

WHEN AUSTRALASIA, NOT AUSTRALIA, PLAYED IN THE DAVIS CUP

Prior to the first World War, Australia was not represented singly in the Davis ^{Cup} but teamed with New Zealand, as Australasia, to meet England and the United States for the American trophy.

In those years there were no Cup teams as there are today, those who could afford the time and the expense being the chief exponents.

Norman Brookes, of Australia, and Anthony Wilding, of New Zealand, winners twice and threetimes ^{ively} respectf~~ully~~ly of the Wimbledon singles title, ^owre Australasia's representatives for a number of years and only the United States players approached them. They were both great baseline players in a day before the "net-rushers" had arrived.

When war broke out in 1914, Wilding enlisted in the British army and was killed in France. Brookes enlisted in the Red Cross and lived to team with Gerald Patterson as Australia in many great battles with big Bill Tilden and little Bill Johnson, most of which Australia lost, ^{the Americans,}

Tilden was the first of the express servers and from his powerful game today's net-rushing tactics gradually developed.