

FOOTBALL NOTES.

GALBRAITH SHIELD FINAL.

STAR (9) v. INVERCARGILL (6).

and White). (Blue and Black).
Teams were—Star: Backs: Lilley, Barracough, Brown, Oughton, Jas. Agnew, Oughton, Jno. Forwards: Hall, Clarkson, Strang, Jenkins, G., Leggett, W. Jenkins.
Invercargill — Backs: McKay, Irving, R., Lytle, Vial, Cleland, David. Forwards: Rice, P., Rice, O., Todd, Garrett, Fraser, Fougere, Millar and O'Brien.

The premiers of 1919 led the way to the area to be greeted with hearty acclamations from the great crowd. The Blues followed receiving a no less genuine welcome, the organised barracking under the J. Doig and J. Martin making the team ring and keying up players and spectators to a very high pitch of enthusiasm. It was a pity that these two gentlemen could not have arranged with the clerk of the weather to leave the ground dry, the weather of this water-loving town having been abominably wet during the days preceding this historic game. Star lined bigger than Blues, the loss of Whittaker disorganising the latter team's line and scrum work. Garrett was lock, the fastest spoiling forward, and only lately recovered from a fractured proboscis. Star did as they liked with the parallels, breaking through readily to find a thin line of defence, the centre and second five being out in the field. The Star had gained slightly from the kick-off return, and they smashed the first Blue line like paper. Millar, Fougere, and P. Rice, came back with the ball at toe, but Star punted and charged, Irving relieving because no one dived at him. Star began passing, and Agnew at second five cut in several times. This occurred several times ending at Blues' 25, where Millar and O'Brien made a great dribble, the Star backs not going down. Another dash by the same two forwards aided by Garrett saw a free for pulling Brown off the ball, when a penalty must have come for lying, had they waited. Cleland made out but Vial did not receive, and Star came away with clever footwork. Blues' pass failed, as did a Star pass shortly afterwards. The Star were getting more ball and their back feed was very clean, as was their defence passing, players seeming to be in perfect accord, and displayed a resource and coolness not expected from backs who have not been favouring an attacking game which included transferring. Indeed, had the Star developed a rear-guard action earlier in the season, the province would be now much stronger in its back game, and would not be on the look-out for representative fives, centres, and wings from other than Wednesday Town players. Star's following up kicks was a treat to see, the broad face of neat blue and white jerseys drew comments from old representative players, the remarks being commendatory in a very great degree. Much dropping and miss-catching occurred on each side, the referee using the advantage rule with admirable discretion, the absence of whistle being noticeable and distinctly tending towards the brightening of the game. There was a great sameness about the play of the first spell, the superiority of the Star being evident on the line, in the scrum, and in getting the ball. The game was keenly fought and clean. The first spell ended with the ball at Star's 25 and no score to either side. It was thought that during the interval improvements would be made, the crowd was encroaching badly on the northern line and youngsters were standing even on the in-goal area at the west end. The Blue gap in the defence might be rectified—etc, but Star seemed to be the only thinking combination. J. Oughton came in to his old place and Murray took the wing-three position. Agnew returned the Blue kick-off to half-way and the Star at once broke the Blue line, dribbled, and set up a passing movement that took them to the corner of Blues' 25, the defenders getting two yards' relief on the first line. Star secured and tried the blind side, but checked, Agnew again receiving to the ball swaying across to near the western goal where Agnew again secured and bumping his man hard, kicked along the ground to Murray who picked up five yards from the line and scored with no marker, five minutes after the opening of spell two. Star 3, I.F.C. nil. Garrett was being missed in the lose and White-taker on the line and in the scrum; for a lock is a lock always. Star passing attack continued, C. Oughton dashing to middle to pass, Brown punting, and Jenkins nearly getting the ball before full McKay forced. Exchanges of kicks, Lilley to McKay was no change in the respective positions of the forwards; but Vial made a great struggle to get clear of a long line, Lilley waiting for the bounce of the

five's kick, the ball being driven out near Star's line. The big forwards at once cleared, but were sent back and forced with a stupid lash. Then McKay waited for a hop, but Cleland cleared him to middle where a scrum gave Star a slight gain. Cleland then broke away from a line receipt, and running out fed the centre, who put Irving over at the corner, Millar's attempt at goal being short. Star 3, I.F.C. 3. Star seemed to be lagging, and opinions were expressed that their condition was telling. However, though the Blue attack continued, defence passing, especially by Agnew and Brown, relieved the tried team several times. The quality of their defence being good, except in ground work, where C. Oughton dived alone. Star at length broke the attack and came through to the full, who got in a kick, Vial bettering on a transfer but failing to pass, evidently being uncertain on his feet. The play moved over middle where a mark by McKay was well centred from Fraser, Lilley being caught with the ball, and Todd going over with it close in. Millar failed with an easy dry-ground kick. I.F.C. 6, Star 3. Give and take play with mucks was ended by Fraser lining at the press table, and Blues moved towards Star's 25, where Vial made a good run and punt, the return producing a clever defence pass from Irving to McKay, a well spread Star spoiling rush being frustrated. Star passed the table, the ball going across opposite, the crowd receding slightly from the line to allow a scrum. Star came on with two more rushes, Davidson relieving well, his defence attack being outstanding at this stage of the game. Star secured and passed to Barracough who was pushed out at the blind corner after a smart run along the line. Vial with two kicks gained twenty yards of relief; but Star broke back with a dribble which Hall carried on right to five yards from the posts, Fraser coming across to bump and not to collar. The determined light forward Hall recovered himself and dived over at the north post of the west end at 20 minutes to five. Lilley took the ball out too short, and it was touched before it flew over the bar, a piece of very bad luck. Star 6, I.F.C. 6. Two movements saw C. Oughton send the ball out at middle, Star receiving, passing, and kicking, and Barracough not diving at McKay, who just cleared. A good Star heel was centred my Murray, and a scrum came, though Vial claimed a mark, the referee being well blocked from seeing it. The scrum fed Oughton, who set Agnew going strongly with plenty of ground to work on, Barracough receiving in ideal position to score an unmistakable try. Star 9, I.F.C. 6. Again Star moved into Blues' 25, Cleland clearing. Little and Fraser, appeared in clearing efforts, but Star again dribbled down to the corner, where they nearly scored. Vial made a great effort to dribble clear; but, although Lilley speculated, the Blues got just over half-way. Another Blue rush saw Lilley force. The whistle came with Star 9, I.F.C. 6.

FAST PREMIERS.

STAR CLUB'S RECORD.

The following is a list of the Premier Clubs of Southland since 1886, showing that, since that year, and including the present season, the Star Club has won the Premiership twenty-two times and tied for the position once:—

	Pl.	Won.	Lost.	Dr.
1886—Pirates; no record.				
1887—Star, Pirates and Invercargill tied.				
1888—Invercargill; no record.				
1889—Pirates; no record.				
1890—Star	...	12	11	1
1891—Star	...	10	9	0
1892—Star	...	8	6	1
1893—Star	...	11	10	0
1894—Star	...	11	10	1
1895—Star	...	10	8	0
1896—Star	...	13	13	0
1897—Star	...	8	8	0
1898—Star	...	8	6	0
1899—Star	...	9	9	0
1900—Star	...	9	8	1
1901—Star	...	6	4	0
1902—Star	...	11	9	1
1903—Star	...	10	8	1
1904—Pirates	...	8	5	0
1905—Star	...	10	7	1
1906—Pirates	...	10	7	2
1907—Waikiti	...	10	7	0
1908—Star	...	10	8	1
1909—Winton	...	12	7	1
1910—Waikiti	...	11	8	3
1911—Invercargill	...	9	6	3
1912—Invercargill	...	9	7	2
1913—Star	...	10	8	0
1914—Star	...	10	9	0
1915—Star	...			
1916—No award.				
1917—Star	...	13	12	1
1918—Athletic	...	12	8	2
1919—Star	...	8	7	1
1920—Star	...	12	6	3

"The New Zealand Herald," seems very enthusiastic about the progress being made with the Government's housing scheme. In a recent issue it has the startling heading: "State Housing Scheme," "Thirteen Dwellings Built." Surely nothing to get excited about. Had the number been 1013, there may have been cause for jubilation.

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A cordial invitation to be present at the ceremony is extended to all returned soldiers, ex-pupils, parents, other relatives, and contributors to the Memorial Fund. The Committee would be glad if returned soldiers would appear in uniform.

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