 4,000 people, but only 1,000 live there now. We were afterwards motored round modern Carcassonne, and took wine with several heads of the town before returning to Toulouse.

THE PYRENEES MOUNTAINS.

On Thursday a trip to the Pyrenees Mountains had been arranged for us, and we left Toulouse at 8.40 a.m. Our train passed through thousands of acres of country which was one mass of grape vines. Oxen could be seen in all directions

drawing ploughs and drays. I did not see one horse being used for such work. We arrived at the foot of the Pyrenees at 10.30 a.m., and after an hour's journey through a beautifully wooded valley, landed at Luchon, in the heart of the mountains. When our train drew into the station, hundreds of school children, who were accompanied by many villagers, cheered and waved flags, and the village band played "God Save the King" to the best of its ability. We were conveyed to a hotel, in horse drawn vehicles and motor-cars, led by half a dozen mounted Lancers, where we had a glass of wine with the Mayor of Luchon. This reception tendered to us, practically on the borders of Spain, was absolutely wonderful. At mid-day we boarded a cog-railway train, and in 45 minutes ascended 6,000 feet—the grade being one in five—to Superbagnères, the snow level. We obtained some beautiful views of the Pyrenees en route, whilst others were obscured by our passing through woods containing black fir, ash, white birch, and lime trees. We had lunch at a wonderful hotel on the summit, after which we tramped about a quarter of a mile across frozen snow to the skiing course, where we witnessed some fine exhibitions of skiing by the champions of the Pyrenees. Later we witnessed an ice hockey match between the champion teams of Spain and Belgium. This appeared to be a very fast, strenuous and fascinating game. At 4 p.m. we commenced our return journey to Toulouse, arriving there some four hours later.

On Saturday we proceeded to the Stade Toulousian Ground, where Cliff Porter, on behalf of the Team, placed a wreath at the foot of a fine memorial erected to the memory of Toulousian footballers who fell in the Great War. We afterwards witnessed a football match between old-timers of the Pyrenees and Bayun-Barritz Counties. The Pyrenees, for whom Jim Parker, Brian McCleary, Alf West, and Robilliard played, proved victorious by 18 to 11. West scored one try and Robilliard two.

THE LAST MATCH IN EUROPE.

A bright, sunny day, if anything on the warm side, attended our Test Match against France at Toulouse on Sunday, January 18th. The ground of the Stade Toulousian, the then champion Rugby Club in France, was in excellent order, but the accommodation was quite inadequate for all who wished to see the match. Approximately 35,000 people packed the stand and enclosure some time before the game started, whilst every vantage point outside the ground was occupied. Our cars could not get within several hundred yards of the gates owing to there being thousands of French men and women on

the streets clamouring excitedly for admission. A number of gendarmes, assisted by several detachments of soldiers, had a strenuous time guarding the entrances and keeping the crowd at bay. The game was delayed quite 15 or 20 minutes through the difficulty we experienced in fighting our way to the dressing rooms. It was quite a task to get to the gates, but inside the people were wedged so close together that progress was extremely hard. Eventually a fence, we were fighting our way along, collapsed, and the pressure was relieved just long enough for us to scramble through a back door which led in to the basement of the grand-stand.

Despite the large margin by which they eventually lost, the Frenchmen played a really fine game, and territorially had much more of the play than the score would suggest. A more determined XV. could not be met with anywhere, but their play just lacked the necessary polish to drive their attacking movements home. They played a hard, attractive style of football, without a semblance of foulness, and were always on the look out for opportunities to attack. Even when the score was mounting against them they still fought keenly, not once adopting stonewall tactics. Their forwards, packing 3—4 with Bioussa—who repeatedly obstructed our half without being penalised—acting as rover, were quite successful in the scrums gaining possession more often than we did. They displayed great energy in the open and packed solidly in the tight, with the result that we had to work hard all through the game. Both the French tries were scored by forwards, and were the direct outcome of purely vanguard offensives, which made almost 50 yards of ground on each occasion. We had had a "let up" after our strenuous time in England, and consequently our play lacked a certain amount of "sting."

The game had been in progress about eight minutes when Lucas intercepted the ball during a French attack, and took the play to France's twenty-five, where, from a scrum, Mill started a rush, which ended in Porter opening our scoring. Nicholls did not convert. Three minutes later, with the Frenchmen pressing, M. Brownlie started a movement, which was carried on by Lucas, Cooke, and Steel, for the latter to score after a long run. Nicholls converted with a good kick from the touch-line.

At this stage the Frenchmen were doing a good deal of attacking, but lacked finish against our sound defence. Once Ballarin made a good attempt to drop a goal, which resulted in our having to force. Soon afterwards C. Brownlie picked

up in our half, and passed to Cooke, who broke through to send Lucas and Svenson away, the latter scoring for Nicholls to miss the kick. We were now pressing hard. During the last five minutes C. Brownlie passed to White, who scored after a long run, and a pass from Svenson to Richardson saw "Jock" gallop a fair distance to touch down. Nicholls missed both kicks.

Half-time: New Zealand 17.

France .. Nil.

The French forwards started the second spell in overwhelming fashion, and with some of our backs failing to stop their rushes, had us defending for twenty minutes. During this period they scored their two tries—following a scrum, splendid inter passing between du Manoir, Ribere, Bioussa, and Baillette, ended in touch a few yards out. A quick throw in to Cassayet saw him force his way across for an unconverted try. The French forwards kept hammering away at us, dribbling cleverly. Boubée got over the line, but was recalled for a breach. From the ensuing scrum, however, Ribere scored. The kick again failed. At this stage White was injured and went off, but returned later. Spurred on by these two successes, and encouraged by the tremendous cheering by the excited crowd, France kept us very busy. With their forwards heeling consistently, their backs were able to throw the ball about, and put in some good runs. Eventually France was driven back by good work by Nicholls, which ended in Irvine scrambling over. Nepia did not convert. For the rest of the game we held the upper hand, and Cooke scored two more tries. One was from a good passing rush between C. Brownlie, Nicholls and himself, the other from a clever cross-kick by Svenson. Nicholls converted both.

Unlike many of the teams we met in England, the Frenchmen met attack with attack. They possessed plenty of speed and weight, and being enterprising, should, with the experience of a few seasons up against better teams, give their neighbours across the Channel a hard tussle for the Rugby supremacy of Europe.

Result: New Zealand 30.

France .. 6.

The teams were:—**France:** Chilo, Jauréguy, Ballarin, Baillette, Hallet, du Manoir, Piteu, Bioussa, Boubée, Ribere, Laurent, Cassayet (Captain), Montade, Marcet, Maury.

New Zealand: Nepia, Svenson, Lucas, Steel, Nicholls, Cooke, Mill, Porter, Donald, Irvine, Masters, M. Brownlie, C. Brownlie, White, and Richardson.

Referee: Major H. E. B. Wilkins, of England.

An hour was spent at our hotel after the match farewelling Mr. George Payne, of the official party, who was leaving us to return home via Suez. The sparkling drink for which France is famous flowed freely, and everyone was happy. Later we attended a wonderful champagne dinner given by the Federation Francaise de Rugby at the Hotel de l'Europe. M. O'bery, President of the French Rugby Union, presided. An interpreter was present to translate the speeches from French to English and vice-versa. Among the toasts that were honoured was that of the Spanish Rugby Union, to which its President, M. Alen, responded. During conversation with several Frenchmen, I learned that Rugby had become so popular in the South of France that the promoters of bull-fights found it advisable not to arrange a fixture on the same day as a Rugby match was being played. In fact, bull-fighting has had to make way for Rugby in the South of France, and was gradually doing so in Spain.

We left Toulouse after the dinner at 11.40 p.m., and arrived at Paris at 11 the next morning, and an hour later left for Calais, where, at 3.30 p.m., we connected with the steamer "Maid of Orleans." After a slow trip across the English Channel owing to a heavy fog, we landed at Dover some 2½ hours later, and arrived at Berner's Hotel, London, at 9 p.m., very tired after our long journey on top of the Test Match.

CHAPTER XLI.

**FAREWELL LUNCHEON GIVEN BY
SPORTSMEN OF THE MOTHERLAND.**

At 1 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21st, we proceeded to Piccadilly Hotel, where we were given a farewell organised by the British Olympic Association. It was a wonderful scene—a gathering unique in the annals of British sport. I was informed that never before had there been assembled under one roof so many of the recognised leaders of every branch of sport in England—athletics, football, cricket, boxing, racing, polo, hunting, sculling, golf, tennis, hockey, racquets, swimming, water polo, wrestling etc. All were worthily represented, and had sent of their best to join with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in bidding us good-bye. The Right Hon. Lord Desborough (Vice-President of the British Olympic Association) was in the Chair, and between him and the Prince of Wales sat Cliff Porter, our Captain. Mr. Dean was on the Chairman's left; others at the Prince's table were:—The Hon. Sir James Allen (High Commissioner for New Zealand), General Sir Ian Hamilton, Viscount Burnham (Vice-President, British Olympic Association), General Sir William Birdwood (late Commander of the Australian and New Zealand Corps in France), General Sir A. Godley (Hunting and Polo), the Earl of Cadogan (Chairman, British Olympic Council), the Rev. R. S. de Courcy Laffan (British Olympic Association), Lord Riddell (Vice-President, British Olympic Association), Viscount Campden (Vice-President, British Olympic Association), Lord Ashfield, Major-General Rt. Hon. J. B. Seely, Col. Clive Wigram, Jock Richardson, Brig.-Gen. R. J. Kentish (British Olympic Association), Vice-Admiral Sir Lionel Halsey (Shooting, Fishing, Golf), the Earl of Lonsdale (Hunting and Racing), the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery (Secretary State for the Colonies). Among those present at other tables were:—Wing Commdr. Louis Greig (Scottish Rugby International), Mr. Harry Preston (Boxing), Lt.-Commadr. C. Kershaw (English Rugby Inter-

national), Commdr. W. J. A. Davies (English Rugby International), General Sir George Milne, Sir Arthur Myers, Sir E. Roney (Yachting), the Earl of Pembroke (Hunting), the Earl of Portarlington (Hunting), the Viscount Cruzon, Sir Ian Colquhoun (Army Light Weight Boxing Champion), Lt.-Col. Sloggett (Army Racquets Champion), Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir R. Hill, Air Marshall Sir John Salmond, Brig.-Gen. J. Micklem, D.S.O., Lord Strathspey, Sir Francis Newton (High Commissioner for Rhodesia), Sir Claude de Crespigny (Steeplechasing), Major-General Sir E. W. C. Chaytor, Brig.-Gen. Sir D. McGavin, the Hon. W. Pember Reeves (late High Commissioner for New Zealand), the Hon. Sir T. Mackenzie (late High Commissioner for New Zealand), Lt.-Col. B. C. Freyberg, V.C., Mr. Cecil Wray, Sir Malcolm McAlpine (Racing), Mr. James White (Racing), Mr. Jimmy Wilde (former Fly-weight Champion of the World), Mr. Tom Newman (Billiard Champion), Mr. Ernest Barry (World's Sculling Champion), Mr. Steve Donoghue (England's famous jockey), Sir Charles Allom (Yachting), Mr. G. N. Adams-Picton (Fly Fishing), Mr. Cyril Tolley (Amateur Golf Champion), Mr. J. H. Taylor (Golf Champion), Mr. B. R. Larcombe (Lawn Tennis), Mr. E. Seligman (Captain British Fencing Team), Lt.-Col. A. F. Kingscote (English Tennis Team), Mr. F. T. Mann (Cricket), Colonel Philip Trevor, Mr. Douglas Powell (Cambridge Blue, Hurdles), Commander the Hon. J. M. Kenworthy, Sergeant Harry Mallin (Amateur Middle-weight Boxing Champion of the World). Captain H. McCormick (Irish Hockey International), Mr. H. M. Abrahams (Amateur Champion of the World, 100 metres), Lt.-Col. the Hon. H. L. Alexander (Army Mile Champion), Mr. A. E. Porritt (New Zealand Olympic Team), Mr. P. G. Fender (English Cricket XI.), Mr. Max Woosnam (Captain English Association Football XI. and English Tennis Team), Mr. H. Annison (British Swimming 400 yards champion, and Olympic Team), Mr. A. F. Long (British Olympic Rowing Team), etc., etc.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE L. S. AMERY'S SPEECH.

Mr. Amery, proposing "The Dominion of New Zealand," said that his was merely a preliminary toast. The real toast of the day was to be proposed by the Prince of Wales—a toast that would do honour to the prowess and the unexampled record of the "All Black" Team. (Cheers.) He remembered well from history the awful penalties which attached to those who poached on the Royal preserves (laughter), and his



SIR JAMES ALLEN PRESENTING THE LOVING CUP ON BEHALF OF NEW ZEALANDERS IN THE OLD COUNTRY.



PORTER PLACING A WREATH ON SERGT. DAVID GALLAHER'S GRAVE IN NINE ELMS CEMETERY, POPERINGHE, BELGIUM.



THE MONUMENT ON MESSINES RIDGE, ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF NEW ZEALAND SOLDIERS.

knowledge of Parliament told him that in all probability these penalties were still on the Statute Book. Therefore, he must confine himself to the toast of "The Land where the All Blacks Grow!" There was one thing about New Zealand that was rather remarkable—that almost every creature or flower that had been transplanted there had grown very rapidly, and to greater dimensions than in its own country. It was the finest country in the world for trout; its trout were only laid down there fifty years ago. The first red deer were turned out at the same time; and he believed that the finest stag, and the finest head in the world came from New Zealand. He did not know when the first footballer was turned out in New Zealand, but His Royal Highness would tell them what had resulted from that. New Zealand was certainly a land that produced a fine breed of men and sportsmen. (Cheers.) They had reminded us of their fine quality as sportsmen in the last few weeks, but we had not yet forgotten what we owed to their quality as patriots and warriors (cheers), not only in the late War, but in earlier struggles. His first recollection of seeing New Zealanders was when he had met them on the veldt in South Africa. He had seen them since on the heights of Anzac, at Gallipoli, and he had also seen them in France. But in the presence of General Godley and General Birdwood he did not think he need say what the New Zealand soldiers had shown to the world. New Zealand, in everything that appertained to the common interest of the Empire, had played her part worthily ever since she became a nation, and would, he believed, play her part with equal spirit, but even greater weight, as she became a still greater factor in the efforts of the British Commonwealth. He coupled with the toast the name of Sir James Allen, to whose services, both for New Zealand and for the Empire, he paid an eloquent tribute.

Sir James Allen, in response, thanked the hosts for the compliment they had paid him and the New Zealanders; his only regret was that one guest, who would gladly have been present, was missing—General Russell, who commanded the New Zealand Division during the latter part of the War, and who was unfortunately indisposed. As he (Sir James Allen) sat amongst a company that represented all the best of the physical energy of this country, he felt the need of alluding to the necessity, in these days of Empire development, of realising how essential it was that nothing whatever should stand in the way of Empire consolidation. They were very grateful to the Prince of Wales for being present, because nothing had been of greater importance to the consolidation

of the Empire than the Prince's visits to the Dominions. He had made himself a friend of the people at large from top to bottom, and had done more in that respect to keep the Empire together than any other individual he could think of. (Cheers.)

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales, who met with tumultuous cheering on rising to propose "The New Zealand Rugby Team," said:— "Mr. Chairman and fellow-sportsmen. I am proud to be entrusted with this toast, although I am quite sure that in this splendid gathering to-day there are certainly many others who could have performed the duty a great deal better than myself. I am helped by my friend Mr. Porter, the 'All Black' Captain, who has had a rotten lunch (laughter). About his speech he said: 'I think I could play football better than I could make a speech,' and even if it is not true, I like to think that there is something I can do better than make a speech! It does not take an international footballer to realise the good that the visit of a fine crowd of sportsmen like the 'All Blacks' can do, not only to the Old Country, but to the Empire. This is not the first visit of a New Zealand Team. They were over here in 1905. It takes something big, like the visit of a famous football team, to impress a boy, but I can remember back just about as far as that, and although the team we are entertaining here to-day is naturally of a different vintage, the 'All Blacks' of 1924-25 are entirely of the old brand. (Cheers.) From my personal experience all New Zealand brands are very good ones (cheers), whether they are football, or industrial, or farming; and New Zealand sent a splendid brand of men to the Great War. Eleven of the 'All Black' Team are ex-servicemen. (Cheers.) Twenty years ago the 'All Blacks' suffered only one defeat. I believe everyone in this room remembers that famous match with Wales. This season they have disposed of every single side they have played, and have just had a successful trip across the Channel. It is a wonderful record, and although it has been made at the expense of Home teams, that does not in any way affect the genuineness of our congratulations this afternoon. We congratulate all concerned, naturally, first of all, the Captain, and all those who have played, and then those who have had the care and organisation of this trip, and those who have helped to keep the men fit, and to train them. (Cheers.) Combination is the secret of all games, as we know, and there is no doubt that it is combination, efficiency, and fitness that are the secrets of the wonderful success that the 'All Blacks' have had this season. But in

sport there is always a 'next time' to which all good sportsmen look forward. I hope that in this case the 'next time' is not far off, and that it will not be long before we shall be welcoming another 'All Black' side, and seeing more football like the football we have seen this season. The 'All Blacks,' whether they beat us or we beat them, will always be welcome in the 'Old Country' (cheers), and it is with genuine regret that we are saying good-bye to them. Perhaps, when they get back home 'down under' they will tell everyone that, even if the Old Country has temporarily lost the knack of winning, it still knows how to lose. (Cheers.) We should also like them to say that we are going to do our best not to make a habit of it! (Laughter.) We wish the All Blacks 'bon voyage.' I think 'au revoir' is a better word than 'good-bye,' and to that I will add 'Kia Ora.' Well, sportsmen, I will give you the toast of 'The New Zealand Rugby Team.' " (Cheers.)

Mr. Dean and Cliff Porter both responded, the former interrupting his speech to call upon us for three cheers for the Prince. Mr. Dean declared that New Zealand claimed the Prince of Wales as much as the Mother Country, and that the Empire possessed in His Royal Highness its greatest asset. He thought it was the general opinion that visits such as that of the "All Blacks" helped to weld our wonderful Empire together. Throughout the tour the New Zealand Team had met with the most wonderful hospitality, and in particular they appreciated the kindness of the British Olympic Association; it showed that wonderful British spirit which made them proud to think that they, too, were British. He was sure that nobody grudged them their wins. It would be realised that they were "growing up," and he hoped that in the "politics" of football the time was near when the Dominion would be taken into the Mother Country's confidence, and be given a say in the regulation of the sport. Mr. Amery had promised that, if he could, he would shortly visit New Zealand. He hoped that the Colonial Secretary would go, and that he would take a British football team out with him. (Laughter and cheers.) "During the tour there has been a lot of talk about Scotland. We are not interested in Scotland's attitude," said Mr. Dean, "we feel, and we know that Scotland has no grievance against us, but we do hope that when a British Team comes to New Zealand, Scotland will be adequately represented in it. (Cheers.)

The Earl of Lonsdale, submitting the health of the Chairman, observed that Lord Desborough had been one of the greatest athletes of our time. As an oar he was celebrated;

as a swimmer his achievements were known to the world—he swam Niagara Falls twice—and in every line of sport he was recognised as a fine character. Lord Desborough acknowledged the cordial reception of the toast, and said that he considered it a great honour to preside over such a unique gathering—an assembly of sportsmen of all kinds.

The presentation by the Prince, of Wales, of a loving cup, from English sportsmen, as a testimony of the admiration felt in England for our splendid achievements, concluded a very momentous and happy luncheon. We were then photographed with the Prince, who, afterwards, personally bade each of us farewell. At the conclusion of the function our menus were collected, and later autographed by the Prince.

CHAPTER XLII.

LAST GLIMPSES OF LONDON.

On Wednesday morning, prior to the luncheon with the Prince of Wales, several of us accompanied Sir James and Lady Allen to the King's College Hospital, where, after being received by Mr. G. L. Hawker, representing the Committee; Dr. Aldred Turner, Senior Neurologist; and the Matron, Miss M. A. Willcox, R.R.C., Cliff Porter affixed a plate inscribed "The New Zealand Bed" at the head of a cot in one of the wards. The New Zealand Bed is the outcome of donations contributed by many people in New Zealand in response to an appeal made on behalf of the hospital by the Overseas League. During the War, King's (or No. 4 London General) treated over 29,000 wounded soldiers, many of whom came from the Dominions. In recognition of the services rendered by the Hospital, the appeal met with a wide and very ready response, and as a result there are now three beds named after Canada, South Africa, and New Zealand respectively. We were shown over the Hospital, which is said to be the most up-to-date in London. I had a chat with one little boy, who had been born a cripple, and the first thing he asked me was, "Is George Nepia in the party? I have read about his wonderful play, and I would like to see him, please." Unfortunately George was not with us.

PRESENTATION OF LOVING CUPS.

At 4 p.m., following the luncheon, we proceeded to the Hotel Victoria, where, after we had taken tea with some 300 New Zealanders, Sir James Allen, on behalf of 400 New Zealanders in Great Britain, asked Mr. Dean to accept for the New Zealand Rugby Union a sterling silver loving cup in commemoration of our successful tour. The beautiful trophy bore the following inscription:—

"A loving cup from New Zealanders in the Old Country to the New Zealand Rugby Union, given in remembrance of the Tour of the New Zealand Rugby Football Team through England, Ireland, and Wales in the winter of 1924-5. Record of matches: Won 28, lost 0."

The following verse, written by Hon. W. Pember Reeves, a former High Commissioner, was also inscribed thereon:—

“To the shining leaf, and the jersey black,
 To the journey without defeat,
 To the mighty heart of the striving pack,
 And the runners with flying feet.
 This loving cup drink, drink in turn,
 While memory stirs each breast,
 And lift it high to the Silver Fern,
 And the record which beat the best.”

A small replica of the handsome trophy was afterwards handed to each player by Lady Allen. Sir Arthur Myers, ex-Mayor of Auckland, later presented us all with an inscribed gold medal as a token of his great appreciation of our unbroken record, and in doing so, said that they all knew that the team had played the game.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

After lunch on Thursday several of us paid a flying visit to the great British Museum, and found the Egyptian Galleries particularly interesting. They contain the monumental antiquities and sculptures collected by the “savants,” who accompanied Napoleon’s expedition to Egypt, which were surrendered at the capitulation of Alexandria in 1801. Subsequent purchases and donations have greatly enlarged this collection, which is now one of the most important of its kind. At the entrance to the first gallery we saw the famous Rosetta Stone, discovered near the mouth of the Nile in 1798; it was from the hieroglyphic inscriptions on this stone that the correct system of decipherment of the Egyptian alphabet was formulated. One room contains a wonderful collection of mummies. The most ancient is the body of a man, mummified from its having been interred in a dry sandstone grave; its date is assumed to be 6,000 years B.C. Another room contains mummies of all the animals considered sacred by the Egyptians, including bulls, gazelles, cats, crocodiles, dogs, and apes. Unfortunately, time would not permit a thorough inspection of this magnificent museum.

THE TOWER OF LONDON.

During the afternoon of January 23rd, several of us visited the Tower of London, which is the great stage of English history. It has served in turn as a fortress, prison, palace,

mint, arsenal, etc. From the Conquest in 1066 until the Restoration, 1660, few events occurred that had not some connection with it. We saw the old gate of The Bloody Tower, the supposed scene of the murder of the two young princes, sons of Edward IV., in 1483, and the spot where their bones were found in the reign of Charles II. A brass plate marks the place where the Bishop of Rochester, the Earl of Surrey, Lady Jane Grey, the Countess of Salisbury, Queen Catherine Hood, Queen Anne Boleyn, the Earl of Essex, the Duke of Monmouth, and many others, were executed. In the Wakefield Tower we inspected the Regalia and Crown Jewels, displayed in all their magnificence, surmounted by the Imperial Crown. This Crown is a mass of jewels, including over 2,000 diamonds, but its most prominent ornaments are a huge ruby said to have been presented by Peter, King of Castille, to Edward the Black Prince, and a very fine sapphire, which legend declares belonged to Edward the Confessor. The Imperial State Crown worn by King George V. at the Delhi Durbar contains an Indian emerald weighing 34 carats, other emeralds, sapphires, and 6,170 diamonds. Needless to say, these priceless treasures are guarded day and night.

Several of us had dinner with Miss Rosina Buckman and her husband, Mr. Maurice d'Oisly, at their residence. During the evening she sang two Maori songs—"Waiata Poi," and "Waita Maori." Anyone who has heard Miss Buckman sing and know her charming personality, will realise what an enjoyable time was spent.

FAREWELL LONDON.

Before leaving Berner's Hotel on Saturday morning, January 24th, we all congregated in the lounge, where Mr. Dean, on behalf of the team, presented Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Wray with a tantalus, as a token of gratitude for many kindnesses; they were often with us and affectionately known as "Momma" and "Poppa." To Mr. Wray our thanks are largely due for our wonderful tour. If it had not been for his persistent efforts—as New Zealand representative of the English Rugby Union—it is doubtful if the tour would have been agreed to. We also presented Mr. and Mrs. Bonsor with a silver rose bowl. Mr. Bonsor, who represented Hamer and Co., New Zealand Agents in London, toured with us and looked after the interests of the English Rugby Union; he had to arrange for our accommodation, transportation, etc., and was most considerate and thorough in every respect.

Several hundreds of enthusiastic New Zealanders and other friends gave us a great send-off when our train pulled out of Euston Station at mid-day. We arrived at Liverpool and boarded the Canadian Pacific Liner "Montlaurier" at 4.30. Prior to our sailing we gathered in the smoking room, where a presentation was made to Mr. W. Fawcett, our highly esteemed masseur, who had proved untiring in his efforts to keep us fit. When our boat started to move from the wharf cheers were given in turn for "Good Old England," Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Wray, Mr. W. S. Donne of the English Rugby Union, and Mr. Bonsor. We anchored in the River Mersey and waited until the tide was favourable; whilst there a partial eclipse of the sun took place, and everything was nearly "All Black"!

CHAPTER XLIII.

CANADA.

THE JOURNEY ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

At 11 p.m. on Saturday, January 24th, the anchor was weighed, and ere long the bright lights of Liverpool had faded from view. Although we were loath to leave behind the Motherland, with all her fine sportsmen and wonderful people, it was great to feel we were on our way home again.

Squally weather, at times accompanied by falls of snow, was experienced for the whole eight days' journey across the Atlantic, and heavy seas, which more or less prevailed, made things most unpleasant for those of the boys who were bad sailors. A hard gale blew for 70 hours, during which time portions of the deck were almost continuously awash, with sheets of spray dashing over the bridge. The roll and pitch of our ship made the playing of deck games extremely difficult, so cards were the order of the day for some, whilst others took advantage of a good rest, which had been long looked forward to.

On Saturday night a marked change in the temperature was noticed, and the following morning—Sunday, February 1st—the snow clad forest of Nova Scotia could be seen in the distance. When the “Montlaurier” berthed at St. John, New Brunswick, at 10 p.m., it was generally agreed that she was an excellent sea boat, and that she had ploughed her way through 2,747 miles of heavy seas in great style. As we were not permitted to land that night, we went to bed eagerly awaiting daylight to get our first “close-up” of Canada.

ACROSS THE GREAT DOMINION BY THE C.P.R.

When we rose for breakfast at 7 a.m. on Monday, February 2nd, a real taste of Canadian winter weather was experienced. Snow was falling heavily, and the thermometer registered 15 degrees below freezing point. We were all pleased to renew the acquaintance of Mr. S. Williams, of the Canadian

Pacific Railway (whom we had seen a great deal of in London, and who had charge of our Canadian Tour), but regretted to learn from him that, owing to our ship not having arrived on Saturday evening, as scheduled, we would have to forego our proposed trip to the Niagara Falls, and would not be able to see the city of Montreal. Before landing at 9 a.m., a motion picture was taken of us on the foredeck of the "Montlaurier." Some two hours later, after passing the Customs authorities, we left St. John by the Canadian Pacific Railway, on our journey across Canada to the Pacific Coast. We reached Vanceboro at 2.30 p.m., where we crossed the international boundary and entered the U.S.A. State of Maine, across which we traversed for 185 miles, again reaching Canadian territory—the province of Quebec. En route our train stopped at Brownville for 15 minutes, which enabled us to have our first snow fight—quite a vigorous battle—in the railway yard. The country through which we travelled, and as far as we could see on either side, was covered with snow, and all the lakes and rivers which we passed, frozen over, yet thanks to the wonderful accommodation, which the Canadian Pacific Railway provided us with, we did not feel the cold. At 4.30 a.m. on Tuesday morning our train arrived at Montreal, and remained there for two hours; unfortunately it was too early to see the city. Montreal, which is situated on an island formed by the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, is the Capital of Quebec, and is the chief city and commercial metropolis of Canada.

TORONTO.

During the afternoon we travelled for some distance along the shores of Lake Ontario, which was completely frozen over, and arrived at Toronto, the capital of the Province of Ontario, at 4.30 p.m. Here we were met by prominent citizens and students of the University of Toronto, with whom we had afternoon tea at the Carls Rite Hotel. We were later motored to, and shown over the magnificent University, said to be the most up-to-date in the world. At 7 p.m. Professor McKenzie (Chairman of the University's Athletic Committee) presided over a fine banquet, which had been arranged for us in the Great Hall of the University. He, Sir Robert Falconer, and the Rev. Slater all made fine speeches, and declared how pleased they were, as sportsmen, to have the opportunity of entertaining us. Mr. Dean suitably responded. After a splendid evening we returned to the train, and left Toronto at 8.45 p.m. Toronto is beautifully situated on the shores of Lake Ontario, and has immense manufacturing establishments, to the number

of considerably over a thousand, and some of the largest business houses and banks in the Dominion. The city has a magnificent harbour, in addition to which a thousand acres was being reclaimed adjacent to the harbour front. Electric power for its industries is obtained from Niagara Falls, over eighty miles distant.

On Wednesday we travelled round the shores of Georgian Bay (Lake Huron), which was frozen over, and for the rest of the day we journeyed through beautifully wooded, snow covered country, until a wonderful view was obtained of Lake Superior, with its frozen edges, from the village of Jack Fish, just before darkness fell. When our train stopped at the "Twin Cities" of Port Arthur and Fort William, at midnight, we were awakened by a number of local footballers, who wanted to have a chat with us.

Upon our arrival at Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, at 10 a.m. on Thursday 5th, we were met by Mayor Webb, the city councillors, and other enthusiastic sportsmen. Crowds cheered as we took our places in the waiting cars. After a trip round the north end of the city, we drew up at the City Hall, where Mr. J. C. Brown (City Treasurer) welcomed us, and gave us each a badge bearing the arms of Winnipeg. Embarking again in the cars we made a cursory inspection of Winnipeg South. Whilst proceeding to the Granite Curling Rink, where a tournament was in progress, a great view was obtained of the largest railway yard in the world—possessing 70 tracks with a total mileage of 165 miles. An inspection of the Provincial Parliament Buildings—a very handsome structure—completed our itinerary, and we were deposited again at the Canadian Pacific Railway Station, and left at one o'clock. The Red and Assiniboine Rivers, at the junction of which Winnipeg is situated, were frozen over, and the beautiful boulevards and parks were covered in snow.

We passed through Regina, the capital of the Province of Saskatchewan, and Moose Jaw (which derives its unusual name from an Indian word meaning "The-creek-where-the-white-man-mended-the-cart-with-a-moose-jaw-bone," an illuminating sidelight of pioneering days). We arrived at Medicine Hat, in the Province of Alberta, at 9.40 a.m. This town is famous for its natural gas wells; some 22 wells have been bored, averaging from 1,000 to 1,200 feet deep, and each produces from two to three million cubic feet of gas per day. This gas is used for power by the town's many factories, and by the inhabitants for heating and lighting, etc.

CALGARY.

We continued our journey across the vast prairies all day, and arrived at Calgary, Alberta's largest city, which is known as "the city of the foothills," at 4.45 p.m. Here we were met by Lt.-Governor Brett, Premier Greenfield, Mayor G. H. Webster, Indian Chiefs, Braves, and Squaws, and hundreds of citizens, who gave us a very enthusiastic welcome. Before proceeding in cars for a tour round the city, we were introduced to, and photographed with Chief Bufflo Child Longlance, of the Bloods; Chief Big Plume, of the Sarcees; Chief Walking-in-the-Trail, of the Stony Sioux; Chief Starlight, and Braves Black Spider, Wounded Knee, Lone Wolf, Big Belly, Heavy Shields, Medicine Owl, as well as a number of Indian Squaws, regaled in all the splendour of their native raiment, painted and feathered. At 7 p.m. we were the guests of honour at a great dinner held in the magnificent Palliser Hotel. Calgary's Mayor, who was dressed as a cowboy, presided, and extended us a hearty welcome on behalf of the City of Calgary. Lieut Governor Brett said that no official assignment had ever given him greater pleasure than the one which bade him welcome New Zealand's sons to Alberta. He said he was glad to welcome us, not only because of our great record on the football fields of the British Isles, but because we were part of the Great British Empire. Mr. A. L. Smith, K.C., speaking on behalf of the sportsmen of Calgary, gave an excellent address, punctuated throughout with humour. We were each presented with a beautiful photograph of a forest ranger with his horse and dog, taken on the side of a mountain near Calgary. The dinner was followed by a wonderful Cowboy Ball. An Indian Tepee was erected in the hall of the hotel, and the ballroom was decorated in Western fashion. Some 2,500 people, the majority of whom were in the cowboy and cowgirl costumes, had crammed into the reception room, and gave us a splendid welcome when we walked in, led by the noted cowboy, Ike Ruttle, mounted on a big, black horse. This welcome was said to be the greatest ever accorded to visitors to the City of Calgary. The Indians and all present showed great enthusiasm over our Haka. We returned to bed in our railway carriages at 3 p.m., after one of the most interesting and unique nights of our tour.

BANFF.

Early on Saturday 7th, we stepped off the train at Banff, which is the administrative headquarters of the Rocky Mountains Park and Game Reserve that covers a vast area. The town, a great summer resort, lies embowered in pine forests, in

a pocket of a wide circle of snow-clad peaks that tower above it to a tremendous height. After having breakfast at the Mount Royal Hotel, we were conveyed in horse-drawn sleighs to a park containing moose, buffalo, elk, etc. Walking about there several of the boys almost disappeared through stepping into loose snow drifts. We spent the afternoon sleighing down a quarter of a mile slide, crashing on many occasions when trying to negotiate a corner at the bottom of the hill. Ron Stewart, Jim Parker, and Maurice Brownlie each won prizes in the Winter Carnival Swimming Sports, held in the open air baths, the water for which comes from a warm sulphur spring flowing out of the snow-clad mountains. After dinner we witnessed a fine ice hockey match between Banff and a neighbouring town. The following morning we donned our first pair of ice skates, and had a great deal of fun trying to play hockey on the Carnival Rink. Sticks flew and men fell in all directions! A large crowd of experienced skaters present seemed to derive a great deal of amusement out of our attempts to master the art! After lunch we sleighed a distance up the Valley, where we inspected the Banff Springs Hotel, a magnificent building commanding a wonderful view of a section of the Rockies. The hotel possesses its own natural hot sulphur pool, for which Banff is famous. We later witnessed a fine exhibition of ski jumping by boys under twelve years, and champions of the Rockies. After dinner several of us tried our luck at skiing in the moonlight, but generally crashed before getting very far.

THE ROCKIES.

We left Banff at 9.15 on Monday morning, and commenced our journey over the famous Rocky Mountains, which according to Government measurements, contain 644 peaks ranging from 6,000 to 12,000 feet high. We passed near Castle Mountain, a sheer precipice of over 4,000 feet, named for its resemblance to a giant keep; turrets, bastions, and battlements being easily distinguished. The mountain is eighty miles long and its highest point is 9,030 feet above sea level. At 11 a.m. we passed the Great Divide, the boundary between Alberta and British Columbia. It is marked by a rustic arch spanning a stream, under which the water divides. The rivulet that flows East eventually reaches Hudson Bay and the Atlantic Ocean; the waters that run West flow into the Pacific. After lunch we arrived at the famous spiral tunnels, which form one of the most notable engineering feats in existence. The track, which enters the first tunnel under Cathedral Mountain, is 3,255 feet in length; and after turning a complete circle and passing

under itself, emerges into daylight 54 feet lower. After crossing a river we entered the second tunnel, 2,922 feet long, under Mount Ogden, again turning a complete circle, and this time emerging 50 feet lower. The whole thing is a complete maze, the railway doubling back upon itself twice and forming a rough "figure eight" in shape. Towering 6,000 feet higher than the little town of Field (which we arrived at soon after leaving the tunnels), is Mount Stephen, 10,485 feet, at the base of which roars the turbulent waters of the Kicking Horse River. We later passed through the Connaught Tunnel, under Mount McDonald, which is the longest in America, measuring over 5 miles. At 6.30 we arrived at Sicamous, on Shuswap Lake, and here broke our journey to enable us to complete the trip to Vancouver in daylight. We danced until 1 a.m. at a fine hotel on the shore of the lake, as guests of the residents.

We left Sicamous at 6 a.m., and travelled all the morning along the banks of the South Thompson River, through the beautiful Thompson Canyon. Soon after lunch, we entered Fraser Canyon, which possesses wonderful scenery of an extremely wild character. The great Fraser River flows between vertical walls of black rock, where it madly foams and roars. For many miles the railway follows the Canyon at a considerable height above the river. The track, which contains many tunnels, is hewn out of solid rock. All signs of snow on the flat country disappeared when we arrived within about 50 miles of the Pacific Coast. We continued our journey along the banks of the Fraser River, and arrived at Vancouver at 7 p.m., having travelled 3,527 miles in most comfortable and beautifully appointed Canadian Pacific Railway carriages. The C.P.R. had done everything in their power to make our trip an enjoyable one. Whenever we broke our journey, our carriages were shunted off the train, and parked in a handy position in the railway yard for us to return to them when it was time to go to bed. This was a particularly good idea, because it did not mean our rising early in the morning to catch trains. We owe a great deal to Mr. S. Williams, of the C.P.R., for the wonderful entertainments that he was responsible for en route, and we will never forget the many kindnesses he showed us.

VANCOUVER.

At Vancouver Railway Station we were greeted by Mayor Taylor, Alderman Woodside, Mr. R. Bell-Irving (President of the Vancouver Rugby Union), many players and officials, and a huge throng of citizens, when a great welcome was accorded

us. We were then driven through the streets of Vancouver, led by the city band, to the beautiful fourteen storeyed Vancouver Hotel.

British Columbia proved an unlucky spot for our Captain and Vice-Captain, inasmuch that while training at Brockton Park, the morning after our arrival, Jock Richardson had the misfortune to break a leg, while Cliff Porter had an eyebrow split open, necessitating the insertion of five stitches. These injuries prevented them from taking part in either of our Canadian matches. At mid-day on Wednesday, February 11th, Mr. D. H. Baird (President, Canadian Club) presided at a fine luncheon tendered to us at the Vancouver Hotel by the Club members of the Board of Trade. In the evening we were the guests of the Vancouver Rugby Union to dinner at the Ambassador Cabaret. Messrs. R. Bell-Irving (Chairman), Mayor L. D. Taylor, R. P. Woodward, and M. Grimmett, all made fine speeches. Mr. S. F. Wilson, during the evening, spoke on the advantages of amended Rugby rules as adopted in New Zealand. On Thursday afternoon we were motored to, and inspected the Fraser River Lumber Co.'s Sawmills, which proved extremely interesting. I was informed that it was the second largest lumber mill in the world. The machinery for handling the huge logs, threw great trunks of trees about as though they were matches. The majority of employees consisted of Chinese, Japanese, and Hindoos, who work for smaller wages than the Europeans.

“ALL BLACKS” v. VANCOUVER.

At 3 p.m. on Saturday, February 14th, we kicked off against the Vancouver Representative Team at Brockton Park. The ground was in good order for bright, fast, open football. We were honoured by the presence of 9,000 spectators—the largest crowd ever to witness an outdoor amateur sporting event in Vancouver—who received us with a wonderful cheer. Every available seat and position of vantage in the oval was packed, fences were lined, and even the trees in the vicinity were full of youngsters eager to obtain a glimpse.

Vancouver, who played gamely to the end, were opposed to a stronger, faster, and much more experienced side, and could not stand up to our in-passing and backing up. Their forwards, on the whole, were good, honest workers, but their backs did not know very much about the finer points of the game. They possessed speed and the necessary physique to make good footballers, and with coaching and the experience of meeting

better teams, would develop into a side to be reckoned with. We scored eight tries in the first half, and five in the second. The order of scoring was:—Robilliard, Robilliard, Parker, Robilliard, Cooke, M. Brownlie, Lucas, Robilliard, Nepia, West, Lucas, Cooke, Cooke. Nicholls converted three tries, Mill and Parker one each.

The teams were:—**Vancouver:** Stuart, Mahon, Leroy, Rowan, Cameron, Grimmett, Farmer, Marshall, Clarke, Gwyther, Boyd, Brock, Fraser, Lange, MacFarlane.

New Zealand: Nepia, Robilliard, Lucas, Svenson, Cooke, Nicholls, Mill, Parker, McCleary, Donald, M. Brownlie, Harvey, C. Brownlie, West, White.

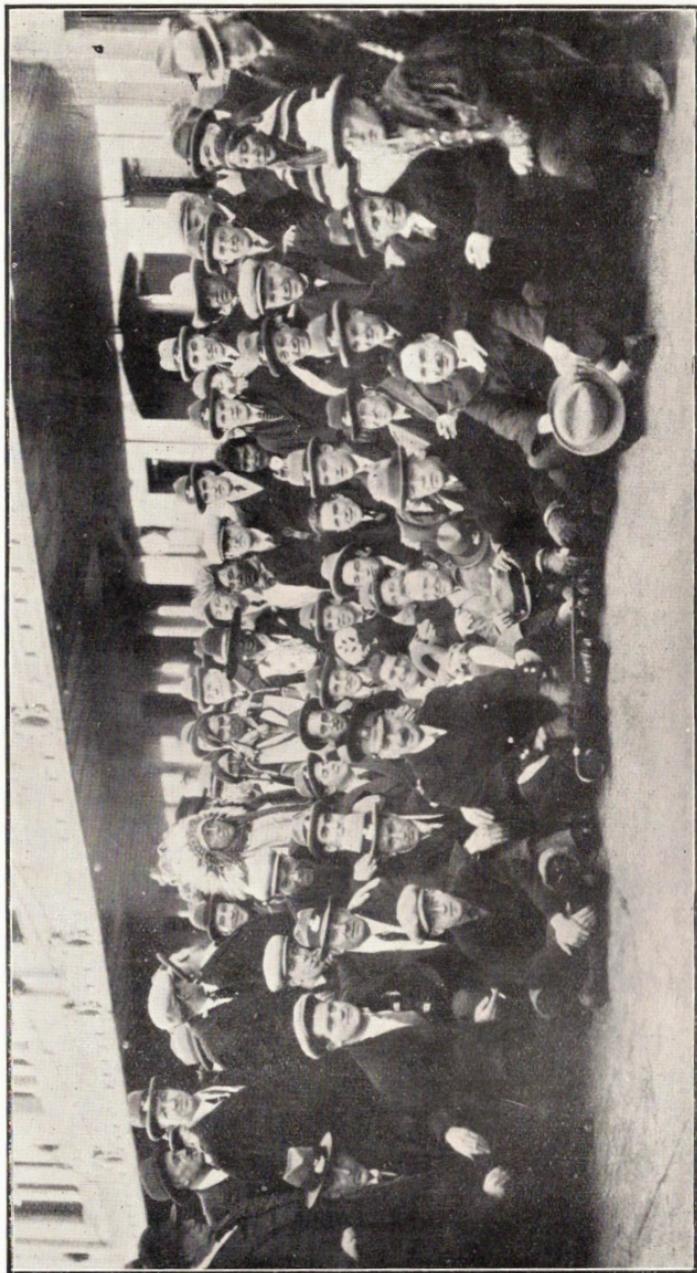
Referee: Mr. E. L. Yeo.

Result: New Zealand 49.

Vancouver Nil.

On Sunday morning, as guests of the Harbourmaster, Captain H. Reed, R.N.R., and members of the Vancouver Harbour Board, we commenced a five hours' cruise in the launch "Fisca." After passing many wharves, with their huge grain elevators, we proceeded to Indian River, where we spent half an hour rambling through magnificent bush and underscrub to inspect a fine waterfall. We were very much impressed with Vancouver's Harbour, which is nearly landlocked, and fully sheltered, facing a beautiful range of timbered and snow-clad mountains.

At noon on Monday, we were entertained by the Vancouver Gyro Club to luncheon, when Mr. Pat Maitland presided. At 7 p.m. we were the guests of the Mayor and Aldermen of Vancouver to dinner; the Mayor, Mr. L. D. Taylor, presided, and in his speech told us how much the citizens of Vancouver appreciated our visit. At the close of the function we proceeded to the Rink, and were among 8,000 spectators who witnessed an ice hockey match between Vancouver and Calgary. Later, several of us took advantage of an invitation to spend a few hours with Colonel Victor Spencer at his beautiful residence on Point Grey. The Mayor, Justice Morrison and other prominent citizens accompanied us. Mr. Dean, in his speech, pointed out to the Mayor the advantage of setting aside parks and reserves for out-door games. The Mayor, in his reply, said that until he had seen us play he did not realise what a good game Rugby was, and said that it was his intention to do his utmost to have Rugby grounds provided in each of the suburbs of his city. Mr. S. F. Wilson very capably explained the systems in



A GROUP TAKEN UPON OUR ARRIVAL AT CALGARY, CANADA.

operation to encourage New Zealand schoolboys to play Rugby. The Mayor then stated that he would organise a schoolboy competition, and would present two cups, one to be contested for in New Zealand between boys of 12 to 14 years, the other to be used for a similar purpose in Vancouver. He hoped an interchange of visits from schoolboys of British Columbia and New Zealand would result therefrom. Colonel Spencer, a great supporter of Rugby, then told us that if we returned to Vancouver within a few years we would find that Rugby had made vast strides as the result of our visit.

We left Vancouver by the "Princess Adelaide" at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 17th, and three hours later had crossed the Strait of Georgia to Vancouver Island. We then steamed for an hour and a half through beautiful sounds to arrive at the picturesque town of Victoria, the largest city of Vancouver Island, and termed the "Garden City of Canada." Upon our arrival we were motored through the boulevards and delightful parks, from one of which we obtained a fine view of the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Olympic Mountains.

"ALL BLACKS" v. VICTORIA.

Eight thousand very appreciative spectators thronged inside the Exhibition Grounds to witness our match against the Victoria Representatives at Victoria, on Wednesday, February 18th. The weather was fine, but the ground in a slippery condition, which made goal kicking extremely difficult. The game was played at a tremendous pace, which our opponents, who nevertheless played pluckily, could not stand up to. Our reverse passing and backing up bamboozled Victoria, and often when we scored we had as many as eight or nine men waiting for a pass. Victoria's points came from a fine drop goal by Brynjolfson, when our score was 59 to nil. This kick greatly pleased the spectators, who cheered wildly. Our tries were scored by:—Robilliard (4), Steel (3), Parker (2), Dalley (2), Brown (2), Mill, West, Cooke, Stewart, Munro one each. Steel converted three, Cooke and Nepia two each.

The teams were:—**Victoria:** Johnson, Bendrodt, Willis, Brynjolfson, Dunn, Goodacre, Parker, McMillan, Donald, Pendray, Baines, Woods, Money, Colpman, Tarvis.

New Zealand: Nepia, Robilliard, Brown, Steel, Mill, Cooke, Dalley, Parker, McCleary, Munro, Masters, West, White, Stewart, Cupples.

Result: New Zealand 68.
Victoria .. 4.

After the match we attended a dinner at the James Bay Hotel. Mr. John Olliver (Premier of British Columbia) and Mr. J. H. Gillespie (President V. R.U.) each made fine speeches. Later in the evening we witnessed a great professional ice hockey match between Victoria and Vancouver, and were rather amused at the penalty imposed on one player, who appeared to intentionally hit an opponent on the head with a hockey stick and knock him out—he was ordered off the field for three minutes, and whilst he was off another man took his place! At midnight we sailed for Vancouver.

On Thursday morning we left Vancouver in a fleet of motor-cars for an inspection of Abernethy, Loughheed Logging Company's Lumber Camp. We motored some 30 miles, and then proceeded by one of the Company's lumber trains for another seven miles into the heart of a Canadian forest. At the main camp we were entertained to lunch, at which Messrs. Abernethy, Loughheed, and Annerdale (the Mayor of Westminster) were present. After lunch we saw huge hemlock and Douglas fir logs being hauled out of the bush and loaded on to trucks by very modern machinery, and later witnessed the topping of a tree by an expert "high rigger." This operation, which is performed on trees that are to be used as masts in the hauling and trucking of timber, is most interesting to watch, and in view of the dangerous nature of the work the man who undertakes it receives higher wages than other men in the camp. The "high rigger" climbed 130 feet up the barrel of a huge tree, with the aid of a rope and spiked boots, which he dug well into the tree; fixing a rope round the barrel to support his body, he stood there and chopped the top off about opposite his waist. When the top broke away it caused the great trunk to sway perilously with the man clinging to it. At the conclusion of this exhibition, which had been arranged for our benefit, one of the directors of the Company presented our Captain with the axe the "high rigger" had used.

AN EXHIBITION MATCH IN VANCOUVER.

Some 4,000 spectators were present at an Exhibition Match, which we, with the assistance of eight Vancouver players, staged at Brockton Park on Saturday, February 21st. Before the game commenced we all lined up in front of the grandstand, and Mayor Taylor presented us with a fine Loving Cup for the New Zealand Rugby Union, and a pair of engraved gold sleeve links, bearing the coat of arms of his city, to each member of the team, the gifts of the citizens of Vancouver.

All of those who were within hearing distance would gather from the speech that our Manager made after the presentation, that we greatly appreciated their gifts, and would cherish them for the rest of our lives.

The spectators were apparently delighted with the exhibition, which resulted in a win for the North by 25 to 14. The teams, which, as near as possible, were selected to represent the North and South Islands, lined out as follows:—**North:** Nepia, Svenson, Barry (Van.), Lucas, LeRoy (Van.), Cooke, Mill, Porter, Donald, Clarke (Van.), Harvey, M. and C. Brownlie, West, and Cupples.

South: B. Rowan (Van.), Robilliard, Brown Steel, Nicholls, M. Rowan (Van.), Dalley, White, Munro, McCleary (Captain), Masters, Stewart, Choate (Van.), Thornton (Van.), Donaldson (Van.).

Tries were scored by:—Donald (3), Svenson (2), Mill, Lucas, Munro, Robilliard and Donaldson one each. Nicholls kicked a penalty and converted one try, Cooke and Nepia converted one each.

Result: North Island 25.
South Island 14.

This match concluded our wonderful Canadian Tour, and it was with great regret that we left our many friends behind. The hospitality shown to us in Canada will always be cherished by the whole party.

CHAPTER XLIV.**HOMEWARD BOUND.****OVERLAND TO 'FRISCO.**

Quite a number of friends gathered at the railway station to bid us farewell when we left Vancouver for San Francisco at midnight on Saturday, February 21st. The American Customs authorities searched all of our baggage for intoxicating liquor before they would permit us to board the train, but they did not find any, for what little we had was in our pockets!

Early the following morning we passed out of British Columbia into the State of Washington, and arrived in Seattle at 7.30 a.m. After we had breakfasted at the railway station, Mr. T. N. McMillan, late of Wellington, New Zealand, conducted several of us over L. C. Smith's great 42 storey building, from the top of which we obtained a good view of the town, and then took us for a motor trip round the suburbs. We caught our train again at 10 a.m., and reached Portland in the State of Oregon seven hours later, where we had to remove our baggage from the Great Northern Company's carriages. Whilst walking through the main streets of the city, we were surprised to note, that, although it was Sunday afternoon, practically every shop was open for business. At 9 p.m. we caught the Southern Pacific Shasta Route Express, and continued our journey.

On Monday morning our train passed through many large fruit orchards and some fine agricultural valleys. At 1 p.m. we reached Siskijou (4,125 feet) on the Cascade Mountains, where snow was falling. An hour later we passed out of the State of Oregon into California. During the afternoon we journeyed through rugged valleys between snowclad ranges, and from Sisson obtained a magnificent view of Mount Shasta, which is 14,162 feet high. Our train stopped at Shasta Springs for a few minutes, and several of us walked along the platform to drink a glass of the famous mineral waters, which flow in a stream behind the station.

The night of Monday, February 23rd, was a sleepless one owing to the jerking and jolting of the train, the blowing of

whistles and clanging of bells, which the American engine drivers seemed to amuse themselves with. The following morning at 6 a.m. we arrived at Benicia, where our train was run on to a ferry steamer and conveyed to Berkley, across the bay, where it again "hit the rail," arriving at Oakland an hour and a half later, having taken 55½ hours to travel 1106 miles—an average of only about 20 miles an hour. We caught a ferry steamer at Oakland by which we had to travel four miles to San Francisco, where we arrived at 8 o'clock.

After having breakfast at the Hotel Whitecomb, we were taken in a fleet of motor-cars to inspect the Stamford University at Palo Alto. The motor trip, of some 32 miles along a beautiful hard road running through avenues of trees, and fields rich with vegetation, was most enjoyable. The University is composed of a series of lovely buildings, and the grounds surrounding them are laid out in a most picturesque manner. All kinds of sport is encouraged at the 'Varsity—its stadium, tennis courts, swimming baths, running tracks, gymnasium, football fields, etc., being almost perfect. We were entertained to lunch by the Director Associate, Mr. Harry Maloney (who was closely associated with the 1913 All Blacks during their Californian Tour). On the return journey we passed through some of 'Frisco's beautiful suburbs, with their lovely homes and gardens.

ABOARD THE S.S. "TAHITI."

Quite a number of New Zealanders congregated at the wharf to wish us "bon voyage" when we sailed from San Francisco by the s.s. "Tahiti" at noon on Wednesday, February 25th. Half an hour later we had passed through the Golden Gate, and were heading for home.

It was a great relief to be able to relax, and have a lazy time on board ship after the rush and bustle we had experienced since our arrival in England. Calm seas and sultry weather prevailed for the ten days between 'Frisco and Tahiti. The time simply flew, due in no small measure to the efforts of the Sports Committee elected from the passengers, of which Mr. S. F. Wilson was Chairman. The days were spent resting or playing deck games, and the evenings at cards or dancing. A dance orchestra was formed soon after we sailed from America, of which Brian McCleary made a capable and most amusing conductor! One evening the boat deck was transformed from the miniature sports ground it had been for some days, to a most attractive ballroom—the occasion being a fancy dress ball. Coloured flags were hung from the awnings and covered the

rails, making a bright setting for the many effective costumes. Ian Harvey, disguised as a shower bath, was the only member of our team to carry off a prize.

Jock Richardson, whose broken leg compelled him to lie in bed for many days in the sweltering heat, had our sympathy.

TAHITI.

At daybreak on Saturday, March 7th, the French Island of Tahiti hove in view. The low-lying reaches of its coast, stretching from the white shores of its lagoons to the steep slopes of the hills, all clothed in the richest and most varied vegetation, from the bright green shades of the breadfruit tree, to the soft, light green foliage of the young banana. With Mount Orohena and Mount Aori, each over 7,000 feet, in the background, it provided a magnificent sight as the sun rose over the mountain range. Our ship had soon passed between the coral reefs into Papeete Harbour, and after the medical officer and port authorities had attended to their respective duties, we berthed at one of several small wharves which the harbour possesses. At 7.30 we all went ashore, several of us hired a glass bottomed boat and immediately proceeded to one of the reefs, where we spent an hour inspecting the beautifully coloured coral, and watching hundreds of different species of tropical fish, bearing all colours of the rainbow, swimming in and out of the jagged edges of the coral endeavouring to dodge the spear of a native, who was swimming under the water pursuing them.

We spent the rest of the morning sight seeing in the city of Papeete, which is the capital of the Island, and the seat of Government for all the surrounding French possessions. It is a gay little city, decidedly French in character, charmingly situated in a thick wood of scarlet flowered trees, with cocoanut palms, bananas, and various kinds of tropical fruits growing along the side walks and around the quaint little residences. The town was bombarded in September, 1914, by the German cruisers "Scharnhorst" and "Gneisenau," and considerable damage was done. The French gunboat "Zeelee" and the steamer "Walkure," which were in the harbour at the time, were sunk.

The natives, I was informed, used to be a fine handsome people, but civilisation and liquor (which is very cheap) have sadly deteriorated the race.

After lunch we engaged taxis and motored for many miles through cocoanut and vanilla plantations, and acres of banana trees, growing in wild profusion on the shores of beautiful golden

beaches, amongst a luxuriant growth of lovely tropical flowers, and all the fruit and vegetables of the tropics. We broke our journey at Neptune Beach, where, after quenching our thirst at the quaint little Hotel Neptune, we inspected the spot where Captain Wallis landed from the H.M.S. "Dolphin" many years ago. We then proceeded to Point Venus, where we saw a tamarind tree planted by Captain Cook on his first voyage, indicating the spot at which he observed the transit of Venus in 1769. We also saw a stone reported to have been placed in the ground by Captain Cook, which lies a short distance from the tree; it is 15 inches square and has a meridian line cut across it.

At 4 p.m. we attended a champagne luncheon as guests of the local sporting club, of which M. Raulx was the President, and Mr. Donaldson (son of Geo. Donaldson, late Secretary of the Grafton and City Rugby Clubs in Auckland) the Vice-President. Mr. Donaldson accorded us a very hearty welcome on behalf of the citizens of Papeete, and congratulated us on our victorious tour.

Tahiti, which in the Maori tongue literally means "Transplanted from the East," is an island of volcanic formation, and very probably, in the early ages of the world, formed part of what is now a submerged continent. It is enclosed by a coral reef of beauty unexcelled, and about 120 miles in circumference. It is by far the most considerable island of the Society Group, and has a population of approximately 9,000, of whom about a tenth are French, British, and other Europeans. There are also a number of Chinese, who, I was informed, are multiplying quickly, and gradually taking the place of the natives.

We sailed for Rarotonga at 5.45 p.m., after having spent a most enjoyable day.

RAROTONGA.

At 9.30 a.m. on Monday 9th, we sighted the Island of Rarotonga in the Cook Group, and an hour later had anchored off the town of Avarua, capital of the Islands, and seat of the Cook Islands Administration. A steam launch, towing several lighters, was soon seen making its way towards us. The majority of us boarded one of the lighters, and after being tossed about by the heavy breakers for a quarter of an hour, were towed through a small gap in the coral reef to a pier, where hundreds of natives had congregated to see us land in their beautiful island. Upon our arrival at the Government Buildings, at 11

a.m., Deputy Commissioner J. C. Evison welcomed us in the absence of Judge Ayson, who was absent in New Zealand. Manarangi, spokesman for Makea Ariki, head chief of the Island, then welcomed us on behalf of the natives. His speech, which was delivered in Maori, was translated by Mr. Savage. We then took our places in a fleet of motor-cars, mostly driven by natives, and commenced a trip round the Island.

At Aorangi a number of natives with their chief greeted us, and after they had served cocoanuts and bananas we continued our trip, via Titikaveka, to Ngatangia, where we broke our journey to join the natives in a feast, which had been arranged to celebrate our visits. After Maoate, a sturdy chief or Ariki, of some ninety years, had welcomed us to his pa or village, native girls escorted us to tables, which were littered with roast pork, roast chicken, taro, kumara, a native pudding, which was a concoction of taro, cocoanut, and arrowroot, all cooked in native fashion. The girls then had us decorated with strings of beads, shells, and beautiful tropical flowers! We were served with plates, but no knives, forks, or spoons, while fern leaves took the place of table dishes. After we had thoroughly satisfied our appetites we gave our haka, over which the several hundred natives, who were in attendance, showed great enthusiasm. They replied by giving a very amusing native dance.

We returned to Avarua via Matavera, where we learned that one of the lighters had broken away from our ship during loading operations, and was recovered by a tug when only a few yards away from a very dangerous reef, also that our ship had been obliged to put to sea on account of the squally weather. This meant our having to spend the night ashore.

At 4 p.m. we were entertained to tea in the Palace grounds by Chiefs Makea Niu Ariki and Tatau-Upoko-o-Ngoariki, also Princesses Takau Tinirau and Tere Tinirau. Hundreds of natives and a majority of the white citizens were present. Several native dances were staged for us, the music being supplied by a wonderful native band. The tum tum of the huge native drum, and the hollow notes of the wooden drums had a weird sound, and reminded me of tales of Africa. The sudden silence when the drums ceased was most impressive. In the evening we attended a dance that had been arranged for us in the Royal Hall, which was beautifully decorated with gorgeous tropical flowers. A number of the boys were billeted at the hotel, while others stayed with residents who had very kindly offered us their hospitality.

MAROONED.

The next morning we could see our ship lying off the coast, and it was obvious that there was no chance of our making it from Avarua, as the weather was still very squally. We were instructed by wireless to proceed to Ngatangiaa, some six miles away, where a lifeboat would convey us to our ship. Upon our arrival there at 2.30 p.m., the shipping company's representative, who was in charge of us, decided that it was too rough for us to attempt to reach the ship from that point, and left word for the lifeboat to return to the ship, and instruct the Captain to proceed to Titikaveka, five miles further along the coast. We motored to the latter point, and stood on the beach in pouring rain for two hours waiting for the arrival of our ship. We then returned to Ngatangiaa, where we ascertained from the officer in charge of the lifeboat, that his attempts to rejoin the ship had proved fruitless on account of the heavy seas. This meant we had to spend another night on the island, the ship's boat, its crew of six, and the chief officer being marooned with us. We returned to Avarua, and after having a shower, a rub down, and some bully beef to eat—the Hotel having been taken by storm, and dinner was not prepared—turned into bed.

Upon our arrival at Ngatangiaa the following morning we found that the sea had somewhat abated, though still fairly rough. However, the Chief Officer decided we should endeavour to make the ship, which was lying a quarter of a mile off the coast. A number of the boys set out in two native whaleboats, whilst the remainder of us proceeded in the ship's lifeboat. After twenty minutes' hard pulling against a heavy sea and wind, we arrived safely aboard the "good ship Tahiti" none the worse for our experience, except for a few good wettings. We then learned that the officers and passengers who had remained on board, had had a very anxious time the previous day, when it was thought that the ship's boat was out in the heavy sea endeavouring to reach the ship, so rockets were fired to try and assist it.

At 9.15 a.m. on Wednesday 11th, we continued our journey, minus 5,000 cases of fruit which should have been loaded at Avarua. As the fruit would not keep until the arrival of the next ship, a loss of approximately £2,500 would be involved by the growers.

The general appearance of Rarotonga is very similar to that of Tahiti. The mountains rising up into pinnacles and fantastic peaks, are covered with vegetation. The streets

and houses—many of which are built of coral—are very clean, and the natives a healthy, robust and fine-looking race. The hospitality extended to us during our unexpected stay was absolutely wonderful. The Island, which is distinctly volcanic, is six miles long, and three and a half miles wide, and is surrounded by a fringing coral reef. The four mountains, which range up to 2,100 feet, are very precipitous, and it is an exceedingly difficult task to reach the summit of two of them. The climate, for a tropical island, is said to be the finest in the world, the temperature in summer averaging 84 degrees by day, and 74 degrees by night.

After two days of squally weather experienced after leaving Rarotonga—during which time some of the boys wished they were home—only 72 hours separated us from our homeland. All being very anxious to see our friends and loved ones again, we were pleased when the seas moderated so that the “good ship Tahiti” could steam full speed ahead.

Captain Aldwell (the worthy Skipper of our ship) having informed us that land would be sighted early on the morning of Monday, March 16th, we were “up with the seagulls” eagerly scanning the horizon for a glimpse of “good old New Zealand.” At 8 a.m. our patience was rewarded when the outline of Mount Hikurangi (5,606 feet) was just discernible at a distance of some 60 miles. Two and a half hours later a section of the coast of Tokomaru Bay could be clearly seen.

HOME AGAIN.

When our ship sailed through the Wellington Heads, shortly before 7.30 a.m. on St. Patrick’s Day, Tuesday, March 17th, not one of us expected the great welcome that we were later to receive. Tumultuous cheering could be heard from the thousands of enthusiasts, who had congregated on the water-front—everyone in New Zealand seemed to be there—when the “Tahiti” anchored in the stream shortly before 8 o’clock.

The “Janie Seddon,” which had been gaily decorated with flags, was soon alongside, and an hour later had landed us safely on Pipitea Wharf, where we were besieged with friends and relatives, and cheered to the echo by the vast crowd. After Mr. G. Mitchell, Chairman of the Wellington Harbour Board, had delivered a fine address of welcome, we proceeded in a fleet of motor-cars through the main streets, that were lined with thousands of cheering people.

A civic reception was then held at the Town Hall. His Worship the Mayor (Mr. R. A. Wright), Sir Francis Bell

(Attorney General), Mr. T. M. Wilford, M.P., Mr. A. L. Monteith, M.P., and Mr. H. Frost (President New Zealand Rugby Union) all made fine speeches, to which Mr. Dean and Cliff Porter responded.

At 1 p.m. we were the guests of the New Zealand Government at luncheon. The Prime Minister (Right Hon. W. F. Massey) presided, and in proposing the toast of "The Victorious 'All Blacks'" congratulated us on behalf of the Government and people of New Zealand, on our great achievement. Among those present were:—Sir James Parr, Sir Joseph Ward, Sir Francis Bell, Sir Maui Pomare, Sir Robert Stout, the Hons. J. G. Coates, D. H. Guthrie, A. D. McLeod, W. Nosworthy, etc., etc.

That night we attended a dance organised by the New Zealand Rugby Union, in order that the public could meet and individually congratulate members of the Team. During the evening Ces. Badeley, on our behalf, presented Mr. S. S. Dean with a Tantalus as a small token of our regard. In the course of his speech, Badeley paid tribute to Mr. Dean as Manager, and said that it was with great regret that we were saying good-bye to him. In his reply, Mr. Dean stated how very sorry he was to be losing us, and that he would always remember with pride his happy association with "the boys." "Son" White then presented our Captain with a silver rose bowl, amidst much cheering and enthusiasm. Cliff was very much affected, and found it difficult to express his thanks.

The only sad day we experienced from the time we assembled was on Wednesday, March 18th, 1925, the day we had to part. We had been just "one big happy family" for the whole tour. There had not been any unpleasantness—never even as much as a serious argument—all the months we were together. The task of our Manager, to whom we all became very much attached, was therefore considerably lightened.

THE TOUR REVIEWED.

The fact that we were not beaten in the British Isles certainly does not mean that we had from the outset an easy procession of victories—many we had to fight desperately hard for, and if the luck had not been with us on one or two occasions our record would not be what it is. With but few exceptions we all put on weight during the voyage to England—the average being 4lb per man; some put on as much as 8, 9, and even 12lb. Hard training, and gruelling efforts in the earlier matches were therefore necessary to build up our playing power and combination, which in the end enabled us to overcome even our greatest opponents—Ireland, Wales, and England.

Generally speaking, we found the standard of back play at Home much inferior to the standard of forward play. The back play was far too orthodox. Instead of the inside backs trying to make an opening by cutting in and drawing a man or two, they concentrated on getting the ball out as fast as they could to their fleetly wing three-quarters in the hope that he would be able to break through. By the time the ball reached the “winger” he was invariably confronted with three or four of our players with very often no one to pass to on account of his not having been backed up. The inside backs did not seem to realise the fact that two yards forward is better than twenty across the field—it was quite a common thing for the whole line of opposing backs to handle the ball without their gaining half a dozen yards. Their defensive work, however, was particularly good, in some cases all that could be desired, except for a tendency to kick for touch too much. The amended “kicking to touch” rule as adopted in New Zealand would obviate this great fault. The defensive display given by the Irish backs (of which Crawford, surely one of the greatest full-backs ever, was the outstanding man) was perhaps the best we encountered, whilst against Devon, Somerset, Gloucester, Cardiff, Llanelly, and Cambridge it was really amazing.

The forwards we were opposed to, on the whole, were great—their scrummaging and hooking abilities, their quick packing

round on the line-out, and their tackling was excellent, whilst the command they held over the ball in dribbling rushes was a revelation. They, however, rarely indulge in passing rushes amongst themselves from line-outs, etc., nor do they break up from the scrums and race after their backs to join in a movement. The latter failure can probably be accounted for by the fact that there is an excessive number of scrums in the English game, many of which are very exhausting through the packs being down, struggling, and fighting sometimes for a minute or more, whilst the ball is put in five or six times before the referee is satisfied.

Although, on the whole, we secured the ball from scrums more often than our opponents, the opposing scrums were often a non-plusser to us. Our hookers were quite prepared to pack on the opposing centre man, giving our opponents the loose head on both sides thus:—x x x x, but the Home teams would often fight for the two "looseheads" on the side that the ball was being put in, thus:—x x x x. When the scrum was packed in the latter manner the result, that it was extremely difficult to prevent it from screwing, is obvious. During such a "screw" the ball was often thrown at the feet of the two outside hookers for them to merely walk over it. Many of the referees, who, according to the rule book, should insist on the ball passing a man on either side before it is hooked, either let our opponents get away with this or ordered that the ball be put in again. The ball was often put in five or six times when a penalty, which was due to us, would have saved a great deal of unnecessary scrummaging and fighting for position amongst the front row men. Then, again, when we were packing on the centre man, he would often suspend himself on his two supports and place both of his feet in the channel of our scrum before the ball was put in, thus obstructing our hookers from getting a clean hook. This repeatedly went unnoticed by referees and caused a great deal of ill-feeling in the front row. Apart from these two facts, the referees on the whole were good. Some decisions were, of course, hard to follow, but owing to the way the referees in different countries interpret the rules this could only be expected. The touring side is always at a disadvantage in this respect—the Waratahs have shown dissatisfaction in New Zealand, as did the Springboks, whilst we have found difficulties in New South Wales.

The style of playing introduced in New Zealand as the result of the revision of some of the rules played no small part in the success of our backs, who often bewildered their oppon-

ents by starting a passing rush when hemmed in on their own line. As far as possible we refrained from kicking to touch, and often gained rounds of applause for keeping the ball in play when a kick to touch was expected. I am firmly of the opinion that, as the result of our tour, and the efforts of Mr. S. S. Dean and Mr. S. F. Wilson at the Imperial Conference, the amended rules will eventually be accepted by England, and from the day they are, am satisfied that the standard of English Rugby will improve, because it will teach the Home players that "attack is the best means of defence."

I attribute our success not only to our speed, weight, combination, and teamwork, but to the good-fellowship that existed between us all both on and off the field. There was never any "back-biting" or "chipping" during the progress of play. What was known as an "official team talk" was held after each game, and it was then that a man would voice anything he had to say against the play of any of his team mates. The reserve players were all asked to take a note of any defects in the play of the selected men, and they, too, had their say at the team talks. Very heated arguments would sometimes occur when one player would start pulling another to pieces, but as soon as the "talk" was declared closed the arguments would cease and everything would be "bright and gay" again. A great deal of benefit was derived from these "talks," and many mistakes, that players would otherwise have repeatedly made, were rectified.

Excellent training arrangements were provided for us by the various Rugby Unions, and (with, of course, the exception of Sundays) practically every morning, wet or fine, that we were not travelling was spent on the training field. Great credit is due to those players who did not get many games for the consistent manner in which they trained. They were always there, always fit and always ready if required. Robilliard (who broke a bone in a foot against Somerset), Munro (who seriously injured a knee against Leicester), Harvey (who contracted tonsillitis in Newport), and Stewart (who contracted pleurisy in Dublin) were prevented from playing in many games for the reasons stated. In view of the fact that a retiring player can not be replaced at Home, it was thought risky to play Badeley on account of the unsound state of a knee, to which he had suffered an injury in the first Test against New South Wales.

Our Manager did not place any restrictions on us—we could eat, drink and smoke what we liked. He, however, appealed to each man to look after himself, and requested that those

men who were selected for a match should make a point of getting to bed by 9 p.m. the night before.

Occasionally, but very rarely, the spectators were a little hostile—they were, no doubt, so anxious to see our unbeaten record smashed that they were sometimes carried away. However, they invariably applauded good work by us, and always accorded us splendid receptions.

The travelling arrangements and accommodation were excellent the whole time we were away. It will be gathered from this book that wonderful hospitality was bestowed upon us everywhere. Our hosts could never do enough for us and our Management Committee had no small task in curtailing the itineraries which were presented in each town, to enable us to get in sufficient rest. We were motored approximately 2,000 miles on sightseeing trips in England and Wales.

In conclusion, I would like to pay a tribute to the excellent management of Mr S. S. Dean and to the unselfish sportsmanship displayed by our Captain, Mr C. G. Porter. Cliff, realising that his great responsibilities as Captain had slightly affected his form, never hesitated in playing Jim Parker in his stead in the big matches. Cliff made a great Captain, and was very much respected by his team-mates.

OUR HAKA AND MASCOT.

A section of the English Press had been misinformed as to the meaning of our Haka, and unfortunately the day of our arrival in England the following translation appeared in big type in some of the newspapers: "Now we are in England feed us, feed us! Or we will tear you! tear you!! tear you!!! Although some girls in London treated the matter as a joke, and sent several of us packets of biscuits, stating that they were quite prepared to feed us, as long as we did not tear them to pieces! There is not the slightest doubt that this misinterpretation had the effect of prejudicing some people against our Haka, which was resented in some quarters.

The Haka was written by Judge Acheson, of the Native Land Court, and Wiremu Rangi, of Gisborne, during our voyage to England. It was given prior to each game (the second verse being usually dispensed with) with the exception of two occasions, when the Press criticised us for disappointing the spectators.

Maori, First Part.

Leader: Kia whaka ngawari au ia hau.

Team: I . . . au . . . E . . . Hei . . .

Leader: Ko niu Tireni e haruru nei.

Team: Au . . . au . . . aue . . . ha . . . hei.

Leader: Ko niu Tireni e haruru nei.

Team: Au . . . au . . . aue . . . ha . . . hei.

Leader: A . . . haha.

Team: Katu te ihi i hi .
Katu te wanawana
Kirunga te rangi
E tu iho nei .
Au au au.

English Translation, First Part.

Leader: Let us prepare ourselves for the fray.

Team: We are ready.

Leader: The New Zealand storm is about to break.

Team: The sound of the breaking.

Leader: The New Zealand storm waxes fiercer.

Team: The height of the storm.

Leader: Now then.

Team: We shall stand as children of the sun

We shall climb to the heavens in
exaltation of spirit.

We shall attain the Zenith.
The power! The power!

Second Part.

Leader: Tena ipoua . . .
O Rongo Ingarangi Hauana ite
ao e

Team: A . . . haha . . .
Hora hia mai o mahi kia hau
Hora hia mai o Tiima Kia hau
Omahi aku mahi me hui . .

Leader: Nga mahi tinihanga me
kiki

Team: Au . . . au . . . hei .

Leader: A . . . haha .

Team: Ka mutu nga mahi haramai
Ki Tireni.
Au . . . Au . . . Aue . . ha . .

Second Part.

Leader: Remain alert
The strength of England is
known throughout the world.

Team: Now then!
Let us see what England can do
Bring forth your strong teams,
Let us combine in friendly
rivalry.

Leader: Anything unsportsmanlike
together we shall kick aside.

Team: The strength of the kick.

Leader: Now then!

Team: After the battles are over
come to New Zealand. It is
ended.

Our Mascot, a Kiwi beautifully stuffed and mounted, enclosed in a well finished case, was presented to us by sportsmen of Wanganui, through Mr. Geoff Pownall, of the Wanganui Rugby Union. The late Mr. W. Dustin, of the official party, was known as "the keeper of the Kiwi!" In his absence on the occasion of our match against Ulster it was left in the care of Mr. D. G. Gray, and, as was the case at many matches, a number of people had gathered round the box to see our Mascot. Much amusement was caused when Mr. Gray, with much gusto, opened the lid only to find that he had inadvertently brought our portable gramophone! A hurried journey had to be made to our hotel for the bird, which did not take up its usual position near the touch-line until we had scored ten points.

The Kiwi also caused a great deal of fun in Vancouver, when one morning a kind old gentleman, who was a bird fancier, rushed along to our hotel and requested to see the man who kept the Kiwi. After a time the "keeper" appeared and was presented with a tin of worms for the bird's breakfast! The bird fancier stated that he had gathered from one of his books that kiwis' diet was chiefly worms, and as they were very scarce in Vancouver, he thought we might experience difficulty in finding sufficient to keep the bird alive. Fortunately he appreciated the joke when told the bird was stuffed!

THE IMPERIAL RUGBY CONFERENCE.

(The following article was kindly written for me by Mr. S. F. Wilson, of Christchurch, one of New Zealand's delegates to the Conference.)

The Imperial Rugby Conference, which was held during the tour of the Team, was one of the most important events in the history of Rugby Football. The Manager, Mr. S. S. Dean and I were appointed to represent New Zealand. Sailing with the Team gave us a month or two to become acquainted with those who controlled the game in the Home Counties, as well as study the rulings of referees. This proved of very great value, for we were able to meet at the Conference with a fair knowledge of English conditions.

On December 12th, 1924, the Conference was held at the Great Northern Hotel, London. Representatives present were:—

England: G. Rowland Hill, W. S. Donne, E. T. Surdon, E. Prescott.

Scotland: J. D. Dallos, J. A. Smith.

Wales: J. B. Moore, R. S. Warren.

South Africa: R. Fitzgerald, V. G. Cartright.

New South Wales: Dr. L. G. Brown, A. C. Wallace.

New Zealand: S. S. Dean, S. F. Wilson.

In opening the Conference, Mr. Rowland Hill, Chairman, said: "It is a very great privilege for me to preside at this most important gathering, the first of its kind in the history of Rugby Football. I need not say how delighted we are to have our friends from the Colonies with us here to-day, and we trust that our deliberations may be productive of the greatest good to the game to which we are all devotedly attached."

We had expected that France would have been represented, but South Africa had objected. So after a protest against her exclusion from Mr. Donne and the New Zealand representatives, we had to proceed without her.

We were disappointed that it had been decided by the International Board that any decision of the Conference should not be final, but must be referred back to the various Unions for further consideration. I will therefore not deal fully with the remits that were discussed. They were given quite fair consideration by the majority of those present, and I have no doubt that many of them will eventually become law—our first experience teaches us that it takes a year or two to get any new suggestion in the English Rule Book. Our main objective was to get direct representation on the International Board for the Dominions. Here we encountered many

difficulties and much opposition. However, after a great deal of discussion, it was unanimously decided that "an Imperial Advisory Board be established." The objects of the Board to act in an advisory capacity to the International Board.

After about eight hours' discussion Mr. Dean and I left the meeting feeling that at last something definite had been accomplished, and that the Dominions were to be given some little say in the management of a game that they claim to be their National winter game.

Our disappointment can be imagined, therefore, when we learned that shortly after our departure from England, the International Board had again met, and some of the men who had been at the Conference and supported the proposal, had now somersaulted and thrown the Advisory Board proposal overboard. We are indebted to members of the English Rugby Union, Mr. Rowland Hill in particular, for their loyalty to the Dominions, but the attitude of some of the other members was not in keeping with the high traditions of Rugby—at least as we understand them.

The Conference, therefore, could not be called a great success, but I feel certain that much spade work was done, and eventually the British Dominions will be recognised in the management of Rugby Football, just as they are in bigger things in the political world.

It has been said, possibly with a certain amount of truth, that New Zealand takes its football a little too seriously, but I think that when a man is selected to represent his country it is his duty to give his best.

My opinion of the Team is, that it was at least equal to any fifteen that this Dominion has placed on the field. They played at times wonderful football—at Blackheath against London Counties No. 2, under atrocious weather conditions, they played probably their best game. Against Cumberland, Leicester, and London Counties No. 1, and the Combined Services they were brilliant, while in the last game, with only 14 men against the select of England, they did what only great players could do, win comfortably, for after the first few minutes they never looked like being defeated.

I can only conclude by agreeing with the Author of this Book, that the hospitality of the people of England, Ireland, and Wales was something to be treasured by the whole party. I would like to add that I enjoyed every minute of the company of the finest fellows one could wish to meet.

**RECORD OF MATCHES PLAYED BY 1924-25 "ALL
BLACKS" IN GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.**

v. Devon	at Devonport	Sat., Sept. 13	Won 11 to 0
v. Cornwall	at Camborne	Thur., Sept. 18	Won 29 to 0
v. Somerset	at Weston-super- Mare	Sat., Sept. 20	Won 6 to 0
v. Gloucester	at Gloucester	Thur., Sept. 25	Won 6 to 0
v. Swansea	at Swansea	Sat., Sept. 27	Won 39 to 3
v. Newport	at Newport	Thur., Oct. 2	Won 13 to 10
v. Leicester	at Leicester	Sat., Oct. 4	Won 27 to 0
v. North Midlands	at Birmingham	Wed., Oct. 8	Won 40 to 3
v. Cheshire	at Birkenhead	Sat., Oct. 11	Won 18 to 5
v. Durham	at Sunderland	Wed., Oct. 15	Won 43 to 7
v. Yorkshire	at Bradford	Sat., Oct. 18	Won 42 to 4
v. Lancashire	at Manchester	Wed., Oct. 22	Won 23 to 0
v. Cumberland	at Carlisle	Sat., Oct. 25	Won 41 to 0
v. IRELAND	at Dublin	Sat., Nov. 1	Won 6 to 0
v. Ulster	at Belfast	Wed., Nov. 5	Won 28 to 6
v. Northumberland	at Newcastle	Sat., Nov. 8	Won 27 to 4
v. Cambridge 'Varsity	at Cambridge	Wed., Nov. 12	Won 5 to 0
v. London Counties	at Twickenham	Sat., Nov. 15	Won 31 to 6
v. Oxford 'Varsity	at Oxford	Thur., Nov. 20	Won 33 to 15
v. Cardiff	at Cardiff	Sat., Nov. 22	Won 16 to 8
v. WALES	at Swansea	Sat., Nov. 29	Won 19 to 0
v. Llanelly	at Llanelly	Tues., Dec. 2	Won 8 to 3
v. East Midlands	at Northampton	Sat., Dec. 6	Won 31 to 7
v. Warwickshire	at Coventry	Thur., Dec. 11	Won 20 to 0
v. Combined Services	at Twickenham	Sat., Dec. 13	Won 25 to 3
v. Hampshire	at Portsmouth	Wed., Dec. 17	Won 22 to 0
v. London Counties	at Blackheath	Sat., Dec. 27	Won 28 to 3
v. ENGLAND	at Twickenham	Sat., Jan. 3	Won 17 to 11
v. Selection Francaise	at Paris	Sun., Jan. 11	Won 37 to 8
v. FRANCE	at Toulouse	Sun., Jan. 18	Won 30 to 6

Matches Played	..	..	30
Matches Won	..	..	30
Points For	..	..	721
Points Against	..	..	112

The two following tables were compiled by Mr. George Payne, Christchurch, of the official party.

INDIVIDUAL RECORDS OF MATCHES PLAYED.

G. Nepia	30	Including 4	International matches
W. R. Irvine	27	" 4	" "
M. Brownlie	24	" 4	" "
J. Richardson	23	" 4	" "
A. E. Cooke	23	" 4	" "
R. R. Masters	22	" 4	" "
Q. Donald	21	" 4	" "
K. Svenson	21	" 4	" "
A. White	21	" 3	" "
N. P. McGregor	20	" 2	" "
J. Mill	18	" 3	" "
L. Cupples	17	" 2	" "
C. G. Porter	17	" 1	" "
M. F. Nicholls	16	" 4	" "
J. H. Parker	16	" 3	" "
C. Brownlie	16	" 3	" "
J. Steel	16	" 3	" "
F. W. Lucas	14	" 2	" "
A. H. Hart	14	" 1	" "
W. C. Dalley	12	" 1	" "
H. W. Brown	12	" 0	" "
A. H. West	10	" 0	" "
R. Stewart	9	" 0	" "
B. McCleary	7	" 0	" "
L. Paewai	7	" 0	" "
I. H. Harvey	7	" 0	" "
H. G. Munro	4	" 0	" "
A. C. C. Robilliard	4	" 0	" "
C. Badeley	2	" 0	" "

RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL POINTS SCORED.

	Tries	Goals from Tries	Potted Goals	Goals from Free Kicks	Goals from Marks	Total Points
M. F. Nicholls ..	1	35	3	6	0	103
G. Nepia	0	29	0	4	0	70
A. H. Hart	20	0	0	0	0	60
A. E. Cooke	19	0	0	0	0	57
J. Steel	18	0	0	0	0	54
K. Svenson	18	0	0	0	0	54
J. H. Parker	15	0	0	0	0	45
J. Mill	9	3	0	0	0	33
M. Brownlie	10	0	0	0	0	30
A. White	4	8	0	0	0	28
C. Brownlie	9	0	0	0	0	27
J. Richardson	8	0	0	0	0	24
F. W. Lucas	7	0	0	0	0	21
W. R. Irvine	7	0	0	0	0	21
H. W. Brown	5	2	0	0	0	19
C. G. Porter	6	0	0	0	0	18
N. P. McGregor	5	0	0	0	0	15
Q. Donald	5	0	0	0	0	15
R. R. Masters	3	0	0	0	0	9
R. Stewart	2	0	0	0	0	6
L. F. Cupples	1	0	0	0	0	3
A. H. West	1	0	0	0	0	3
A. C. C. Robilliard..	1	0	0	0	0	3
L. Paewai	1	0	0	0	0	3
Total	175	77	3	10	0	721

CHRISTCHURCH PRESS CO LTD.,
PRINTERS, CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.