

Dorset County C.C.

The Past Season Reviewed.

FINE BOWLING BY BUSK AND A. M. HARRISON.

The Dorset County season opened on July 28th, with a match v Monmouth at Dorchester. Batting first, Dorset soon lost Knight, but the Rev. W. V. Jephson (41), and J. N. Carter (48), then carried the score to 87. Poor batting followed and the whole side was out for 139. Monmouth lost 5 wickets for 62, but E. A. Boughton (38) and F. G. Phillips (48) brought the score to 144 without being parted. Rain prevented play the next day, so that any chance of retrieving the position was lost—a none too auspicious start.

On July 31st and August 1st at Salisbury, Dorset made 276. The Rev. W. V. Jephson (90), J. N. Carter (43), R. M. Manser (35), and Capt. R. D. Busk (85 not out), all batted well, Jephson's innings being one of the best. Wilts replied with 263, Busk bowling well and the catching and fielding of the side being good.

At Liskeard on August 3rd, Cornwall made 126, Dorset 169. Knight (77), and R. S. Thompson (38), were top scorers, and C. J. C. Jowett's hitting was splendid. His 35 included a six and six fours. Capt. Busk took 7 wickets for 32 runs. In their second innings Cornwall made 298, and Dorset's score was 79 for one wicket, when rain interfered and probably prevented Dorset from securing the full five points.

BUSK'S TEN WICKETS AT EXETER.

Much the same thing happened at Exeter on August 5th and 6th. Dorset scored 190, J. N. Carter (54), and C. J. C. Jowett (40). Capt. Busk bowled at the very top of his form in the Devon innings, taking all 10 wickets for 69 runs. Their total was 115. At the second attempt Dorset got 169 for 5 wickets and declared. Capt. Busk (52), Rev. W. V. Jephson (43), and Knight (39 not out), all batting well; but there was not enough to dismiss Devon who scored 159 for 6 wickets.

At Watford on August 10th and 11th, losing the toss meant losing the match, and Dorset lost both. On a soft, easy wicket, with a wet ball to bowl with Herts made 307 for 9 wickets & declared. The next day the wicket was difficult and Burton and R. J. O. Meyer dismissed Dorset twice for 81 and 77.

Rain prevented a ball from being bowled in the Devon match at Blandford on August 12th and 13th.

A CENTURY BY KNIGHT.

The next match v Monmouth at Ebbw Vale on August 14th and 15th was rather a remarkable one, as after being all out in their first innings for 88, Dorset eventually won by the big margin of 312 runs. Monmouth's first innings realised 134. A. M. Harrison taking 8 wickets for 28 runs. Dorset then ran up the excellent total of 417 for 9 wickets and declared. Knight (150), and R. M. Chadwick (88) scored 171 before the first wicket fell. Going in again Monmouth could only amass 59, W. Harrison (6 for 26) and A. M. Harrison (4 for 33) bowling unchanged. Throughout the match the weather and wicket were perfect.

At Poole Park on August 17th and 18th Dorset took ample revenge for the defeat at Watford. Herts batting first were all out for 151, to which Dorset replied with 274. R. M. Chadwick batted beautifully for 95 and Capt. Busk made 41. Herts were then dismissed by A. M. Harrison and Walby for 80 being defeated by an innings and 71 runs. This was undoubtedly the best win of the year.

MATCHES AT BRIDPORT.

At Bridport on August 19th and 20th, Cornwall were met again. They were dismissed for 163 and Dorset just led on the first innings by 17 runs, thanks mainly to a very fine last wicket stand by Capt. Busk (55) and C. D. Adams (26 not out). Then, however, the advantage was lost as H. Tresawna (42) and Cory (63) put on 110 runs for the first wicket and Cornwall's second total reached 242. Dorset's batting broke down badly against some steady bowling by Rogers and Whiting and they were all out for 106.

The last match on the two following days, also at Bridport was v Wilts, who could only score 75, (A. M. Harrison 8 wickets for 47). Dorset declared at 275 for 8, the two M.B.'s, Elderton (54) and Bower (87) both batting well. Wilts did even worse in their second innings being all out for 65. A. M. Harrison finishing up his remarkable bowling for the County by taking 8 wickets for 40 runs.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES.

So much for the summary of actual matches. A few general remarks and some references to individual performances may perhaps not be out of place. It will be noticed that the three matches won outright have all been won by very substantial margins. Whereas last year two at least were by the narrowest of squeaks.

The Rev. W. V. Jephson only took part in the first four matches, and afterwards on more than one occasion his steady batting would have been invaluable. R. M. Chadwick played two splendid innings and his unfortunate 'run out' v Cornwall at Bridport may have been a big factor in this defeat. Knight fully maintained his reputation and incidentally made the only century scored,

while Capt. R. D. Busk proved himself the most useful all-round member of the side. M. B. Bower on the one occasion on which we saw him bat was a very different player from the M. B. Bower of 1924, and should be most useful next year. While G. L. Jones, whose fielding was consistently good, has gained confidence and experience for the future.

J. N. Carter's batting was much more steady and consistent. Walby who takes a well-earned benefit this year, unfortunately never quite struck his best form. The wicket keeping of M. B. Elderton was as good as ever, but his fingers got damaged towards the end. The no-balling of C. D. Adams earlier in the season was a serious blow as it meant the loss of a match-winning bowler and consequent weakening of the attack.

Reference has already been made to Capt. Busk's great performance in capturing all 10 wickets against Devon; but for sustained consistency A. M. Harrison's feat will be very hard to beat. Coming into the side for the last five matches he captured 52 wickets for a trifle over 9 runs apiece and certainly bowled better than he has ever done before. If one excludes the first match with Herts, when conditions were all against the bowlers his figures in the last 8 innings were 51 wickets for 404 runs. Some of his remarkable success was undoubtedly due to help in the field by C. D. Adams and Capt. Busk at silly mid-on and silly mid-off respectively.

POOR ATTENDANCES AT MATCHES.

The attendances at the matches have been very disappointing, mainly due to the adverse weather conditions. This means that there must be a deficit for the year which is regretted, as it was hoped to have freed the Club from debt. To any lovers of cricket who take a pride in their County, reading this resume of the season feel inclined to help the Club by giving a donation it will be gratefully received by the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. Hatton Budge, of Poole.

SEASON'S AVERAGES.

BATTING.

	No. of Times.	Runs.	inns.	Av'r
	ins.	not out		
Rev. W. V. Jephson ...	6	1	200	90 41.80
W. Knight	14	1	469	150 36.08
R. M. Chadwick	8	0	250	95 31.25
C. D. Adams	4	2	53	26* 26.50
Capt. R. D. Busk	18	1	310	65* 26.33
C. J. C. Jowett	6	1	110	40 22.00
J. N. Carter	14	1	274	54 21.08
R. S. Thompson	3	0	49	38 16.33
M. B. Elderton	11	2	118	54 13.11
G. L. Jones	13	0	166	27 12.77
Capt. M. D. Motion	6	3	36	17* 12.00
A. M. Harrison	7	2	55	33* 11.00
R. M. Manser	5	0	54	38 10.80
W. Harrison	4	2	21	9 10.50
E. J. Freeman	5	0	50	22 10.00
E. C. Walby	11	1	82	21 8.20
Major H. M. Greenhill ..	3	0	17	12 5.66
R. Pinney	3	1	8	4* 4.00

The following batted once only:—M. B. Bower, 87; H. C. Partridge, 4; N. Down, 0.

*Signifies not out.

BOWLING.

	Overs.	M's	Runs.	Wkts.	Av
A. M. Harrison	230.5	68	485	52	9.33
W. Harrison	46	18	83	7	11.86
Capt. R. D. Busk	189.3	39	521	38	13.70
Capt. M. D. Motion	53.5	13	131	6	21.83
Walby	314.1	102	656	29	22.62

The following also bowled:—

N. Down	14	5	26	0
G. L. Jones	17	0	56	1
J. N. Carter	34	5	105	2
R. S. Thompson	5	1	14	0
Major H. M. Greenhill ..	7	2	13	0
C. J. C. Jowett	22	6	52	0
C. D. Adams	4	1	12	0
Rev. W. V. Jephson ...	3	0	23	0

Famous Players at Bridport.

FRIDAY 25
SEPT 1925
THE BRIDPORT
NEWS

Interesting Match Marred by Rain.

Wessex Side's Victory.

With less than an hour's play possible on the opening day, the festival match at Bridport between Mr. W. S. Edwards' XI and Wessex was robbed of much of its attractiveness, but happily the weather on Friday was brilliantly fine, and compensated in some measure for the wretched conditions prevailing on Thursday. On both days the attendance was well over a thousand and constituted a record for the ground. Practically every available seat in the specially erected stand was occupied, and the ground was thronged with sight-seers all anxious to see Hobbs and other famous players figure in this unique match.

Naturally there was a tinge of disappointment that the Hon. L. Tennyson, Sutcliffe and Strudwick, household names in the realm of sport were unable to take part, as contemplated, but even then there was sufficient talent in both XIs to warrant people travelling miles to watch the play. Schoolboys were present in large numbers, full of hero worship and intent on gathering as many autographs as possible! Hobbs and Tate were the centre of attraction and they were literally besieged with books and pencils. A number of well-known local players took part in the game, and it was a source of interest to see how they shaped in company with the "stars" of the cricket firmament. M. B. Elderton, the Dorset player, did remarkably well. To him fell the distinction of obtaining the highest individual score in the match, which was all the more creditable on account of the fact that he was facing some of the best bowlers in the country. C. K. Jupp, of Powerstock, kept wicket for Wessex in a manner that evoked admiration not only from the spectators but the players alike, while G. Welch, M. S. C. Wilson, and J. C. Davie all did well in their respective roles.

WESSEX'S INNINGS.

Wessex batted first and M. B. Elderton and Knight, both of Dorset, opened the innings to the bowling of Shepherd (Surrey) and Collins (Kent). In the initial over Elderton reached the boundary with a shot through the slips off Shepherd's third delivery, and in the next over he drove Collins for four. Knight after scoring three was bowled, and this made way for Caldwell, who, in attempting a short run, was out to a smart return from Peach. J. C. White and Elderton then remained together until 12.40 when rain stopped play for the day, the score then being 48 for 2. The attack on Friday morning was shared by Peach and Sadler, and when only seven runs had been added to the overnight total White was caught at the wicket off a rising ball.

Young signalled his appearance by driving Peach three times to the boundary in the first over, and three further boundary hits from the same batsman saw the hundred go up. His innings, however, came to an abrupt ending, when, in attempting another big hit he was caught on the boundary by Tate. Continuing to bat confidently Elderton reached his half century after 75 minutes stay at the crease. With the score at 124 Tate relieved Sadler, while at the other end Fenley took the ball from Hitch who had superseded Peach. The spectators next saw Brown, the Hampshire left handed batsman settling down to gather runs at a quick pace, being admirably supported by Elderton who was rapidly approaching the century mark. Just when he appeared set Brown gave a chance which was accepted by Peach and then a further reverse befel Wessex, Elderton being bowled by Tate. There was no mistaking the disappointment of the crowd who were eagerly waiting the opportunity of applauding Elderton on reaching his hundred. He had actually scored 99 when he was beaten with a splendid ball, and prior to this he had not given a semblance of a chance. His innings included thirteen 4's and one 6. Apart from J. J. Bridges and F. E. Spurway, both of whom reached double figures the remaining batsmen offered little resistance to the bowling and the innings closed at 267. Hobbs bowled two overs towards the end and he had the satisfaction of obtaining a wicket at a cost of five runs. Welch the Pymore bowler, was also given a trial.

HOBBS DISAPPOINTS.

Hobbs, who opened the innings for Mr. W. S. Edwards' XI in company with Collins, was accorded a rousing reception on his way to the wicket. He opened his account with a single which was followed by a hit to the boundary. The next delivery saw the ball travelling hard in the direction of Knight who made a praiseworthy but futile attempt to hold the catch. Collins for the most part contented himself with scoring singles, but his partner was more audacious, and this probably was responsible for his early dismissal. The Bridport ground has never been a lucky one for Hobbs. On the occasion of his visit two years ago he was out for a comparatively small score and J. J. Bridges was his undoing then. It was the Somerset bowler who gave him such a deal of trouble at Taunton recently and it was he who caused "Jack" to make so early a return to the pavilion on Friday.

T. Shepherd took the place of Hobbs and at once hit Bridges for a single. He and Collins then settled down and in 22 minutes scored 43 runs. Collins at this juncture put his leg in front of a straight one from Bridges and paid the penalty. With Hitch and Shepherd together runs steadily mounted up. Hitch created great enthusiasm by hitting three sixes—two in succession—all mighty drives. Having scored 39 in half-an-hour and helping to put on 61 for the third wicket Hitch was bowled by R. C. Robertson-Glasgow. A. Peach, whose big hitting two years ago was so well remembered, filled the vacancy and the first ball he received was sent to the boundary. The second he hit for 2 and the third he missed altogether and was bowled. Maurice Tate's appearance was greeted with rounds of applause. He is of course, a fine batsman and it was a great disappointment for Mr. Edwards' XI when he was caught and bowled by Robertson-Glasgow.

ROBERTSON-GLASGOW'S FINE BOWLING.

K.T. Cox, another good bat, was bowled first ball, a delivery that would probably have beaten most batsmen. At this period Robertson-Glasgow was deadly for in nine balls he claimed 4 wickets for 8 runs. With the downfall of Cox tea was taken, the score then being 143 for 7. After tea C. K. Jupp went to the wickets with Shepherd who for just over an hour had been playing splendidly. Jupp sat on the splice while Shepherd carried on, but with the score standing at 160 Shepherd unfortunately played the ball into his wicket. It was a great pity for he had been playing with delightful freedom and looked well set for a century. During his stay at the wickets he had scored at the rate of a run a minute and his hits included a beautiful six and seven boundaries. W. Sadler joined Jupp and at once started hitting and in a short space of time ran up 23, which included a terrific hit for 6 and three 4's. S. Fenley was caught before he had scored and G. Welch obtained five before being bowled by Spurway and so brought the innings to a close, the score being 196. It has already been stated that Jupp sat on the splice. While he was at the wickets 53 runs were scored and of this total he claimed 41! There is no doubt that he served his side well by keeping up his end. Robertson-Glasgow was

the outstanding bowler taking 4 wickets for 31 runs, while Bridges, although 61 runs were knocked off his bowling for 3 wickets, repeatedly had the batsmen in trouble.

The match concluded at 5.15, and, to fill in the time till 6 o'clock, Wessex was afforded an opportunity of again batting. The play was not taken too seriously, and the batsmen went out to gather runs quickly. In this respect Wilson proved himself an adept scoring 32 in very quick time. Twice he sent the ball out of the ground and he was particularly severe on Fenley.

Hobbs, Tate and other prominent players left Bridport in the evening to fulfil week-end engagements. The umpires were: Messrs. J. Tunncliffe (formerly of Yorkshire) and T. Bowley (late of Surrey).

Scores:—

WESSEX XI.	
M. B. Elderton, b Tate	99
W. T. Knight, b Shepherd	3
J. B. Caldwell, run out	5
J. C. White, c Jupp b Peach	15
A. Young, c Tate b Peach	23
E. Brown, c Peach b Tate	47
J. J. Bridges, b Fenley	16
R. C. Robertson Glasgow, b Hobbs	9
F. E. Spurway, not out	18
J. C. Davie, c Tate b Sadler	4
M. S. C. Wilson, c Jupp b Tate	9
Extras	22
	267

MR. W. S. EDWARDS' XI.

J. B. Hobbs, b Bridges	15
G. Collins, lbw b Bridges	13
T. Shepherd, b White	70
J. W. Hitch, b Robertson-Glasgow	39
A. Peach, b Robertson-Glasgow	6
M. Tate, c and b Robertson-Glasgow	4
K. T. Cox, b Robertson-Glasgow	0
C. K. Jupp, not out	4
W. Sadler, b Bridges	23
S. Fenley, c White b Davie	0
G. Welch, b Spurway	5
Extras	12
	196

WESSEX 2nd Innings.

J. B. Caldwell, st. Collins b Hitch	15
F. E. Spurway, c Tate b Fenley	11
M. S. C. Wilson, c Cox b Fenley	32
W. T. Knight, not out	12
J. J. Bridges, b Welch	2
Extras	8

Total (4 wks.) ... 50