

FOOTBALL NOTES.

GALBRAITH SHIELD GAME.

STAR 10 v. WAIKIWI 9.

Wednesday's wind hurricaned behind Star on the grandstand stretch sending them into Waikiwi ground for the full to do some fiddling and his side to get off with a force. Ground defence was very poor and Agnew, Adamson, and forward Lilley, easily beat the electrified Red and Black line, whose full seemed to be playing butcher's bat with the Rugby ball and to be frightened to take it on the full. Star brought up their backs smartly to smother any Waikiwi passing, relying on a few forwards to hold the big forwards, often lying down to it in their endeavours to prevent the extra weight telling—a good plan if you can get off with it. Hard lashing was the style of attack for rattled backs, Waikiwi being especially keen on it, their hopping and jumping, looking ridiculous in big football and being productive of numerous unforeseen openings for the more agile and speedier Star backs and forwards. From one of these rotten scampers a Star midget flopped on the ball over Waikiwi line with the non-defending backs dancing some kind of a haka instead of fielding. Lilley pushed the ball well over the bar—five to Star. Waikiwi kicked from the middle far down to the Star posts, and their lumbering forwards puffed themselves trying to get up to it, but Agnew took it coolly and sent it well back with the wind and a right to the stand middle stick. Line work followed with Star coming through Waikiwi parallels, but not changing the dribble to the right angle and cutting out backs to bring in their own wide men; so Star were easily stopped. Whyte smothered a back or two, but a clever pass from Oughton to Jenkins cleared. Red forwards began to liven, with Star scrummers checking through brilliant snappy rushes that shook defence and made the Waikiwi backs slow. Knight wrestling instead of getting rid. The kick was well returned and Waikiwi tested Star ground work and found it poor indeed. Still Star have a way of their own in getting out of difficulties and bigger Oughton made a quick save and put his team into attack. The game was an up and down one, with the referee particularly smart in checking pointers while keeping down over-whistling. Lilley at full began to come into action again and again. A Star rush promised points but Knight managed to field and found the twenty-five. The opposing fulls were called upon several times and Waikiwi did not bless their bounce waiter. Red attacked and a weak kick was smartly seized, but the shot was puerile. P. Darragh over-kicked and Lilley put Waikiwi on the defensive. A Waikiwi free was badly directed and Oughton captured but booted low to side-line, from which the pack rushed through the big forwards and over-kicked Waikiwi into a force. The football was atrocious at this stage, and Star were slow in getting the ball into play although their wind spell was being misused. Against the wind Waikiwi shook up Star backs, the full doing a pirouette instead of flopping, and his wing three feeling called upon to imitate. However, a fumble let a quick Star lash the ball clear, and the Star forwards came out like blue flies on to the slower Red and Black who forgot to go down with a referee who understood well the difference between going down and hanging on. Star were specialising on forwards and backs together smothering any back play, the smaller Oughton showing to advantage with Leggat fast and furious to lead. Agnew played wide headily, and bumped hard and often. Star appeared to clear fairly easily in spite of lapses in tackling and other defence, full Lilley resting them well with his well-directed line kicking. For a period the Star forwards outplayed the Waikiwi, and even on the line had command, brains being shown in quick knocks to a wing-three who didn't take full advantage. Scrums were frequent, Star taking liberties in going around, a repulsive practice. Keeping on a kind of back, Star passed feebly and Waikiwi fumbled miserably, and when the ball was dropped a Waikiwi back lashed out and Lilley caught and booted high with his merry men around the dancing figures. Well a forward Lilley got up off it, and full Lilley kicked a great goal. Star 10, Waikiwi nil. Waikiwi's kick out was not done well and Star's next line gave the little scrummer a chance of spoiling. A scrum foot up put Star into position and Waikiwi refused to meet their men low. Pack work did not give Waikiwi the weight advantage that it should, Star always having loose men and smart light backs to check the rushes, the odd man in blue and white jersey popping up unexpectedly. A Waikiwi rush made suppers dizzy, and a Star on the ground to play the ball; but Whyte failed

with the kick. It would pay the out-of-townners to give a couple of their men practice in this essential art. They'd have won the match if they'd had a kicker worth a lucifer. In front of the grandstand Whyte headed a rush and over-kicked, but an opportune forward with a license through the pack cutting out the whistler took it on and full Lilley circled, slipped, missed and flopped and Reid just evaded the corner flag and touched. The Waikiwi kicker made a fair try but his luck was out. Star 10, Waikiwi 3. The spell ended then.

With seven points down and a stronger wind behind them Waikiwi chances looked rosy, but Star ran straight into attack, Jenkins failing to take clean, his hurried kick put the windwards on the Star midden where they rushed through the corky Star backs and booted hard and lost. Exchange of kicks saw C. Reid weak in wind, boot, and a free to Star gave Lilley his chance to relieve to the twenty-five. From the line a Waikiwi passing rush was dropped when reward seemed sure and Star cleared. From the line the wind buffeted forwards broke through their big opponents, but no cleverness was displayed in beating backs with cross work footing and Waikiwi handled to force Star. The kick out caught Darragh napping but he retrieved with a defence pass which Star didn't dive at. Waikiwi forwards were doing better swarm work, and Star backs thought the wind strong, Lilley, however, kicking with sound judgment into the shelter of the stand side-line. Waikiwi put in a lot of back rushes but Star always crowded them out without tackling until they got to the wings. Darragh tried to pot a free, and Lilley waited for the bounce and was lucky that his own side forced the cranky hop. The backs became excited, two marks being missed. A Waikiwi cross kick was forced, but Star still had to defend, Red passing being frequent and futile. At length Star habit of swinging out when a man's arms showed passing signs, let the Waikiwi backs bring off a movement that would have been of high order if the opposition had been sound; but for a back to handle three times in one transfer rush all within the limits of a twenty-five was too clearly indicative of the rotten state of senior football down here where nobody seems to care a dump whether his side tackles or not. Again Whyte's luck was out and Star's in. Star 10, Waikiwi 6. Directly after Knight secured, ran, swung his arms, for the Star backs to rush pell-mell on to the side lines, and himself to walk over, untouched until some falling Star fell on his back to push the ball further into the turf. However, the ball was dug out and the kick failed. Why don't they get Lilley to show them how? Waikiwi looked like winners; when hang me if the Star forwards didn't come to light and blessed nearly score. What a shock! The game ended in mid-field with Star 10, Waikiwi 9. The honours were easy. Star had Lilley's boot to thank for their win; Waikiwi has Whyte's to blame for their loss.

SOCIAL NOTES.

Miss Reece (England), is the guest of Mrs W. Handyside, Gala street.

Mrs and Miss Law (Dunedin), are the guests of Mrs T. F. Macdonald, Earn street.

Mrs J. G. Macdonald, Don street, gave a most delightful bridge party on Wednesday evening, the guests being: Mesdames, J. G. Watson, Wade, Barclay, Haggitt, Handyside, Gordon Macdonald, Murray-Menzies, Misses Tucker, Wade, Ewart, and Reece.

At a ball given for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in Dunedin, one of his partners was Miss McIntosh, an ex-resident of Invercargill, and amongst the debutants and young girls chosen to form an arch by holding up large tree ferns fronds under which he entered the ballroom, and who were afterwards separately presented to His Royal Highness, was Miss Bonnie Wilson, also a resident of Invercargill.

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