

DRAW FOR FOURTH ROUND OF THE CUP.

Sunderland to Visit Newcastle or West Ham.

WEAKER CLUBS FAVOURED.

The draw for the fourth round of the English Cup was made yesterday at Holborn, and panned out well for the weaker clubs, as four of the five First League sides are drawn away from home. The draw is as follows:—

Tottenham Hotspur or Burnley v. Manchester United.
Referee, Mr. H. S. Bamlett.

West Ham or Newcastle U. v. Sunderland.
Referee, Mr. J. Mason.

Glossop v. Bristol City.
Referee, Mr. T. P. Campbell.

Derby County v. Nottingham Forest.
Referee, Mr. T. Kirkham.

Sunderland are the unlucky side of the year, so far as the draw is concerned. For the fourth time in succession they are drawn away from home. They will have to visit the winners of the West Ham-Newcastle United tie, and it is not too much to presume that their destination will be Newcastle.

If that presumption is a correct one, the game will be interesting for more than one reason. The winners will be at once become favourites for the Cup. Sunderland visited Newcastle before Christmas and beat the United by the staggering score of 9 to 1. The Newcastle players on that occasion were bewildered by the brilliance of the Sunderland attack, and Lawrence, their famous goalkeeper, told me afterwards that he had never had such an experience in his life. The Sunderland forwards, he said, could not shoot wrong, and scarcely a shot that scored went anywhere near him.

Goals are an accident of the game, but the better side usually gets the accidents. It would be absurd to say that Sunderland were ever eight goals better than Newcastle. They were the better side on the day, and the magnitude of their victory is nothing to go by. They will probably prove the better side on March 6, but I'll wager anything they don't win by more than four goals. And, besides, West Ham have something to say yet. How would Upton Park suit Sunderland?

TOTTENHAM'S CHANCES.

If the 'Spurs' can beat Burnley to-morrow, they will have Manchester United, the League champions, at Tottenham. Now that the draw is out it seems more than ever a pity that the 'Spurs' should have played so badly last Saturday. But this is the 'Spurs' lucky year, and they will probably play much better at Burnley than they did at Tottenham. At any rate, they are not likely to curl up like the Crystal Palace did. There will be a good many people from North London who will make the journey to Tottenham to-morrow.

Manchester United have in turn beaten Brighton, Everton, and Blackburn Rovers up to now, and whether they have to visit Burnley or Tottenham they will have about the hardest match of the series. The winners of it might easily carry off the Cup.

Burnley are a dour, hard side to beat. They don't play clever football; their halves and backs have no scruples as to the manner in which an opponent should be grassed, and that they can quite easily put a clever side off their game they demonstrated last Saturday at Tottenham. It is idle, however, to speculate on the result of this tie until to-morrow's match has been played.

Derby and Nottingham have always been great rivals in all branches of sport, and there will be the keenest interest in the match between the County and the Forest. Derby County have about the best defence in the Second League, and the Forest have a line of forwards that can on occasion play brilliant football. It should be a fine game to watch, and Derby may qualify for the semi-final stage.

Glossop, the heroes of the third round, have drawn Bristol City to their home in the Peak Country. Bristol are strongly fancied for the Cup this year by their supporters, and, in spite of the fact that Glossop won at Owlerton last Saturday, they are likely to lose to the Western side. Without wishing to detract from the glory of their feat, one cannot overlook the fact that it was a fluke.

ENGLAND'S TEAM AGAINST GERMANY.

The international selection committee yesterday chose the following team to oppose Germany at Oxford on Saturday, March 13:—

H. P. Bailey (Leicester Fosse); W. S. Corbett (Birmingham); Herbert Smith (Oxford City) (captain); K. R. G. Hunt (Oxford City); W. Chapman (South Nottingham); R. M. Hawkes (Luton); A. Berry (Oxford University); C. E. Dunning (Norwich City); G. E. Horro (Woolwich Arsenal); T. C. Porter (Northern Nomads); and E. G. Davis (Oxford City).

Reserves: A. H. Bell (Woking) and R. C. Maples (Oxford University).

The draw for the fourth round of the F.A. Amateur Cup was made yesterday, and resulted as follows:—

Northern Division—South Bank v. Eston United.
Southern Division—Leytonstone v. Clapton; Dulwich Hamlet v. Bromley; Atherstone Town v. Barking.

To be played on March 6; kick-off, 3.30.

LEYTON BEAT WOOLWICH.

After being twice postponed, first owing to the Association Cup-ties, and on the second occasion through fog, the first of the semi-finals, between Leyton and Woolwich, in connection with the London Association Challenge Cup was decided at Tottenham yesterday. Leyton won by 3 goals to 1, and well deserved their victory.

Combining effectively, their forwards did most of the attacking. W. T. Renneville leading the line with no little skill; and the halves, Gray, Morrison, and Cresser, tackled with such resolution that the Arsenal forwards were seldom able to develop any really dangerous attacks.

The first goal came about thirty-five minutes after the start, Lewis opening the scoring for the Arsenal from a splendid centre by Satterthwaite. So far Leyton, though they had not managed to beat the Woolwich defence, had had the best of the game, and within a minute of Lewis getting through they equalised.

Receiving the ball from Clark, who played a capital game at inside right, Renneville ran fully thirty yards and beat Macdonald with a hard, low shot.

Following the interval Leyton continued to play with better understanding than their opponents, and Macdonald had much more to do than Whitbourne at the other end. It was not until four minutes from the finish, however, that, from a free kick for hands against Theobald, Clark secured the ball close in and gave his side the victory. With the weather beautifully fine some 6,000 people watched the game.

WESTERN LEAGUE.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS, 2; LUTON, 0.—The replayed Western League match between Queen's Park Rangers and Luton at Park Royal yesterday attracted

very little attention—only about 500 people being present—and the game itself proved very tame. The Rangers were attacking for fully three-quarters of the time, but their forwards failed miserably near goal, and lost innumerable chances. As it was, Luton were beaten by 2 goals to 0.

Luton were constantly defending in the first half, but Jarvis, in their goal, had very few shots to stop, so badly directed were the Rangers' last efforts. Usually the ball went high over the bar.

The teams crossed over with nothing scored, and it was not until after twenty minutes' severe pressure that the Rangers took the lead. Then they practically had a goal given them, for Gregory, the Luton left back, passed back to Jarvis, when very near goal, with the result that McNaught ran up and pushed the ball into the net.

The second goal—about five minutes later—was a good one, Mitchell, the Rangers' right half-back, beating Jarvis with a splendid long shot.

SOUTHERN CHARITY CUP.

SOUTHAMPTON, 1; PORTSMOUTH, 0.—The long-delayed 1907-8 final for the Southern Charity Cup presented by *The Evening News* was played off at Southampton yesterday in the presence of a large mid-week crowd.

Both Southampton and Portsmouth, the competing clubs, were strongly represented, though injuries prevented either being at full strength. A keen and interesting game resulted in the home side scoring the only goal through Ward fifteen minutes after the second half had commenced. On the run of the play the Saints just about deserved their victory in a match remarkable for missed chances.

At the finish Dr. Stancombe, late chairman of the Southampton club, presented the cup to the captain of the Saints' team, and Mrs. Wall, wife of the F.A. secretary, distributed the medals.

MANCHESTER CUP.

STOCKPORT COUNTY, 4; MANCHESTER UNITED, 2.—Not more than 2,000 people witnessed this match at Stockport. Both clubs placed reserve teams in the field, but Stockport proved the better side, and won by 4 goals to 2. Two minutes from the start Whitehouse scored for Stockport County, and later on he added a second goal.

Then Christy got through for Manchester United after Molyneux had saved from Picken. In the second half Whitehouse and Horrocks scored further goals for Stockport County, Picken getting the other one for Manchester United.

RUGBY RULES.

PLYMOUTH, 12 pts.; COVENTRY, 3 pts.—Bright weather favoured this match at Plymouth yesterday, and there were about 1,000 spectators. The home team were always the better side, and they won by 4 tries to 1 try (12 points to 3). Peters and Robinson scored in the first half before Goodman got in for Coventry, who were often hard pressed in the second half, Conybeare adding two tries for Plymouth.

BARROW BEAT AUSTRALIANS.

Barrow beat the Australians under Northern Union Rules at Barrow yesterday by 11 points to 3. The weather was delightfully fine, and as it was a half-holiday in the town, owing to the launch of the new battleship, there was an excellent attendance.

The Australians started, and Bamber's kick went in touch. Messenger, by a fine effort, carried the play to the home quarters, but Hughes relieved, and soon after Messenger almost landed a goal from a drop.

The Barrow forwards dribbled to the visitors' line, but Bamber missed a certain try from Fallowfield's cross-kick. The game was exceedingly fast and open, and the Kangaroos made headway by some splendid passing. Messenger was hurt and left the field, and Bailey took his place.

Balle was at fault in tackling Ballard, and Trelour dodged over for Barrow, Gifford adding a goal. Bamber next got over, but lost the ball in grounding. In the next minute, however, Bowers scored from Trelour's pass, and at half-time Barrow led by 8 points to 0.

The game was very even after the interval until Bailey ran down and passed to Burden, who scored for the Australians. Chadwick was finely tackled by Gifford, who was prominent later with an excellent run. Bamber scored in the last minute for Barrow, who won by a goal and 2 tries to a try.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

THE LEAGUE.—Division I.
Bradford: Bradford City v. Newcastle United.
Division II.
Chesterfield: Chesterfield v. Grimsby Town.
Glossop: Glossop v. Gainsborough Trinity.

ROLLER SKATING RACES.

There were fully 2,000 spectators present at Olympia last night when the first three heats of the London section of the competition for the professional roller skating championship of the world were decided.

The racing, although not of a high standard, was exceedingly interesting, for everybody was anxious to see what the Americans could do.

W. Curtis (London) won the first heat by twenty-five yards in 3m. 13.25s. Allic Moore, the American champion, was in the second heat, and won easily in 3m. 6.25s. Moore followed Court closely until two laps from home, when he darted away and obtained a lead of fifty yards, eventually winning by double that distance.

The third heat was won by J. Davidson (America) in 3m. 12.35s. W. Dankwardt gave Davidson a really good race, and but for the fact that the former touched Plumridge, the margin at the finish might have been considerably less than twelve yards.

SPORTING NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. H. T. King has been re-elected captain of the Pan Golf Club. It is a long time since any member occupied the post for two years in succession.

The match between Kent and Essex in the ladies' county golf championship was played at Bournemouth yesterday, and the result was a win for Kent by 6 points to 1.

In the Biarritz Golf Club's tournament, on the ladies' links, for prizes presented by Mme. Georges Noailly, the winner was Princess Guy de Lucigne Fauquier.

The Australian football team, which is now returning home after its visit to England, beat a combined British Columbia team at Vancouver, states Reuter, by twenty-three points to nil.

The match between the 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the 5th Royal Irish Fusiliers, in the second round of the Army hockey tournament, was played at Aldershot yesterday, and resulted in a win for the Dublin by 5 goals to 1.

The first and second rounds of the tournament under the auspices of the Advertisers' Golfing Society for the Advertising World Cup have been fixed to take place on the Ealing Club's course on Thursday, April 15. Last year the winner of the trophy was Mr. A. K. Watts.

An interesting billiards match was commenced at Leicester yesterday, Stevenson conceding Reece 4,000 points in 20,000 up for £200. Scores: Reece, 5,555; Stevenson, 644. At Soho-square the scores were: Harris (receives 3,000 in 9,000 up), 3,225; Aiken (receives 2,250), 3,363.

The winter meeting of the Jockey Club was held yesterday afternoon at Lord Derby's town house in St. James-square. There was a large attendance, but the proceedings were, as usual, strictly private. It is, however, understood that several matters of importance were discussed, including the controversy between the Corporation of Doncaster and the Official Inspector of Racecourses.

AUSTRALIAN AVERAGES.

Great Batting but Moderate Bowling of Next Test Team.

From the statistics and general comments that come from Australia about this year's Test match team it looks pretty obvious that, given a hard, dry summer, the first four Test matches don't look like being finished.

We see that Ransford averages over 100 for ten innings—an almost indecent thing to do—Noble follows with 69, Bardsley with 58, Gregory with 68, Hopkins with 58, Macartney with 53, and McAlister with 31. Trumper has been seedy, but if, as everyone hopes, he can come over, and come over fit—well, we know what he can do. Carter, too, is a fine bat these days, as any of A. O. Jones' team will tell you.

These averages are tremendous, but they're just a little too big. They were a rather contemptuous finger at the bowling. Armstrong has got twenty-six wickets at an average of 16—a very fine performance—and O'Connor's forty wickets have only cost him 23 apiece, which is good in the country of huge scores. Noble has got eleven wickets for 24; but, with the captaincy and "the last word" of the batting on his shoulders, it is too much to ask Noble to bowl England out more than once, at the very most, on a test day.

Cotter averages 34 for 19 wickets. He is really fast, and will try all day; but he's no Ernest Jones, and never has been. We have such a lot of men just now who can play, and delight in, any fast bowling but the very best, that Cotter ought not to frighten England much in Test matches. Hopkins is a fine bowler on "sticky days," but ought not to do much harm on plumb wickets.

Whitty, the new left-hander, averages nearly 50 a man, and Macartney, though he has only an average of 29, has also only nine men to his book. So the Australian attack—given, as I have said, a good, dry season—is nothing to terrify even the pessimists.

Good bowling, medium bowling, or bad bowling, however, the Australian batting must be awfully hot; and, as they are a team who, on the whole, take their time about getting runs, and take no risks, how on earth are we to beat them in three days, except, of course, on a line-and-pounce wicket?

In a few years we shall have "googley" bowlers like Schwarz and Vogler and Faulkner; but last season we didn't have one. If anyone comes out this year who is anything approaching any of those three, he is a practical certainty for the last three Test matches, if not all five; but it is more a hope than an expectation that any such man will appear.

One thing the Australians will be delightful for again, their fielding; though they've got at short slip I haven't been able to find out. One of the weakest points of the last side—no, the very weakest point—was Armstrong at short slip. He did a terrific lot of work, batting and bowling together, and his nerve went in the slips.

As a last thought, I just wonder what some of these new ones will make of George Hirst, when the wind is right for him and wrong for them, and the boomerang-ball flaps up?

F. B. WILSON.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' SHIELD.

Birkenhead's Wonderful Luck and Their Extraordinary Record.

With the exception of Division I, where the crab-like progress of West Ham has occasioned considerable delay, the English Schools' Shield Competition is sufficiently advanced for a survey of the prospects of the later rounds.

The drawn game between East and West Ham will be played on the first Saturday of March. In the first match East Ham were, without doubt, the better side, but this time their opponents will figure before their own supporters. And as they have, moreover, taken steps to remedy a most important and pronounced weakness in their team, West Ham rather expect to be the side to visit South London in the next round. Owing to the absence of London from the Corinthian games at this season, the form of their team is rather a mystery. They beat Watford (away) and Willeston (at home) by one goal to nil, results that tell practically nothing. But the team has certainly had very little combined practice.

Probably the metropolis will be finally represented by West London, who will have choice of ground when they meet South London or West Ham or East Ham. West London scored thirteen goals at Hestley—a total which is the second largest score in this season's ties—they beat Reading at Reading by 3 to 1, and they accounted for Woolwich by 5 to 1. A goal record of twenty-one to two is a striking testimony to the efficiency of the West London forwards.

Derby, who are the holders, have again reached the competition proper. After defeating Newark and Nottingham they found Luton (at home) a very difficult obstacle, and it was only by the odd goal in five that the champions won the match. Their next opponents will be Aston, who will assuredly provide them with another strenuous game. Aston's first tie was at Dudley. They won by 3-4, but such a score denoted an element of weakness in the defence. This has evidently been largely remedied, for Walsall and Cardiff could each only score once against Aston.

Since the Shield competition was started Sheffield have invariably played a prominent part in it. In the first season they were beaten in the final by London; in the second they themselves beat Manchester. Since then they have not managed to reach the final again, but they have always been in the running. This winter they will once more represent Yorkshire, having in the divisional final beaten York, at York, by 4 goals to 1.

But they will have a tremendous task when they visit Birkenhead. The Birkenhead boys are terrors in front of goal, as the following results of the ties they have played will show:—Birkenhead 10, Wrexham 0; Birkenhead 1, Liverpool 0; Birkenhead 14, Bostle 0; Birkenhead 6, Bury 0. They have not had a goal scored against them, and they have themselves obtained thirty-one. But the luck of the draw has been with them, and if they reach the final they will do so without having once had to play on their opponents' ground.

Carlisle made an auspicious entry into the competition, and their victory at Newcastle was a meritorious one. But Tynemouth put a stop to their progress by 3-0, and now Tynemouth are anxiously awaiting the result of Darlington v. Sunderland, for the victors will visit them in the next round.

DOMINIE.

INTER-HOSPITAL HOCKEY.

On the Athletic Ground at Richmond yesterday, in the semi-final round of the Inter-Hospital Hockey Tournament, Guy's defeated University by 7 goals to nil. The game was fairly even at the start, but Guy's soon showed to advantage, and the score was opened for them by Poulton about ten minutes from the commencement. From this they kept the opposing defence very busy, and at the interval had increased their score to 4 goals to love against their opponent.

Guy's pressed immediately on restarting, and showing a much better combination than the University, succeeded in scoring in the first minute. They continued on the aggressive, and Benfield, in the University goal, had a very warm time.

GRAND NATIONAL

POSSIBILITIES.

Wolf's Folly Withdrawn from the Big Steeplechase.

SHADY GIRL AND RUBIO.

Latest item concerning the Grand National Steeplechase is the scratching of Wolf's Folly. This eleven-year-old son of Wolf's Crag must have been a source of considerable trouble to his trainer, judging by the fact that he ran but once last season when, in opposition to Springbok with long odds on, the latter was an easy winner at Kempton Park. Wolf's Crag has sired some stout stock, and was himself in racing days chiefly known to fame as one of the few three-year-olds which have won the Lincoln Handicap. So many years had elapsed since Tomabawk won that there was a well-grounded prejudice against entering young horses for that race, but Clarence in 1898 carried the late Sir J. Blaxwell Maple's colours successfully, and a season later Wolf's Crag's triumph gave another blow to the traditional belief held by speculators of the practical impossibility of young horses winning the handicap on the Carlisle.

Owners and trainers, as well as the much larger body loving to gamble, will have little or nothing to do with the "Lincoln," and there is such small prospect of seeing a three-year-old score, that I have heard 20 to 1 offered that none of that age will win it within the next five years!

Rubio, winner of the Grand National last year from twenty-three opponents, is at present co-favourite with Shady Girl for the forthcoming race. The former scored very easily last March, giving great satisfaction to Mr. Bletsoe, who had backed Tom West with more than usual confidence, but saw that horse fall, and had the countervailing gratification of seeing his son ride Rubio, belonging to another stable, to victory.

Rubio had previously done nothing to justify a hope of such distinction, and now, with 11st. 9lb. in the saddle, this ten-year-old will have a much more difficult task (in my opinion) than Shady Girl. The latter has had a really good record in Ireland on her best form, and we saw recently at Sandown Park a proof of her quality for the first time in England. Moreover, she was well backed by a certain section. Her owner, Mr. Nelke, a very rich man, and a patron of all-round sport, had a very good bet.

As I remarked on a previous occasion in this column it should be very remarkable if Robert Gore, after all the hubbub about Mr. Assheton-Smith's horses and their handicapping, be so lucky as to find another in his stable (Shady Girl) good enough to win.

It is worthy of notice that a stable companion of Rubio, The Lurcher, now pops up in the betting on the Grand National. That betting is most frequently misleading at this date. The Lurcher, a son of Wildflower (the latter, a St. Leger winner in 1898), scored twice last year, once in a Foxhunting Steeplechase at the North Warwickshire Meeting, and again in an Open Hunt Steeplechase at Cardiff, the distance on both occasions being three miles.

GREY FRIARS.

LATEST LONDON BETTING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.

100 to 1 Sagittarius (t o) | 100 to 1 Sagittarius (t o)
100 to 1 — Kaffir Chief (t o) | 25 to 1 — Arranmore (t o)
100 to 1 — Poor Boy (t o) | 25 to 1 — Arranmore (t o)
100 to 1 — Jack Salpe (t o) | 25 to 1 — Arranmore (t o)

GRAND NATIONAL.

100 to 1 — Rubio (t o) | 100 to 1 — The Lurcher (t o)
100 to 1 — Shady Girl (t o) | 100 to 1 — Gale II (t o)

DERBY.

20 to 1 — Fils du Vent (t o)

'VARSITY BOAT RACE PRACTICE.

Cambridge made an early start with their practice yesterday. There was no preliminary tubbing, and the eight was manned at two o'clock. The day was fine, and there was an entire absence of wind, but a lot of floating ice lay on the river.

The crew paddled to the Pike and Eel in one piece, and then went through to Baitbite in two pieces at 24, and on the way indulged in a few rowing bursts. At the locks they turned, and stripped for a row between Baitbite and the Pike and Eel. This was accomplished at a rate varying between 20 and 30, and was a fair performance, though there was an absence of dash.

Coached by Mr. Holland, the Dark Blues made a couple of journeys over the home course. Newman rowed at bow in place of Gladstone.

RIVIERA LAWN TENNIS.

MONTÉ CARLO, Monday.—The weather was gloriously fine here to-day when the first of the International Riviera lawn tennis tournaments was commenced. In the first round of the gentlemen's singles F. H. Alexander, the American Davis Cup player, gained a very easy win over E. B. Milner, whose success was limited to a couple of games. M. J. G. Ritchie showed his usual steadiness, and won his tie with ease, and other winners were F. G. Love and the young German, F. W. Rabe. The day's results are appended.

Gentlemen's Open Singles (Monté Carlo championship).—First round: F. B. Alexander beat E. B. Milner (6-0, 6-0, 6-2); F. G. Love beat R. Augen (6-1, 7-5, 6-3); A. Wallia Myers beat Captain G. J. L. Golding (6-4, 6-4, 6-2); F. W. Rabe beat R. Storms (6-4, 6-4, 6-1). Second round: M. J. G. Ritchie beat F. de Yrizaraval (6-1, 6-2, 6-1); G. Barsdorf beat H. de Bertoult (6-0, 6-3, 8-6).

Gentlemen's Open Doubles (Monté Carlo championship).—First round: F. G. Love and F. W. Rabe beat H. de Bertoult and Comte G. de Mirepoix (6-3, 6-2); T. Powys Kock and B. G. L. Lytle beat F. de Yrizaraval and Comte de Sola (6-4, 4-6, 6-3).

Ladies' Open Singles (Monté Carlo championship).—First round: Miss A. N. G. Greene beat Miss J. Tripp (6-0, 7-5); Miss A. Hulbert beat Mrs. Webster (7-6, 6-2).

DOG AILMENTS

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