

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1875

[Note: Match reports are given in full, except . . . denotes the omission of an unnecessary section, usually details of the score at the fall of each wicket, which can easily be found on the scorecard provided by Cricket Archive; bowling figures, increasingly included in the actual report but still not the scorecard; or else the inclusion of the scorecard itself.)

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1875 was not a good year for Times cricket reporting, with most first-class matches being totally ignored. The reports were confined almost entirely to University matches and those actually played in London.

17 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1931.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 May, page 5)

Few matches stand out more prominently in the Marylebone programme than that between the North and South. It is a long-established annual, and of late years all the benefits accruing therefrom have been applied to the needs of deserving cricketers.

To the simple fact of a Bank Holyday may be attributed in a large measure the unusual gathering yesterday at Lord's Ground. A more solid ring of spectators was never witnessed to watch the effect of the first ball delivered, and a large portion of this crowd, moreover, consisted of persons who had some knowledge of the game and could distinguish and appreciate things that differed. The teams were not judiciously arrayed, and the signal defeat sustained by the North excited little or no surprise. In fact, the match barely occupied seven hours in playing, intervals included.

The North won the toss, and sent in Hicks and Wild against the attack of Mr W G Grace and Southerton. Six wickets fell for 29 runs. The first semblance of a stand was that made by Marshall and Shaw. These men brought on Mr G F Grace in place of his brother. But the entire success in bowling fell to the lot of Southerton, who claimed nine wickets out of ten, and these in 29 overs – half of which were maidens – for 30 runs.

The South began the scoring with three byes, and Jupp was beaten early by a fast ball from Shaw. Great things were expected of Mr W G Grace; both he and Mr Gilbert were, however, disposed of without much effort on the part of the North. The former, in hitting hard at a ball from which he was caught, let go his bat, which went flying a distance of full 20 yards. Mr G F Grace and Charlwood went into earnest hitting and soon brought up the total to 59. The bowling of Morley disposed of Mr Hadow and Humphrey in two successive overs; but the last three increased the score with great rapidity.

The second innings of the North occupied little more than an hour, and, with the exception of the batting of Clayton and the bowling of Southerton, nothing seemed to justify special remark, except that it was a more lamentable exhibition of Northern cricket than the first. A bad light can hardly be urged for the falling-off in the second total. Southerton obtained seven wickets at the trifling cost of 22 runs. The South at 6.50 required 40 runs to win, and this number was accomplished in 15 minutes.

20 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1933.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 May, page 12)

Great importance is always attached to this Oxford meeting, as it is regarded as the best criterion of the relative merits of the Dark Blues as opposed to the Light. Marylebone won the toss on Thursday, and completed an innings, during which nothing save the performance of Mr Wyatt at the wicket occurred to call for special mention.

The play of yesterday met with but a slight interruption from the weather. Oxford lost four wickets for 51 runs, but before the next batsman retired the score advanced to 105; this was chiefly through the joint action of Messrs Briggs and Campbell. Scarcely any of the remaining batsmen contributed very freely to the score, which amounted to 161. The bowling of Shaw is worthy of mention. He obtained five wickets for 36 runs.

In the second innings of Marylebone Mr Wyatt was again one of the main contributors. In attempting a hard run he was thrown out. Mr Marriott, an absentee on the first day, proved of great service on the second. The tenth wicket fell for 118. Some idea of the fielding may be gleaned from the few extras on the part of the University. This concluded the second day's play. Oxford have now the light task of getting 52 runs to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 May, page 12)

It may be remembered, when play in this match at Oxford ceased on Friday, that Marylebone had completed their double innings and left Oxford 52 runs as a winning number. About 90 minutes sufficed on Saturday to get them, at a cost of four wickets.

Rain fell heavily previous to commencement of play. In the twenty-first over Shaw clean bowled Mr Wallington. First wicket, 9 runs. Mr Crosse then joined Mr Webbe, but retired at 21. When seven were added hereto, Randon took the place of Morley, and in his second over Mr Webbe was well caught at wicket, and in the second subsequent over Mr Briggs was bowled by a shooter. Four wickets, 35 runs.

When Messrs Pulman and Campbell were partnered the play all round grew lively. The former scored five runs from a fine off drive. The bowling of Shaw was remarkably good. Only nine runs were obtained from 29 overs. At 2 o'clock stumps were drawn, and the match was declared won by Oxford with seven wickets to spare.

27 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1935.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 May, page 10)

This annual match on the University Ground commenced yesterday shortly after 12 o'clock, with Messrs Greenfield and Lucas at the wickets, opposed to Shaw and Morley as bowlers in chief. Mr Tylecote had not arrived at this time, and the place of wicket-keeper was temporarily supplied by Randon. The ground was in first-rate condition.

Shaw led off the bowling. Runs came slowly. Mr Greenfield began the scoring, and effected eight runs to his partner's one. Eighteen overs were delivered for 16 runs. In the next over Mr Greenfield was caught at wicket. A great deal of vigorous hitting was displayed on the part of Mr Longman. Mr Lucas left with the score at 32, badly run out. Mr Blacker then joined Mr Longman. At 52 Clayton relieved Morley, but the batting received but little check in consequence. At 69 Mr Longman played "on". Mr Duncan then became Mr Blacker's coadjutor; but the latter retired at 82, clean bowled by Clayton. Between Messrs Patterson and Duncan the score received rapid additions. A fine drive for four off the former brought up the total to 100. At this stage of the game Mr Tylecote appeared. Morley resumed bowling at 120.

From the second ball after luncheon Mr Duncan was bowled. Five wickets, 124 runs. Mr Patterson left at 163. Mr Lyttelton infused a great deal of life into the game by vigorous and successful batting; but in trying to stop a fast ball from Shaw he lost his wicket. His score comprised two fives, two fours, three threes, five twos &c. Seven wickets, 187. Messrs Sharp and Adair helped materially in bringing up the total to 230. At a quarter-past 5 the innings closed. Four bowlers were engaged, but the most fortunate were Shaw and Clayton . . .

Marylebone began their innings with Messrs Pearson and Tylecote opposed to Messrs Sharp and V K Shaw. The first wicket fell for three runs . . fourth 41. All this innings, so far as it proceeded, was played under the disadvantage of a very bad light. Only 59 runs were obtained in 65 minutes at the cost of six wickets. The thin attendance was attributed to the "annual procession of boats." Play will be resumed to-day at the usual time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 May, page 12)

At the close of Thursday's play in this match at Cambridge, the University had completed an innings, and six Marylebone wickets were lost for 59 runs. Mr Jefferies, the "not out" for five, found two excellent helpmates in Shaw and Morley; the other three contributed only a single run each. Morley hit hard and well, but his zeal at times gained an ascendancy over his judgment. In attempting a short run he lost his wicket. Mr Jefferies brought out his bat with the total at 114. The bowling of Mr Sharpe was very effective . . .

Marylebone being 119 in arrear commenced their "follow on" with Messrs Tylecote and Jefferies, opposed as before at the start to Messrs Sharpe and Shaw. The play all round evinced cricket of a high order, the batting of Mr Tylecote especially so. Twenty-eight runs resulted in as many minutes,

and this free style was continued for a long time. Mr Jefferies hazarded many a dangerous advance, and eventually ran himself out; so also did Mr Pearson. Half the wickets were lost for 80 runs.

The sixth (Mr Tylecote's) recorded 109. Towards this number he contributed liberally by five 4's, six 3's, five 2's and 16 singles – caught at long-on. Eight wickets were lost for 142 runs when a heavy storm passed over the ground, and the play was postponed till to-day. It will be seen from the score that Marylebone have but 23 runs as yet for the University to go in against. A tolerably correct idea of the character of the fielding throughout the two days may be arrived at from the small amount of extras shown in the score. Umpires – Ford and Biddulph.

Day 3 (report from Monday 31 May, page 12)

The match was brought to a conclusion upon the University Ground at Cambridge on Saturday . . .

31 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1940.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 1 June, page 12)

Of the so-called testing matches in the Oxford programme, the one which commenced yesterday is often regarded as the most severe – i.e., when England is properly represented. A glance at the score will show whether or no such was the case. Excellent wickets were pitched on the Magdalen ground, but the play began, as usual, very late. The toss was won by England, and they elected to go in.

Neither Mr Walker nor Mr Pearson, who led the batting, was permitted to remain long at the wickets, so true was the bowling of Messrs Lang and Foord-Kelcey, but the next two in succession fared still worse; in fact, seven wickets were down at luncheon for a less average than eight runs to each. After this came a favourable change, especially as regards Mr Rutter, who put together 50 by five threes, six twos and 23 singles. The innings terminated at 4.50 – total 133 . . .

The University sent in Messrs Webbe and Lang, opposed to Messrs Buchanan and G F Grace. The last missed Mr Lang in the slips with the score at seven. This let-off seemed to inspire each batsman with confidence; no less than six bowlers were brought against them, but all to no purpose, as they kept their wickets up till 7 o'clock, the hour appointed for drawing stumps, with a total of 137. Play will be resumed to-day at the stipulated time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 2 June, page 12)

Contrary to all expectation, the above match was brought to a close yesterday in favour of the University, with the great difference of an innings and 178 runs. Messrs Webbe and Lang, who proved so stubborn when at the wickets on Monday afternoon, were easily separated on the following morning. Mr Lang added six runs by two hits, and was then caught in the slips, and Mr Buckland, who succeeded him, retired after an unusually brief stay.

Mr Briggs then joined Mr Webbe, and the score received rapid accumulations. Before the late Harrow captain was dismissed by a catch by long-stop, no less than 83 runs were produced. Mr Webbe's large contribution was made up of one six, two fours, 19 threes, 10 twos and 29 singles. Messrs Dury, Royle and Tylecote averaged little more than five runs each. Seven wickets were lost for 258. Mr Game played with more than ordinary steadiness, and, in conjunction with Mr Ridley, added 78 to the score. The latter gentleman, however, ought to have been caught by Mr Thornton at an early stage of his innings. At the fall of the tenth wicket 358 runs were recorded. Nine bowlers were engaged . .

The second innings of the Gentlemen was remarkable for its shortness and the splendid bowling of Mr Foord-Kelcey. The fielding also is deserving of mention, as only one extra resulted. Not only was the bowling of Mr Foord-Kelcey very successful, but it was in a high degree vigorous. In six cases he drove a stump some distance from the crease, and he took seven wickets . . .

3 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1942.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 June, page 13)

Up to the present time heavy scoring has been the order of the match. With 111 runs and no loss of wicket, the University resumed play yesterday at the time appointed. A College examination interfered to some extent with the proposed order of going in. Mr Longman joined Mr Greenfield, one of the "not outs," in the absence of Mr Lucas.

Runs came apace from the bowling, notwithstanding its varieties. Mr Greenfield, the top scorer of his side, was the first to leave – caught at wicket. Mr Longman's stay was not a protracted one. Messrs Macan and Blacker, when well set, caused the score to advance with great rapidity. No less than 99 runs accrued from their joint efforts. Both left at the same total – viz., 232; and, singularly enough, their scores were hit for hit, or nearly so. Seven wickets at luncheon time, 249.

On the resumption of play, Mr Sharpe had Mr Lucas for a companion, but the latter added nothing to his overnight contribution; the Hon Mr Lyttelton next appeared, and Mr Sharpe retired almost immediately. The last man, Mr Paterson, hit freely, as did also his companion, and 40 runs were quickly got together. Total, 302.

The Gentlemen started their second innings with Messrs Thornton and Hay, and with a debt of 40 runs to wipe out. The former went in for big hitting. Out of 72 runs recorded 64 were accredited to him. When stumps were drawn the score stood as under. Play will be resumed this day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 June, page 12)

This, the last University match of the present season at Cambridge, was brought to a close on Saturday evening in favour of Cambridge by seven wickets. Such a result was not anticipated by the most sanguine supporters of the winning side. At the termination of Friday's play each party had completed an innings, and three wickets of the gentlemen's second innings were down for 110 runs.

At 11.50 on the following morning Mr I D Walker and Porter, the "not outs" for 11 and 24 respectively, continued their batting. The third ball delivered by Mr Patterson took the wicket of the latter. Mr Hornby came, and only two runs were added when the fifth wicket fell for 115. Mr Hornby then fielded for an absentee, and proved far more successful when acting against his own party than with them. By a piece of very clever work at mid off he caught Mr Akroyd before he got set. A good catch at short slip disposed of Mr Walker. The subsequent scoring worthy of mention was accomplished by Messrs R D Walker and Smith. Two changes of bowling were had recourse to before a parting could be effected. On their retirement the innings soon terminated; total, 198. The most successful bowler was Mr Patterson. He got half the wickets . . . The two wide and three no-balls on the score are charged to [Mr Sims.]

Messrs Longman and Greenfield started the "fourth" innings of the match with 159 runs to win. The University captain made a very brief stay, caught by long-stop. Mr Blacker joined Mr Greenfield. The latter left with the total at 26, and Mr Duncan at 32. From this stage of the game to the end there were but few overs of the maiden class. Six bowlers tried their skill and force against the wickets of Messrs Blacker and Patterson, but to no purpose, and at 5.50 the match was claimed by the University with, as before stated, seven wickets to spare. Umpires - Fordham and Buttress.

10 June: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1945.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 June, page 8)

According to present appearances Mr W G Grace's eleven are likely to suffer an unexpected defeat at the hands of Sussex. Play began yesterday at 12.25 p.m., on the County-ground, Brighton. The wickets were faultless.

Sussex won the toss and went in first, and were not disposed of till 5 o'clock, averaging, in the meantime, a run per minute. Mr Winslow, the chief scorer, was treated with a variety of styles in bowling, but he punished all alike. His principal hits were one five, 14 fours, three threes and 13 twos. Lillywhite made one hit which realized seven . . .

The attendance was considerably greater than usual even in county matches, although the weather was cold and unpromising. Play will be resumed to-day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 June, page 12)

The close of the second day's play seemed to confirm the idea entertained respecting the first - viz., that Sussex would find little difficulty in obtaining the victory. It may be remembered when stumps were drawn on Thursday evening Sussex had completed an innings and six wickets of the other side were down for 70 runs.

Messrs Baker and Monkland, the "not outs" for 6 and 5 respectively, resumed batting within a few minutes of the stipulated time. Both exercised a considerable amount of caution. Several changes of bowling occurred before they were separated. The seventh wicket, Mr Baker's, fell with the total at 122. No advance was recorded for the two next wickets. Lillywhite obtained them in two successive balls. Messrs Bush and Ford played carefully and pushed the total up to 144. Five bowlers were engaged. Lillywhite got just half the wickets . . .

Gloucester, now in a minority of 137 runs, followed on with Messrs Bush and W G Grace. At luncheon 33 runs were posted. When five were added hereto the first wicket fell. Mr Matthews appeared, and in conjunction with Mr Grace the score advanced more by gradual than rapid strides. Frequent changes of bowling were resorted to without effect until 90 runs were recorded, when a splendid catch by Phillips caused the retirement of Mr Matthews.

The two Graces were now together, but not for long. Half the wickets were down and the arrears not yet rubbed out. Mr Baker joined Mr Grace, and the latter gave an easy chance, which was accepted. He had occupied the wickets for two hours, and among his hits were two fives, two fours, four threes and ten twos. At this stage the arrears were overtaken and one run put on. There were yet four batsmen to be dealt with, and these manifested a strong resistance to all the bowling brought against them; so much so, in fact, that at the fall of the last wicket Sussex had a set of 65 runs, a task to which they will apply themselves this day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 June, page 12)

Owing to the boisterous weather of Saturday at Brighton, play was not resumed till nearly 2 o'clock. Sussex required 65 runs to win. Mr Anstruther and J Phillips started the batting, opposed to the brothers Grace. In consequence of a heavy rain-fall at noontide, the foothold both of bowlers and batsmen was very treacherous, and the demand for sawdust large and frequent.

Mr Anstruther left with the score at five. Humphreys then appeared. When 36 runs were seconded Mr Brotherhood went on at the marine wicket. After bowling three overs without the desired effect, Mr G F Grace again took the ball. At 43 Phillips was admirably caught, mid on. H Phillips next came and left. Three wickets, 48. Charlwood then joined Humphreys. These soon acquired the necessary number, chiefly by large figures, and Sussex claimed the victory in this important county match with seven wickets to spare . . . Umpires, Killick and Pullen.

14 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1946.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 June, page 10)

Looking at the composition of the two elevens playing under the above title, the match resolves itself almost into that of amateur against professional talent. Although the weather yesterday was not very inviting, a considerable number of persons attended Lord's-ground to witness the match.

Play began shortly after 12 o'clock. Messrs W G Grace and I D Walker were first to the wickets. The scoring at the outset was not rapid, and, considering the abilities of the batsmen, the result of the innings, when extras are deducted, cannot be regarded as remarkable.

The Notts wickets fell fast, excepting at the time when Daft and M'Intyre were together. To these more than two thirds of the runs at the close of the day's proceedings were accredited. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 June, page 14)

Few persons calculated upon seeing the second day's play in this match at Lord's so easily completed and with so few runs from great batsmen as was the case. When play ceased on Monday 158 runs were claimed by Marylebone as the result of an innings. Eight wickets of the other side were down for 97 when stumps were drawn. To this number 17 were added yesterday in 25 minutes.

Marylebone began their second innings with Messrs W G Grace and Webbe, opposed to A Shaw and M'Intyre. In the second over of the latter Mr Webbe was run out. Mr I D Walker, who came next, scored 11 runs while Mr Grace was getting two. Mr walker retired with the score at 44, and Mr Grace at 62. With one exception, none of the rest reached double figures, while four failed to contribute anything. The bowling of Shaw was truly wonderful - viz., 41 overs and two balls, 36 maidens; seven runs; seven wickets.

Notts started their second innings with 138 runs to win. The first three wickets fell for four. Daft, who came in at this juncture, played the innings through, and was the only batsman on his side at all able to cope with Messrs Grace and Ridley unchanged. The tenth Notts wicket fell at 6h 20m for a total of 75 runs, leaving Marylebone winners by 62 runs. Umpires, Nixon and West.

17 June: MIDDLESEX v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1949.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 18 June, page 12)

The first appearance of the University teams in London yesterday was not devoid of attraction. The Oxford eleven were at Prince's, and at one time of the day upward of 3,000 persons were present to witness their encounter with Middlesex. Play began soon after 12, with Messrs Webbe and Lang at the wickets.

After the fall of the first for three runs the scoring increased steadily until 50 were reached. Mr Webbe then was caught at short slip. Of the remainder Messrs Pulman, Ridley and Buckland were the only scorers who got into double figures. Three bowlers were engaged, but the most successful was Mr Snow, who appeared for the first time as a county man. The innings occupied two hours and a half for 121 runs.

Middlesex had just time to complete an innings. Mr Thornton displayed a great deal of energy at the wicket. During his stay he scored 62 runs out of 79. Mr Walker went in first and left eighth wicket down. His chief hits were four fours (all drives), six threes (chiefly drives) and nine twos (various). Mr Green also contributed freely. Five bowlers were tried, but Mr Foord-Kelcey carried off the honours by taking six wickets in 44 overs. The fielding of Oxford, taken as a whole, was well up, saving that of Mr Tylecote's wicket-keeping, which certainly has but little claim to eulogy.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 June, page 12)

The whole of yesterday was occupied by the Oxford players at the wickets, although eight only were taken. Mr Webbe, as on the previous day, was top scorer, with 58, composed of seven fours, four threes, eight twos &c. Two wickets, 105 runs. The next six averaged nearly 30 runs each.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 June, page 13)

When play in this match at Prince's ceased on Friday, each party had completed an innings; eight Oxford wickets were also down and 277 runs recorded. Mr Boyle, the not-out for two, was joined by Mr Tylecote at 12.10 on Saturday. In little more than half-an-hour 27 runs were added, thus making a total of 304. Six bowlers were tried during the innings . . .

Middlesex wanted 245 runs to win. Such, however, was the character of the bowling – especially on the part of Mr Foord-Kelcey – that half the batsmen were disposed of for 50 runs, and the remainder for 38. Mr Kelcey . . . got seven wickets . . . oxford won by 156 runs. Umpires, Luck and Thoms.

17 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1950.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 18 June, page 12)

This was the return match to that played by Cambridge on the 10th of May. The attendance at the Oval was by no means large; this may be accounted for by several attractions elsewhere. Cambridge won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith.

Twenty-three balls were bowled to Messrs Lucas and Greenfield before a run occurred. Mr Greenfield left at 14. Mr Longman came next and added 16 runs, when Southerton took his off bail. A splendid catch at point disposed of Mr Lucas with the total at 42. Messrs Lyttelton and Blacker made a grand stand and put together 56 runs by almost every kind of polished and productive batting. The tenth wicket fell at 4h 15m, total 164.

Surrey lost a wicket from the third ball bowled. Jupp now joined Humphrey and carried his bat through. These, in fact, were the only two who made any resistance to Messrs Sharpe, Sims and Greenfield. The fielding of both parties was well sustained throughout the day . . . Play will be resumed to-day at noon.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 June, page 12)

Very little progress was made yesterday in this match at the Oval in consequence of heavy showers. At the close of Thursday's play each party had completed an innings. The name order of going in was adopted as that of the commencement.

Thirty-nine runs were registered when Mr Greenfield left. Mr Longman scored more rapidly than his companion, and nearly a run per minute resulted from the first hour's play. Mr Blacker, in conjunction with Mr Lucas, brought up the total to 84, when an easy catch to the bowler by the latter led to his dismissal. His chief hits were six fours - principally to leg - two threes, four twos.

Messrs Lyttelton and Blacker again displayed batting of a high order. They put together 51 runs from 20 overs. On the retirement of Mr Lyttelton, the running increased even to a marvel, especially on the part of Mr Sims. Only one more wicket had fallen, with the total at 211, when rain prevented further proceedings. Time, 5h 10m.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 June, page 13)

Without doubt, the sunshine and "half day" had much to do with the gathering at the Oval to witness the completion of this match on Saturday. At the close of Friday's play each party had completed an innings, but with a great difference of results. Five wickets of the Cambridge second innings were also down for 211 runs.

Although the ground at the commencement of the third day's proceedings was somewhat dead from heavy rainfalls, it played livelier than might have been expected. In about an hour 54 runs were added to the overnight total.

Eight of the 11 reached double figures, and only one left with the deprecated cipher appended to his name. Surrey were not fortunate in the early part of their second innings, as three leading batsmen contributed no more than 20 runs.

The only "stand" worthy of mention occurred when Messrs Chandler and Stevens were partnered. The former, by a bold and free style of batting, ran up the longest score of the match. He owed, however, a considerable portion of this success to the wicket-keeper. Little occurred after the retirement of Mr Chandler requiring special remark. At the fall of the tenth wicket soon after 5 o'clock the University were declared winners by 192 runs. The fielding of Cambridge was neither so neat nor compact in the second as in the first innings. Umpires, T Humphrey and Mortlock.

21 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1952.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 June, page 12)

Scarcely a ray of sunshine accompanied any portion of the play in this match at Lord's yesterday. Marylebone won the toss and sent Messrs Booth and Wyatt first to the wickets. Mr Sims started the bowling, and a run resulted from the first ball, but from the second ball of Mr Sharp at the other end Mr Booth ran himself out in a very unusual manner.

Mr Smith-Barry held his ground while Mr Wyatt was making 16. He then fell to Mr Sims. A much better "stand" exhibited itself when Mr Marriott went to the vacant wicket, and when 40 runs were totalled Mr Paterson went on in the place of Mr Sims. At first the change proved expensive, but after a few overs it began to pay, although it failed to get a wicket.

Mr Marriott was caught at mid off with the score at 73; and Mr Wyatt, after being once missed by the wicket-keeper, played a thoroughly sound innings. Mr Crooke's score was compounded chiefly of figures resulting from free hits. Although half the wickets realized 90 runs, the remainder contributed less than 40. The innings occupied three hours. Three bowlers were engaged. Mr Sharp was by far the most successful, as in 40 overs and 3 balls he obtained seven wickets for 64 runs . . .

Cambridge in the early part of their innings scored 26 runs in 25 overs. Mr Greenfield's chief hits were a drive for six, one four, a three and two two's. Mr Longman ran himself out badly, after making the largest score of his side. His hits were a cut for five, three three's, five two's and singles. A trimming ball from Morley prostrated Mr Sims's wicket for 26. Of the rest little need be said. The seventh wicket fell for 82; eighth, 84; ninth, 107. Morley and Shaw were the bowlers throughout. The former took seven wickets . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 June, page 12)

In the last week of May the Light Blues, on their own ground, gained a victory over Marylebone of nine wickets. With this return match at Lord's the current of fortune has taken an opposite direction. When stumps were drawn on Monday evening there was not a very great difference in the scores resulting from an innings each, but the weakness of Cambridge in the prime element of bowling could not be disguised, more especially when contrasted with that of the other side.

Messrs Winslow and Wyatt, the not outs for 11 and 6 respectively, soon enlarged their scores yesterday, despite the energetic attacks of Messrs Sims and Sharpe. In fact, runs came so freely that at 39 the former gave place to Mr Paterson. From the first ball of the second over Mr Winslow was caught at long off, a point at which a fielder had been for some time placed to wait upon him. Mr Marriott then joined Mr Wyatt, but soon retired. With Mr Crook and Mr Wyatt the score moved on hit for hit, or nearly so, but the former was dismissed for an infringement of Law 24, and Mr Booth went to the assistance of Mr Wyatt.

Another change of bowling occurred - viz., Mr Greenfield in place of Mr Sims - and the change proved fatal to Mr Wyatt. Half the wickets fell with

the total at 91. Mr Booth maintained his position up to the last wicket, when a [bail] ball bowled him and brought the innings to a close. Time, 3h 40min. Four bowlers were tried . . .

The second innings of Cambridge was remarkable for its brevity and smallness of its early contributions. Thus five wickets fell for 21 runs. After this Messrs Greenfield and Macan made so stout and effective a resistance to the bowling that Randon went on in place of Morley. Several large hits were effected by Mr Greenfield, who eventually played "on". Winning was now out of the question. The eighth wicket fell for 95; ninth, 99; tenth, 106; thus leaving Marylebone victors by 57 runs.

24 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1956.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 June, page 10)

The last of the matches previous to the great inter-University contest at Lord's was commenced yesterday. Judging from the state of the game so far as it has proceeded, the Dark Blues will not be in a very enviable position at its close.

Play began at 12.15 with Oxford at the wickets, and in less than three hours the innings terminated. Such was the character of the bowling with which they had to contend that not even half reached double figures, while two failed to contribute anything. Mr Pulman's 17 was very carefully compounded of one four (drive), one two and eleven singles. Misfortune attended Mr Foord-Kelcey when at the wicket, for he played his first and only ball "on". Mr Royle brought out his bat. Total, 85. Shaw and Morley bowled throughout the innings unchanged. The former too seven wickets . . .

Messrs Wyatt and Marriott led off the Marylebone batting, against Mr Foord-Kelcey as bowler at the Pavilion wicket and Mr Lang contra. With the score at 30, Mr Kelcey captured Mr Marriott's mid-stump. Mr Hadow went to the vacated wicket; 31 runs were speedily added, and Mr Kelcey then retired in consequence of an injured knee. This proved a great drawback to the success of the innings. No less than eight bowlers were tried, some two or three times. The Marylebone total afforded a strong contrast to that of Oxford, as at the close of an innings each there was a difference of 144 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 June, page 14)

In the four encounters between the Universities and Marylebone this season, honours have been evenly divided. On the 20th of May at the Magdalen Ground Oxford won by seven wickets, and at the close of the same month Cambridge won by nine wickets. During the present week a reverse has occurred. Marylebone won their return match with Cambridge by 57 runs, and with Oxford by nine wickets. Notice has already been taken of the first day's play in the last match, which closed with a completed innings by each party, and one wicket of the Oxford second innings by 12 runs.

Yesterday Mr Campbell, the not-out for 6, was joined by Mr Webbe. Although both have the credit of being fast run getters, neither realized the expectations formed of them by their early movements, but as they warmed up to their work the fielders found plenty of strong exercise. On the retirement of Mr Campbell, the scoring increased rapidly. Mr Ridley started with a single from Shaw, next a four from Morley, another four and a single, the produce of one over. Shortly after Mr Ridley made eight from one hit. So rapid was the progress of the Oxford captain that he acquired 45 runs while the score of his partner (Mr Webbe) remained stationary. Nearly 70 runs resulted from the first hour's play.

At 99 Mr Francis went on in place of Randon, and Morley superseded Mr Francis, who went over to the other wicket. Eventually Mr Ridley was caught at mid off. Mr Webbe left at 129, bowled off stump. Messrs Briggs and Pulman played carefully, but were not able to make a very stout

resistance to the bowling against which they had to contend. The sixth, seventh and eighth wickets fell for 157; tenth 175. Shaw got five wickets . . .

Marylebone required 32 runs to win. Mr Wyatt left with the total at 23, and the remaining nine were soon knocked off without further loss, so that Marylebone won, as before observed, by nine wickets. Umpires, Hearne and Price.

28 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1958.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 June, page 12)

From the foundation of this match to the present time winning honours have been equally divided, each party claiming 19. For nearly a quarter of a century it has been played at Lord's exclusively, and during this time Oxford have won 13 times and Cambridge 1

Preparations on a very extensive scale have for several days past been in progress at Marylebone, and good places secured at a high figure. Soon after yesterday's sunrise unmistakable signs of a damp day manifested themselves, and heavy showers fell at intervals up to noon. Especial care had been bestowed upon the spot selected for wickets, and a wise precaution taken for protecting it from excessive wet by means of wooden framework covered with tarpauling. Notwithstanding this play was not proceeded with for two hours beyond the usual time.

Oxford having won the toss sent in Messrs Webbe and Lang, opposed to the bowling of Mr Sharpe (Pavilion wicket) and Mr Sims, contra. Thirty runs resulted from the first 16 overs, when Mr Sims gave place to Mr Paterson. A chance at wicket occurred in Mr Paterson's eighth over, but was declined. 52 runs were recorded for the first hour. At 67 Mr Greenfield tried three overs of lobs, and then prudently returned the ball to Mr Sims, who resumed at his old post. A well-judged running catch, low down, by third man brought Mr Webbe's thoroughly well-played innings to a close. His chief hits were seven fours, five threes and three twos.

Mr Campbell joined Mr Lang, but was caught in the second subsequent over in very nearly the same way as Mr Webbe. Mr Ridley played a spirited game, accompanied at times with hazard. 100 runs were called as the product of as many minutes' batting from three persons, and 33 were added hereto when Mr Lang left. Mr Pulman exhibited a masterly defence, but before getting thoroughly set rain fell so heavily that play was discontinued upwards of an hour. The light from this stage to the close of the day was extremely bad, and in fact quite unfit for cricket. The fourth wicket (Mr Ridley's) fell for 140; fifth (Mr Briggs's), 147; sixth (Mr Royle), 150; seventh (Mr Buckland), 188. It is purposed to commence to-day at 11 o'clock, should the weather be favourable.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 June, page 12)

A marvellous transition in the appearance of Lord's Ground was brought about yesterday by sunny and summer weather. Long before noontide a thick ring of visitors marked out the area appropriated for the play, which began at 10 minutes past 11 with Messrs Pulman and Game, the not-outs for 19 and 2 respectively. Messrs Paterson and Sharpe had charge of the early bowling.

Five runs were added to the overnight total of 188, when Mr Game, trespassing on forbidden ground, was properly punished. Mr Tylecote then joined Mr Pulman, but the partnership was quickly dissolved by a fielder at point. Mr Foord-Kelcey made a hit for two to leg, and this brought the total up to 200; and from the second subsequent ball Mr Pulman was caught

at slip, and the innings closed. Four bowlers were engaged. Mr Sharpe . . . obtained five wickets . . .

At 11.55 Messrs Greenfield and Lucas commenced the Cambridge batting. Mr Lang bowled from the Pavilion wicket and Mr Foord-Kelcey from the other. Twenty-five overs were delivered for 27 runs. Mr Ridley then went on at the east wicket. Mr Greenfield soon fell to the slip. With Mr Longman the score moved more rapidly. At 39 Mr Lucas was also caught easily. Messrs Blacker and Longman advanced the score to 58, the produce of the first hour. Mr Lang relieved the fast bowler, who in his last five overs had been hit rather too freely.

A series of changes ensued at short intervals, until Mr Blacker's off stump fell to Mr Buckland. A more vigorous style exhibited itself when Messrs Lyttelton and Longman were partners; the latter, whose score of 40 consisted largely of hits to leg, was eventually caught at point. Mr Sims filled the vacancy caused by Mr Longman's retirement, and Mr Royle gave place to Mr Foord-Kelcey for three overs only, when Mr Lang once more received the ball. Half the wickets were down for 131 runs. Mr Lyttelton retired at 135. Further bowling changes were considered expedient, and in the majority of instances answered very well. In short, the remaining four wickets barely averaged seven runs each. Five bowlers were engaged . . .

Oxford, with 37 runs in hand, sent in Messrs Webbe and Lang. The wickets fell with an unlooked-for rapidity, Messrs Lang, Campbell and Ridley's for 16 runs. Messrs Pulman and Webbe added 18 before the latter was caught behind the wicket-keeper; his chief hits were three fours, one three and a two. Mr Briggs was missed early in the slips. Mr Pulman played a free and finished innings throughout. At 58 Mr Greenfield's lobs were tried, with success, for at 64 Mr Briggs was bowled off his pads. Mr Game made one hit for five, the offspring of loose fielding.

Soon after posting the 100 Mr Game was caught (mid-on), and the next ball proved fatal to Mr Buckland. Although the last man was not calculated on for much, he made two fours from consecutive hits, besides three singles. On his being caught the innings terminated for 137. The most remarkable bowling in this innings was Mr Sharpe's, who in 37 overs took six wickets for 66 runs. There being ten minutes yet remaining, Cambridge went in again, although the light was bad, but no wickets were lost for four runs. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 1 July, page 9)

Upon close examination of the merits of the above match, concluded yesterday at Lord's, with the many splendid and notables ones from the year 1827 downward, it may not be inappropriate to say that this excels them all. Notwithstanding that only one day of the three set apart for playing it during the present week was congenial to cricket, nearly 27,000 persons paid the double tariff for admittance to the ground and for special accommodation therein. Oxford were the favourites before a ball was bowled with the general public, and they maintained their hold firmly on the morning of the third day, when Cambridge were sent in to get 175 runs to win.

Messrs Sharpe and Hamilton received the early overs from Messrs Lang and Buckland, the latter at the eastern wicket. From the first hit Mr Hamilton ought to have been run out, but, owing to a bad return at mid-wicket, two runs resulted. Seventeen were added when Mr Hamilton retired - leg before.

Mr Lucas fell short of expectation. Two wickets, 26 runs. Mr Longman next joined Mr Sharpe, and at 38 Mr Ridley tried three overs of lobs, which failed to pay. Mr Foord-Kelcey went on at the Pavilion wicket with the total at 47, and at 59 Mr Sharpe was bowled, both middle and leg. Only eight runs were added when Mr Blacker played "on".

The Light Blues had now little or no prospect, and, to add to their ill-luck, a thick mist came over the ground, followed soon after by rain. For some time Messrs Greenfield and Longman made a bold and successful resistance to the varied bowling, until a "shooter" from Mr Royle placed Mr Longman on the dismissed list. With Mr Lyttelton's assistance the hundred went up, but with the addition of a single the sixth man (Mr Greenfield) was caught at mid-off. Mr Sims stood next on the list, and the hitting at both wickets was free and productive. Mr Lyttelton, who had been missed at nine and again at 20 by Mr Lang, was magnificently caught by Mr Webbe at deep square-leg. This piece of fielding evoked loud and general applause – well deserved. Mr Lyttelton's chief hits were one four (Square leg), one three and five twos.

At 128 play was suspended for an hour in consequence of rain. On resumption the Cambridge score travelled at a faster rate than before, and the prospects of Cambridge so much brightened that victory appeared to be almost within their grasp. At 161 Mr Ridley's slows were tried, and his first ball clean bowled Mr Paterson, who went in on the retirement of Mr Lyttelton. Only 14 runs were wanted when Mr Macan joined Mr Sims, and when five runs had been added Mr Lang accepted the ball from Mr Royle. Then came a leg-bye, a no-ball, and immediately after a catch at long-on, which terminated Mr Sims's career at the wicket.

When the last man (Mr Smith) appeared, only six runs were required to win. The excitement was intense. Two balls were played, but the third passed the bat into Mr Smith's wicket, and the innings terminated at 4.5 in favour of Oxford, amid a roar of applause. Five bowlers were engaged . . . Umpires, Morley and West.

[The Gentlemen v Players match at the Oval, begun on 1 July, seems to have been totally ignored by The Times.]

5 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1962.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 July, page 11)

Yesterday morning being fine attracted a large number of persons to Lord's to witness this long-standing annual match. On both sides so much known ability exists that upon a close scrutiny of individual and general merit it was somewhat difficult to determine which had really claim to preference.

Soon after 12 o'clock the Gentlemen, having choice of innings, sent in Messrs W G Grace and Webbe, two famous run-getters. It so happened, however, that both were disposed of by Shaw and Morley with unexpected facility. Messrs Longman and Hornby exhibited a much stouter resistance and brought on the first change of bowling - viz., Hill for Morley. The score reached 51 when Hill captured Mr Hornby's wicket. Mr Ridley filled the vacancy, and the score advanced with rapid strides up to luncheon, when the telegraph announced 117, of which Mr Longman claimed 58, and not out, and Mr Ridley 34, also not out.

On resumption of play both gentlemen followed up their previous successes by a vigorous style of batting, until Mr Longman's career was closed by an expert fielder at long off. Four wickets, 140. Mr Ridley played the innings through, and here it may be stated that the remaining portion brought out incidents not calculated upon. Thus, Mr G F Grace did not survive two overs; Mr Walker's wicket fell from the first ball; Lord Harris and Mr Francis were both caught in the same place from the same bowler; Mr Green made no stay, and Mr Bush ran himself out before the chance of a good run presented itself. Five bowlers were engaged, but Morley and Shaw were the most successful. The former took six wickets . . .

The players began their batting at 4.30 with Jupp and Lockwood opened to Messrs W G Grace and Francis. Matters proceeded slowly, each batsman seemingly very cautious, and, considering the vigilance of the field, it was quite right so to be, the bowling of Mr Francis especially being full of danger and well on the spot. Nearly 40 minutes elapsed before the first wicket fell. Greenwood then joined Jupp, and the process of run-getting was for a while still more tardy. A splendid ball from Mr Francis got rid of Jupp, with the total at 72. Daft then supported Greenwood, and this pair batted nearly up to the call of time. Just previous thereto Mr Longman accepted the ball from Mr Ridley, but his success as a bowler was in an inverse ratio to that of his batting, as four wides resulted from his first over.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 July, page 12)

One of the many examples of the changeful character of cricket was afforded yesterday at Lord's in the above annual match. When play ceased on Monday the prospects of the professional team were bright and inspiring. The amateurs had completed their innings for 152 runs, while three wickets only of their side realized 101.

Very soon after the resumption of the second day's play the tide was seen to be turning. Mr W G Grace possessed himself of the seven wickets to go down for a very insignificant number of runs, considering the reputed

ability of the batsmen. Thus five averaged little more than ten runs each, and, at the fall of the tenth, the slight difference of 17 existed.

The second innings of the Gentlemen was proceeded with in the same order as the first. Messrs W G Grace and Webbe began the batting in a very different manner from that of the day before, and the batsmen were perpetually on the shift. The absence of Shaw, in consequence of an injury to his foot, was a great drawback, and although nearly all the known talent of value was brought into exercise, Morley alone seemed at all equal to the occasion. At half-past 3 the "100" appeared on the telegraph, and so rapidly was the scoring kept up that in 70 minutes the second "100" was mounted. A few minutes later Mr Webbe was caught at wicket.

Mr Longman played a brisk innings of 41, in which were several figures of considerable size. At 225 Mr Grace gave his first fair chance. The catch was, however, misjudged by Daft, and the ball flew from his hand. At 5.30 Mr Grace ran himself out. His total of 152 was compounded of one five, nine fours, ten threes, 14 twos &c. The innings of Mr Hornby may in point of finish be regarded equal to any during the day. He left with the total at 340, Messrs G F Grace and Walker at 349. When stumps were drawn for the day seven were added. The company was large and demonstrative. Umpires, Randon and Price. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 July, page 11)

When the second day's play in this match at Lord's terminated, Lord Harris, Messrs Green, Francis and Bush had not yet begun their second innings. At ten minutes to 12 o'clock, business was resumed. Morley and Hill had charge of the early bowling.

Lord Harris soon rattled together 39 runs by three fours, five threes, three twos and singles. Mr Green's contribution of 25 was the result of a similarly fine and free style of batting. Little more than an hour was consumed in completing the innings, which realized the extraordinary total of 444 runs. The most successful bowlers were Morley and Hill . . . Shaw was not able to take part, and his absence was, in a great measure, the cause of the high figures adverted to.

The Players began their second and final innings of the match without entertaining the faintest hopes of winning under any circumstances. It was, in fact, barely possible to score 428 runs in five hours. Jupp and Lockwood started the batting in opposition to Messrs W G Grace and Francis, the latter at the Pavilion wicket. Each batsman kept the score moving at a moderate speed until 23 runs were produced, when Jupp retired, clean bowled.

Greenwood then appeared, and the batting at both wickets proved more futile. Mr Grace handed the ball to Mr Ridley. A catch off a slow at 86 led to the retirement of Greenwood. Some surprise was occasioned by the sudden collapse of Daft, caught at the wicket off a slow. Oscroft, missed at 25, fell soon after, and Lockwood, missed at long on by Mr G F Grace at 40, had his leg stump shot out of the ground by Mr Francis. His score of 67 - the largest obtained by any professional during the match - consisted of four fours, seven threes, six twos and a complement of singles. Pooley received but one ball. The innings came to a close within a few minutes of 5 o'clock for 165 runs, thus leaving the Gentlemen winners by 262 runs.

12 July: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1963.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 July, page 10)

Very few counties are in so good a condition at the present time for bringing together two elevens worthy the name of "a match" as the above named. That this idea is widely entertained, the large gathering at Prince's ground yesterday may be cited in proof. Although the weather was fine, the sward appeared to have scarcely recovered from the saturation of Sunday.

Notts went in first, and scored 42 runs for the second wicket. Selby made the largest score and deserved all his runs, but Reynolds, who came in second, was missed at mid off before scoring a single. In some other departments the fielders were evidently out of form. Behind wicket, however, Mr Turner exhibited great efficiency. Mr Hadow bowled all through the innings and . . . obtained seven wickets.

The engrossing feature of the Middlesex innings was the batting of Mr Webbe, who defied all the bowling that Notts could bring against him. Daft and M'Intyre were punished severely, and at the time for drawing stumps Mr Webbe claimed 63 and not out, composed of five fours, three threes, eight twos 7c. The absence of A Shaw was sorely felt when Morley and Clarke were taken off. Umpires, Luck and Wiltshire.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 July, page 8)

At the close of Monday's play Notts had completed an innings of 139, and six wickets of Middlesex were down for 115. Messrs Webbe and Thornton, the not outs for 63 and 3 respectively, resumed their batting yesterday at a quarter past 12, opposed to Clarke and Morley.

Just 50 runs were got together before the seventh wicket (Mr Thornton's) was captured. Seven runs were added hereto when Mr Francis fell to a trimming ball from Morley. After this, the same bowler delivered seven successive overs without a run. A change, however, was considered desirable, and Oscroft went on in place of Morley, and the new-comer bowled Mr Turner without any advance. In fact, the principal portion of the score resulted from the remarkably effective hitting of Mr Webbe, who went in first and played the innings through. His total of 93 was composed of 6 fours, 7 threes, 14 twos and 24 singles. He was at the wicket four hours and a half.

Notts commenced their second innings with 62 runs in arrear. Oscroft and Wild started the batting and scored 46 before the former was bowled. Shrewsbury then joined Wild, and the second wicket reached 56. The light was now very bad, and continued so till the close of the innings. Daft, who went in at his usual place on the list, saw all his companions out. The last wicket fell for a total of 129. Four bowlers were engaged, but Messrs Hadow and Walker were the only successful ones . . . Middlesex require 68 runs to win.

Day 3 - no report found.

[No further coverage of any first-class match was found until 3 August.]

2 August: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

KENT AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE v ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1974.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 August, page 5)

There are but few cricket gatherings of so joyous and social a character as this. A mere glance at the St Lawrence ground yesterday afforded abundant evidence of the care bestowed by the executive on its preparation. Level as a billiard-table was the spot selected for wickets, though not quite so correspondingly fresh with regard to surface. The whole area was marked out with flagstuffs bearing bright-coloured pennants, with tents, marquees &c. – tenants for the week.

At an early hour visitors from London, the Cinque Ports and places intermediate began to flock towards the scene of action, so that in the afternoon the number was larger than had ever been witnessed on a first day, notwithstanding the increased tariff for admission. The weather was very favourable – nearly all sunshine, but beautifully tempered by a gentle west wind.

Since the foundation of "The Week" in 1842 some of the finest matches have been played on this ground, and many devices have been resorted to in order to keep the interest in it from waning. Kent at present is unable alone to contend with All England as in bygone times; and last year it was deemed politic to join hands with Gloucestershire, and with so much success that the same match was selected to commence the present week's work.

The toss being won by England, the captain (Mr Mitchell) deputed Mr Webbe, of Oxford celebrity, to lead off all the batting, in conjunction with Jupp; but, as all the parties in the match were not on the ground at 12.20 the fielders were assisted by two "emergencies" out of costume. Mr Webbe had to contend against the bowling of Mr W G Grace at the city end and Mr Foord-Kelcey at the other. With the total at 21 Jupp's leg stump fell to the assailing of Mr Grace, and Mr Walker became the partner of Mr Webbe.

A long stand was made at an average of a run per minute. Mr Webbe's score of 30 comprised four fours, five twos &c. When Greenwood appeared the score travelled with still greater rapidity. At 106 Mr G F Grace went on at the upper wicket. One of the fielders at this time retired a while and Mr Webbe acted as substitute. Only eight runs were added when Mr Walker was caught by him. Mr Mitchell played in his old form, but the innings of Greenwood stood out prominently when placed side by side with either amateur or professional; thus Jupp, Shaw, Lillywhite and Hill contributed but nine runs against six times that number by Greenwood.

A splendid piece of fielding on the part of Messrs Renny-Tailyour and Bush disposed of Mr Ridley before he got set. The tenth wicket fell at 4h 30m for 220 runs. Three bowlers were engaged . . .

All England commenced batting with Messrs W G Grace and Wyatt, opposed to the bowling of Shaw and Morley. From the third ball of Morley's over, Mr Wyatt was caught in the slips. First wicket 2 runs. Mr Townsend then joined Mr Grace. The latter, after making two fine drives – boundary hits, a square leg and one through the slips – was bowled off stump. Two wickets 26. Lord Harris took the fourth ball of the over, and in the following

over Mr Townsend fell to a well-pitched ball from Morley. No addition to the score.

Mr G F Grace came next and obtained ten runs by a cut for four, a drive for three and two cuts, when Morley bowled him. Four wickets 48. Mr Yardley played the bowling, difficult as it was, with great judgment and with a corresponding success. At 81 Hill went on in pace of Shaw, and at 90 Lillywhite relieved Morley. Runs came apace, notwithstanding these, until Lord Harris played the ball into the slips, which Hill secured. This closed the day's proceedings. Umpires - Hearne and [Willsher].

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 August, page 8)

The genial weather of yesterday had doubtless something to do with the unusually large assembly on the St Lawrence Ground. Although the supposed best half of the Kent and Gloucestershire team were disposed of without a sufficient number of runs at the close of the first day's play, an opinion was entertained that the second half would pull up so as not to give the first innings of each the look of one-sidedness.

So it proved. Mr Yardley, the not out for 28, had Mr Penn for a partner at 20 minutes past 11. Both batted in splendid style. Shaw and Morley, the bowlers at starting, soon changed ends, and at 149 Lillywhite deposed Morley. This proved instrumental in the dismissal of Mr Yardley, caught by Willis, who acted as deputy for Mr Mitchell. Six wickets down. Mr Renny-Tailyour next appeared, and drove his first ball for four runs. several hits of a similar kind soon brought the 200 on the telegraph board, accompanied with strong manifestations of delight on the part of the spectators generally.

At 1 o'clock the All England total was passed. Mr Penn played "on" at 232. just half the runs of the retiring batsmen resulted from six hits. Mr Monkland made a short stay - caught at point; Mr Bush a shorter - bowled from the second ball. Mr Foord-Kelcey had no opportunity of getting beyond a single, as Mr Renny-Tailyour played a ball to short leg, which brought the innings to a close for 248 runs. Time, 2 o'clock. Five bowlers were engaged. Morley . . obtained six wickets . . .

All England began their second innings with 28 runs in arrear. Mr Webbe and Jupp received the early overs from Messrs W G Grace and Foord-Kelcey, as in the previous innings. The incidents, though few, were somewhat extraordinary. Mr Webbe made two runs from the first ball delivered, but he struck the third ball of the same over to forward short leg and was easily caught thereat. From the third subsequent ball Jupp, in attempting a run, found the slip fielding a little too sharp for him. Thus two very important men were disposed of when only two runs were scored. Greenwood and Mr Ridley put together three. Four wickets, 5 runs.

With Messrs Walker and Mitchell came a favourable turn in the tide. The score advanced to 28, when Mr Walker was caught at point, and, without any addition to this number, Mr Mitchell's wicket fell to the skill and dexterity of Mr Bush. A better stand was effected by Pooley and Shaw; these professionals brought up the seventh wicket to 60, when the latter left. Lillywhite had but one ball, and Hill, after a boundary hit for four, was dismissed by Mr Bush. Nine wickets, 68. Morley, the last man, then joined Pooley and received one ball, from which arose a little confusion in the running, and Pooley lost his wicket. This event brought

the [innings] to a close for the trifling total of 68. Messrs W G Grace and Foord-Kelcey bowled throughout . . . Duration of innings, 70 minutes.

The combined counties required just 40 runs to tie. Wyatt and Foord-Kelcey started against Shaw and Morley's bowling; 18 runs were scored before a parting could be effected. In attempting a third run Mr Wyatt lost his wicket and Mr Townsend went to it. At 26 Mr Foord-Kelcey retired, clean bowled. Mr Penn was also bowled by Shaw in his next over. The fourth wicket (Mr Townsend) fell at 28. Mr W G Grace next appeared and made the winning hit at 5.25 . . . Last year All England were beaten by 54 runs, and on the occasion in question by six wickets.

4 August: KENT v GENTLEMEN OF MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1975.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 5 August, page 10)

Kent v Marylebone Club, which was the second match in the programme, commenced within a few minutes of 12 o'clock yesterday, with Messrs W G Grace and Webbe at the wickets. Mr Foord-Kelcey and Hearne were the early bowlers.

Mr Grace was very unfortunate, being caught by Mr Yardley at mid-on close to the ground without a run. Mr Wyatt came, and with the score at 11 Hearne bowled Mr Webbe all over his wicket. A slight stand was made when Mr Ridley joined Mr Wyatt, but at 23 the latter was caught at mid-off by Lord Harris. This let in Mr I D Walker, who proved quite a match for his opponents. He played through the innings and made the longest score of his side. His chief hits were two fours, one three and twos.

Mr Ridley was caught by the third man up for nine runs only. Both Messrs Wilkinson and Ponsonby were caught by the wicket keeper for trifling contributions, and Mr Bird attempted a run with but little chance of accomplishing it. Mr Fryer was more successful, and assisted materially in bringing up the eighth wicket to 85. The tenth realized 103. Four bowlers were engaged. Mr Foord-Kelcey . . obtained five wickets . . .

Kent started their batting with Messrs Penn and Willis, opposed to Mr W G Grace and Ridley. The hitting was free at both wickets until Willis was caught at mid-off with the total at 38. Mr Yardley put together his 28 chiefly by fours – caught eventually at point. The batting of Mr Penn was the feature of the Kent innings. He brought on all the changes of bowling that Marylebone appeared to have at command. His principal hits were 17 fours, one three, six twos &c. The subsequent batting demands no special notice . . .

Day 2 (report from Friday 6 August, page 10)

During the early part of yesterday morning a sharp north-east wind prevailed. This was succeeded by cloudy weather, and at length by rain, which interfered materially with the play up to 4 o'clock. It was then abandoned for the day.

When stumps were drawn on Wednesday, Marylebone had completed an innings for 103 runs, and nine wickets on the Kent side were down for 254. Mr F Penn added eight yesterday, making the longest score of the week. The innings closed for 262. Six bowlers were tried, but the most successful were Mr W G Grace . . .

Messrs W G Grace and Walker started the second innings of Marylebone at 12.15, opposed to the bowling of Mr Foord-Kelcey and Hearne. The play all round was of a high order. At 38 Mr A Penn went on in place of Hearne. Twenty runs were added, when Mr Walker gave a chance to mid-on, which was accepted. Mr Ridley joined Mr Grace, and in the second subsequent over the latter was caught by Mr A Penn off his own ball. Mr Webbe contributed 7. Another change of bowling then occurred – viz., Shaw in lieu of Mr Foord-Kelcey.

When 71 runs were totalled Mr Webbe fell to the wicket-keeper and Mr Fryer came. The two now in advanced the score to 98, when Mr Ridley's off and middle stumps were struck by a ball from Shaw. This let in Mr Wyatt, who played up to luncheon. On resumption of play the score amounted to 115. Mr Wyatt then went in to drive a ball, but, missing his object, was stumped. Mr Bird assisted materially in bringing up the total to 161, when rain, as before stated, fell so heavily that further play was adjourned to Friday.

Day 3 (report from Saturday 7 August, page 8)

The gloomy forebodings indulged in by many respecting the continuance of this match yesterday were dispelled by the appearance of Messrs Fryer and Bird at the wickets shortly before noon. It may be remembered that these accomplished batsmen were the "not outs" of the previous afternoon when rain stopped the play, the former with a score of 37 and the latter 23.

Mr Fryer received the first over of the morning from Mr A Penn. Nothing was scored from it. Mr Foord-Kelcey started with a wide, but before his over was completed a leg hit for four by Mr Fryer resulted. Two changes of bowling were had recourse to before a parting could be effected. At 183 Mr F Penn caught Mr Fryer in deep slip. This let in Mr Mitchell, who did not appear in the first innings, but he was caught at mid-off for a single. Seven wickets, 184 runs.

Mr Ponsonby next joined Mr Bird, and at 12 o'clock the telegraph announced 200. To these were added 19, when Mr Ponsonby's off and middle stumps were struck by Mr A Penn. The scoring from this stage of the innings to the close was done chiefly by Mr Bird, who left at the eleventh wicket for 75 runs, composed of one five, nine fours, two threes, the same number of twos, and 21 singles. Five bowlers were engaged . . . Mr A Penn . . . obtained seven wickets for 95 . . .

Kent now required 109 runs to win, and at 2 o'clock Messrs W Penn and Renny-Tailyour went in, to the bowling of Messrs Grace and Ponsonby. The second ball delivered by Mr Grace took Mr Penn's off stump before a run was scored. Mr Yardley despatched his first ball to leg for four. At 13 Mr Webbe missed Mr Renny-Tailyour at long-field. Mr Fryer went on in place of Mr Ponsonby at 39, and the score soon increased to 69, when Captain Meares displaced Mr Fryer, and from the third ball Mr Yardley was caught in the slips by a substitute (Mr Penn). Second wicket, 69. Mr Renny-Tailyour left immediately after without any advance. Palmer and Hearne were next together and enlarged the score to 78, when the former was caught at cover point. Thirty runs were wanting on the entry of Lord Harris, and seven of these were rubbed off when Hearne left off. Mr F Penn took the vacant wicket, and the runs were quickly got together with six wickets to spare.

The result of these two matches won by Kent during the week proves incontestably that the county has not declined to the extent that many have supposed, while it tends to strengthen the statement repeatedly made that there is as much talent now as in days gone by, which could be turned to as good account if it were diligently sought out and organized.

16 August: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1984.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 August, page 10)

The Oval cricket ground yesterday presented a very cheerful aspect when compared with the majority of similar meetings on this famous spot during the present season. Nearly every great match in the Surrey programme has suffered to a considerable extent from causes over which the executive had little or no control. The match which commenced yesterday was a "return" to one played at Sheffield in June last, when Yorkshire won by four wickets. The wickets were excellent.

Surrey, having won the toss, sent in Jupp and Humphrey at 12.20. Lockwood and Hill had charge of the early bowling. The eleventh ball was caught by the wicket-keeper before a run was scored. Mr Lucas came and hit freely, while Jupp contented himself with the slow process so characteristic of his style. He consumed 75 minutes in getting 13 runs.

After the fall of the second wicket for 53 runs, there was a great change both in the bowling and the contributions to the score. Mr Chandler fell to the first ball and Mr Read was run out for a single. Great hopes were entertained of Mr Game, but he disappointed them. In fact seven wickets averaged about 11 runs each. Mr Strachan and Pooley gave a slight check to the bowling, but the man of all others on this side was Elliott, who played a masterly innings of 52 and brought out his bat. His hits were one five (leg), three fours, six twos &c. Total, 182. time, 5.20. Four bowlers were engaged. Clayton obtained five wickets . . .

Yorkshire began their batting with Hicks and Ullathorne at 5,55, and they lost one wicket for 23 runs when Play for the day ceased.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 August, page 6)

Judging from the influx of visitors yesterday to the Oval, the interest in this match was well sustained. Play began soon after 12 o'clock with Hicks and Ulyett, the not-outs for 15 and 8 respectively, at the wickets, opposed to the bowling of Street and Southerton. Before the second over was completed Hicks was missed at short leg. Nor was this the only specimen of imperfect fielding in the early stages of the play, and nearly 40 runs were added to the over-night total before the second Yorkshire wicket fell, consequence on a run out.

Lockwood, in conjunction with Hicks, brought the score up to 106, when the former was caught in the deep field. Green[wood] came and left next, with the trifling addition of four runs to the total. Hick retired at 115. His long and lucky innings produced 66 runs, composed of two fours, five threes, six twos and singles. Armitage and Rowbotham were the only remaining batsmen who advanced to double figures, but neither without the aid of fortune as the fielding very frequently laid itself open to adverse criticism. The sixth wicket fell for 141 . . tenth, 161. Southerton proved most successful in the bowling department and claimed six wickets out of ten.

Although Surrey started their second innings with 31 runs in hand, they missed the assistance of Jupp, who was indisposed. The prominent feature

of the innings was the effective batting of Mr Read, the not-out for 38 when stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 August, page 4)

The only noteworthy feature of the incompletd portion of the Surrey second innings yesterday was the batting of Mr Read. At the fall of the ninth wicket 105 runs were registered. Jupp could not appear through indisposition. Four bowlers were engaged . . .

Yorkshire required 127 runs to win. Rowbotham and Armitage got 36 of this number before they were parted. The second man left with these figures doubled, and at 4.10 Yorkshire won the match with eight wickets to spare.

23 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1989.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 August, page 11)

This, the last county match at the Oval for the present season, commenced yesterday at a quarter-past 12 o'clock. It was a "return" to one played on the Trent-bridge ground in July last, and which, owing to wet weather, was left drawn. Notts won the toss and sent Oscroft and Wild to the wickets. Southerton and Street were the bowlers.

Three wickets fell for 22 runs. Daft and Selby were then together. The former played an unusually slow game for a first-class batsman. He consumed 57 minutes in getting nine runs. He was then driven on to his wicket. On his retirement the batting became livelier. At 100 Mr Read went on in pace of Street, and at 124 Mr Strachan displaced Mr Read. By this change two very stubborn batsmen were disposed of in a similar way.

The scoreboard, however, received large accumulations from the three subsequent defenders of the wicket. Mr Tolley played in a remarkably fine and free style, and was not out when stumps were drawn. It will be seen from the score affixed that Notts were at the wickets all day, and totalled 229 runs in their incomplete innings. Umpires - Willsher and Hayward.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 August, page 4)

At the close of Monday's play in this match at the Oval, Notts had scored 229 runs for the loss of eight wickets. The remaining two brought up the total to 278. No less than six batsmen went into double figures. Mr Tolley was three hours and three-quarters on his defence, and had in the meantime to contend with five bowlers.

Surrey began their innings with Jupp and Mr Lucas. Both left early - the former from the first over of Shaw, and the latter with the score at three. At 15 Mr Read was clean bowled; in fact, the innings throughout was tedious and uninteresting. Half the wickets fell for 39, a wide contrast to that of the other side. The eighth reached 60; ninth and tenth, 68. Shaw and Morley bowled throughout . . .

Surrey commenced their second innings with an arrear of 210 runs. Never was a more hopeless task. Five wickets were lost for 52 runs at the call of time.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 26 August, page 10)

A very surprising chance occurred in the character of the cricket at the Oval yesterday; the five Surrey wickets which fell on Tuesday evening realized only 34 runs, whereas the remaining five produced 160. This must be attributed in a great measure to the imperfect fielding, which contrasted widely with that of the day before.

Humphrey and Elliott, the not-outs for 7 and 12 respectively, put together 60 before they were parted. Mr Strachan and Pooley added 50. The latter was caught easily at mid-off with the total at 180, and the former was caught at the wicket five runs subsequently. No addition was made by the

last man, Street, and the total stood at 194; Nottinghamshire consequently won by an innings and 16 runs. Five bowlers were engaged . . .