

## SOUTH AFRICANS ON WET GROUND.

## Possible Full Back for England—The Importance of Sound Forwards.

### TOO FREQUENT PENALTIES.

So the South Africans have lost their "mascot"—a little earlier, I think, than they expected. One knows it is always a hard business to win on a Welsh ground, Newport in particular, but after the manner in which the Colonials wiped out Glamorgan there was no reason to anticipate they would come to grief at Newport.

However, it has happened, and, as a result of their superb defence, Newport have the satisfaction of being the first side to defeat the South Africans, and thus securing the "mascot," which no doubt will be treasured and placed in a prominent position in the pavilion.

Against London at the Rectory Field on Saturday, the Colonials came through their first experience of a heavy ground and a wet ball with satisfactory results. Their win was not convincing, but they showed their ability to adapt themselves to conditions.

distinct advance on the form shown by the 1906 combination. That fine side went down 30 per cent. in their play when on a wet ground. They lost to Scotland at Glasgow in a quagmire, only just scraped home against Lancashire with rain about, and were hopelessly outplayed by Cardiff

On Saturday our visitors showed they were able to overcome to some extent the difficulties of the situation, and I am not sure that in some respects they were not superior to the London brigade. They made it quite clear that in

any subsequent games played under unfavourable conditions they would be able to hold their own.

### MISTAKES OF THE GAME.

It was a "beast" of an afternoon, and all things con-

considered, the play was tolerably good. There were, of course, many slips, but for those the muddy ground and ball could be held accountable. On the whole, the South Africans handled better than London and seemed to have a pull in the matter of pace.

passed over; and that was the frequency with which the South Africans were penalised. The referee, who is a sound judge of the game, had to pull them a good many times—too many to be quite nice.

As far as I observed, the forwards had a tendency to

remain off-side after overrunning the ball. That was the chief fault, but there were two cases of obstruction. One does not like to dwell upon this point, but after seeing the game I could not resist the impression that our present visitors had not maintained the splendid standard of scrupulous fairness exhibited by the men under the captaincy of

One of the outstanding features of the match was the fine play at full back of Millett, of Guy's. He found his place in the side through the dropping out of Dickson and O'Trinn, and made the most of his chance. He was fear-

less in saving, fielded safely and kicked with a good length. He must, on Saturday's form, be regarded as a candidate for international honours.

In the course of the next few days the South Africans will have to go through two or three hard battles. To-day they are to meet the Services of Portsmouth and

they will be up against the services at Northampton, and the latter are fairly sure to put a strong fight forward. On Saturday they oppose the East Midlands at Northampton, and may be hard pushed to win, though they probably will. Pontton is down to assist the East and may easily prove a trouble to the visitors. I fancy that the

**NATIONAL STYLES.**

Anyone with any knowledge of Rugby appreciates the value of a strong, clever pack. There are, however, several points to be considered, and perhaps the most important is the question of the national style of play.

up the four three-quarter game for their international matches before they were ready for it. The clubs had not had sufficient time in which to grip that form of back play of which the Welshmen had made a keen study.

That, however, was a little too intricate for the Rugby men in this part of the world; and the attempts in England to copy it were a mere parody on the finish and brilliance

While one recognises the importance of good forward play, the fact remains that the game nine times out of ten is won by the backs. It is their business to score. Welsh forwards for the most part are content to hold

and heel. The Scotch scrummers prefer to break through and rely on close dribbling, leaving their backs to look after themselves. The Irishmen tear up the earth and run themselves to death without doing much beyond. English forwards are a compromise between the Welsh and Scotch. When they go with the ball, but at the same

In a match tactics must be governed by the conditions and the strong point of the side. If forward, then let the front rank take the game into their hands, but if the backs are clever they should have the ball as often as possible.

**TO-DAY'S MATCHES.**

**SOUTHERN LEAGUE.**  
Exeter: Exeter City v. West Ham United.  
**SOUTHERN ALLIANCE.**  
Portsmouth: Portsmouth v. Luton.  
Southampton: Southampton v. Southend United.

**SOUTHERN COUNTIES' AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP.**  
Apsley: Herts v. Bucks and Berks.  
Sutton: Surrey v. Essex.  
**LONDON PROFESSIONAL CHARITY FUND.**  
Sydenham: Crystal Palace v. Millwall.

Brentford: Brentford v. Queen's Park Rangers.  
LONDON LEAGUE.  
Croydon: Croydon Common v. Brentford R.  
RUGBY RULES.

Portsmouth: Officers of the Navy and Army v. South  
 Africans.  
 Cambridge: Cambridge University v. London Hospital.  
 Oxford: Oxford University v. Guy's Hospital.  
 Greenwich: Royal Naval College v. University College  
 Hospital.

**NORTHERN UNION.**  
Wakefield: Wakefield Trinity v. Bradford (The League).  
Leeds: Leeds v. Hull Kingston Rovers (Yorkshire Cup—  
Second Round).

## THE WORLD OF SPORT.

An interesting thirty-six holes match has been arranged for Saturday, November 16, between Edward Ray, the open champion, and Philip Wynne of Addington Court, on the

The official figures for the record made at Brooklands on Friday by Mr. W. O. Bentley's 12-h.p. D.F.P. were issued yesterday. The record was the Class B "long," a distance of about twenty-seven and a half miles, which was covered

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In a thirty-six holes golf match at Sunningdale yesterday J. H. Taylor (Mid-Surrey) and J. White (Sunningdale), giving one-third, halved with Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein and Mr. S. G. Wateror.

An interesting thirty-six holes match has been arranged for Saturday, November 16, between Edward Ray, the open champion, and Philip Wynne, of Addington Court, on the Addington Court links, near Crofton.

The official figures for the record made at Brooklands on Friday by Max Baileys, of Bournemouth, D.F.P., were: 1924 record. The record was the Class B "long," distance of about twenty-seven and a half miles, which was covered from a standing start in 1,491.068., which works out at 66.78 miles per hour.

H. B. Bietsoe, who rode K.C.B. in the Wilford Steeplechase Plate, at Nottingham on Monday, was badly injured as the result of falling from his horse. He was conveyed to the Colwick Hotel in an unconscious condition. A medical examination proved that the jockey was kicked in