

more players. This, however, did not overcome the problem and 1966 saw the last year in which a team was entered in the senior competitions.

In 1964 clubrooms were erected on the Island Reserve. On the ceasing of the club's playing activities it was felt that the building should continue to be associated with Rugby and control of the building was given to the Otorohanga Referees Assn. who have put it to good use.

Although no attempt has been made to re-enter a senior team the club itself is still not out of existence and perhaps some day it may be possible to revive it again.

OLYMPIANS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

During the 1948 season a well known K.C. Rugby personality Mr Jack Trapski, invited the Barbarians to play a local fifteen at Otorohanga. So successful was the match that in September 1950, Mr Trapski convened a meeting to form a club, similar in principle to the "Baa Baas."

Initially the club was known as the Corinthians but at a subsequent meeting the name was changed to Olympians. Mr Trapski was elected president and Mr M. P. Goldsbro secretary-treasurer. The first official fixture was against the Harlequins at Otorohanga in August, 1951.

The main object of the club is to encourage the game of amateur Rugby and the promotion of the ideals of sportsmanship. Fixtures were intended to be of the type that would benefit the younger player and give the chap in the twilight of his career some further enjoyment in the game without the tensions of first class Rugby.

Proceeds from games are distributed each year to worthy causes, decided by the committee.

Since its inception the club has been indebted for help from many people but special mention is due to Fred Cumpstone, Rhys Pevreal, Bryce Cowley, Pat Walsh, Bruce McLeod and Colin Meads.

Some of the projects undertaken have included the following:-

A visit to Paraparaumu to play Brian Lochore's XV with proceeds going to a building fund; assisting K.C. Secondary Schools with tour and travelling expenses; sponsoring a match between K.C. Secondary Schools and a touring Fijian secondary schools side; secondary schools coaching days and playing in fund raising fixtures for grounds development. A side benefit has been getting many

Rugby personalities together, with resultant lasting friendships made.

In any one year the activities of the club are kept at manageable level with a maximum of three major games, two minor fixtures and two member social functions. Membership stands at approx. 95 and all are expected to undertake any task required of them.

During the year various requests for assistance are received and the committee considers each application on its merits.

OHURA SUB-UNION

The earliest outside recorded game was between Ohura Valley and Piopio. The Ohura team travelled by horse and the round trip took three days and into the fourth.

The selector was Tom Healey and the captain Gordon Mossman, both being renowned in the early days. The result of the game was: Ohura 8, Piopio 3.

The first union of clubs was formed in May, 1912, Mangaroa (Ohura), Matiere and Tokirima amalgamating and joining the Taranaki Union as a sub-union.

Early records up until May 22, 1920, when the Ohura Valley Union became a sub-union to the first K.C. Union, are vague. The clubs at that time were Ohura, Tokirima, Niho Niho, and United, later to become the Matiere and Tuhua clubs.

Household names in early Ohura history were Frank Glasgow, 1905 All Black who coached the Ohura team during his period as bank manager in 1916; Dick Roberts, another All Black, coached Tckirima while farming in the district; J. L. Robinson, Dave Bruce and others gave loyal and devoted service to Rugby.

The years 1920-35 saw a big rise in population. Men and their families were being settled on the land and the development of the Okahukura-Stratford railway line brought men from far and wide.

It was in this period Ohura Sub-Union reached its peak. New clubs were Otangiwai, Toi Toi or PWD Club, and lastly Haeo. This one became very strong with the present N.Z. Rugby Union chairman, and All Black, Jack Sullivan, turning out in the club's colours. Bob Scott, who played his early Rugby for Haeo, was another to become one of the Rugby greats.

Niho Niho club contained players like Cliff Crossman, spoken of as one of the best inside backs in N.Z. He became a reserve All Black against the 1937 Springboks and captained the combined team, containing three men from this Sub-Union, Noel Margan,