

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD AT HOME AND ABROAD

GAME OF BASEBALL IN MERRY ENGLAND

Our National Pastime is Becoming Very Popular Across The Pond.

AN ENTHUSIAST TALKS OF IT.

Englishman Says the Game is Making Most Wonderful Strides in the Old Country at Present.

A dispatch from Washington says: "All lovers of the American national game of baseball cannot but heartily congratulate themselves on the immense strides which their favorite game is at present making in England."

Thus spoke Mr. James Wilson, an English baseball enthusiast, who has just left Washington, after stopping for a few days at one of the leading hotels.

"Dozens of different games," continued Mr. Wilson, "are included in that compendious expression 'sport,' but very few Englishmen will admit that any form of it comes up to cricket, although in the winter months, which are off months as regards cricket, many will indulge in a somewhat violent flirtation with football."

"The prospects of baseball have wonderfully increased since its introduction in England in the year 1874, just thirty years ago. Thirty years certainly seems rather a long infancy for any game, but it cannot honestly be said that baseball was properly brought to the attention of the great British public until about five years ago. A game played at that time by the Boston and Philadelphia Athletics, who were making a tour of the British isles, giving a number of exhibition games, attracted considerable attention."

"But, as was woefully apparent afterward, they did not go the right way to show the game in the most favorable light. Their play was unduly skillful, but as a matter of fact it was too much so, and the spectators were unable to follow and understand it, so that the chances of baseball taking even a lowly little place among the various amusements of the English public were few indeed. As far as arousing any interest in it was concerned, the game was acknowledged to be a failure by all, including the players themselves."

"In 1885 what may be called the practical 'sell-off' of the game took place, and would undoubtedly have been a success but for one thing—the weather. The presence of the new king of England was secured and the match took place at the historic Kensington oval, which, during the summer season, is devoted exclusively to cricket, and where all the great matches between the champion counties of England are played. But the English were accompanied to the grounds by one of their



JACK POWELL

Jack Powell, who twists and zigzags for the New York Americans, is one of the best batsmen in the league. As a rule pitchers are not strong propositions with the stick, but Powell is a strong exception to the rule.

world-famous fogs, and an occasional ghostly figure flitting to and fro was all that could be seen by the spectators.

"To those who understood the game it was a magnificent exhibition; but those assembled were for the most part novices and knew as much about the national sport of the United States as a school boy does of politics, and as an exhibition game, the extent of its success in popularizing baseball was about equal to that achieved by the Boston and Philadelphia Athletics 15 years previous. But the ice had been broken, and the oval match was talked about. The presence of royalty helped in a measure and some Americans who happened at that time to be resident in England—baseball enthusiasts—taught a few English friends how to play, and the ball then set rolling has not yet stopped."

POWELL A BATTER.

sociation of England was started, and a year afterward the London Baseball association was formally incorporated. A ground was taken at Fulham, a suburb of London, and the opening game was commenced, but the players were obliged to give over at the third inning, owing to a drenching downpour of rain.

In this year there were five baseball clubs in London, the J's, Remingtons, Electric, Postmen and Theobalds, the then champion team. And so, after an extremely unpropitious opening educational campaign, the game of baseball given promise of becoming one of the popular pastimes of Britons. The games now played are all of them seriously contested, and quite aside from the prizes to be won, which are many of them very valuable, the honor of becoming the champion team of the year is much coveted and hardly fought for. "Of course, the greater supporters and players of the baseball across the water are the resident Americans in London, but the number of English converts is increasing every day, and are now assisting to promote the game in every walk in their power. When they compare it to cricket, it is not at all to the advantage of the latter. One way in which they think it a decided improvement on cricket is the number of times a player goes in to bat. During the whole course of an afternoon at cricket a player, as a rule, only manages to secure one inning with the bat. The rest of the time he is either sitting idly waiting for his partners to finish their innings, or is out fielding. And if the batsman chances to be what may be termed over-careful, and persists in playing ball after ball, making no effort whatever to secure runs, it is wearisome both for the opposing sides and the spectators."

The interest which the general English public now take in the game is depicted, and it is to be hoped, lastingly. At first it was as much as could be done to get an English crowd out by a liberal supply of paper, but nowadays they pay their shillings as willingly to see a baseball match as they formerly did for cricket. Even the small boy in England has learned the game. Already somewhat of a master in his own game of rounders, to which baseball was likened on its introduction, he had a good educational foundation into the mysteries of his new love of baseball.

"As for the scoring board, this used to be put up after the game had been played, but often in the English stadiums, understanding the intricacies of the diamond, they had yet to learn the more puzzling intricacies of the scoring board. For days during the most interesting games the attention of the crowd was riveted upon this most remarkable puzzle, even to the detriment of the fine plays on the diamond. At last, however, they began to understand, and at present the scoring board, in the latest American style, is a prominent feature of all the English grounds. It would hardly be deemed an asperser on English acumen to tell how long it took the operator to learn how to work the scoring board."

TOM JENKINS HOME.

Gives Account of Match with Gen. Hackenschmidt, The Russian Lion.

Tom Jenkins, the world's champion catch-as-catch-can wrestler, is back in New York after an extended tour of Great Britain. The American while abroad engaged in several matches and met all comers. Jenkins went abroad to meet the Russian Lion, George Hackenschmidt. The men wrestled for the Graeco-Roman title, and the foreigner was the victor.

His match with the Russian was promoted by well-known English promoters. The men were guaranteed a

purse of \$5,000. The promoters claimed after the contest that the amount taken in at the gate was but little over the guarantee and refused to pay. Jenkins and Hackenschmidt now have their claim in the hands of a prominent law firm of London, and expect to win the suit.

Hackenschmidt would not meet the American under catch-as-catch-can rules, and in order to make the match satisfactory to both men, the Russian wrestled at his own style. After the contest the Russian agreed to give Jenkins a return match under the catch-as-catch-can rules. Jenkins is confident that he can defeat him, and if satisfactory arrangements can be made he will return to the other side this fall.

Jenkins claims that Hackenschmidt is the strongest man that he has ever faced. "You talk about Jeffries being a physical marvel; this man has him faded. He weighs 260 pounds in condition and can lift the Flat Iron building. He has it on the Turks, and they were wonders. If he could only be taught to box he would be the wonder of the century," says Jenkins.

HURLEY IS CHAMPION.

Lands the Amateur Title in Bike Racing Game—Downing Second.

By winning four of the championship events and finishing second in another at the St. Louis exposition, Marcus L. Hurley of the New York Athletic club won for the fourth time the title of American national champion. Hurley won the half-mile race on the opening day, the quarter-mile on the second day, the one-third mile and one-mile races on the last day, and was second in the two-mile race on the second day. The amateur championship is decided by points, as is the professional championship, a first counting for five points, a second for three points, a third for two points, and a fourth for one point. Hurley's four firsts and one third made his score 22, while his nearest opponent was Burton Downing, with a total of 15 points. Downing, who is from San Jose, Cal., was first in the two-mile race, second in the quarter-mile, one-third mile and one mile, and third in the half-mile. Teddy Billington, who lives at Vailsburg, N. J., rides under the colors of the National Athletic club of Brooklyn, was the third man in the amateur championship table with 10 points.

He was second in the half-mile event, third in the quarter-mile, one-third mile and fourth in the two-mile. The fourth man was Charles Schlee of the National Turn Verein, Newark, N. J., whose score was six points for winning the five-mile and finishing fourth in the one-third mile. The fifth man was Oscar Goerke, who scored only one point less than Schlee. Goerke rode under the colors of the National Athletic club of Brooklyn. He was second in the two-mile race and fourth in the quarter-mile and one-mile. George Wiley of Syracuse, N. Y., was sixth on the list with four points for second in the five-mile race and fourth in the half-mile. A. F. Andrews of Indianapolis is seventh, with two points for third in the five-mile and John Schaefer of St. Louis the eighth and last rider in the table, with one point for fourth in the five-mile race.

The tabulated score is as follows:

Rider.	1st	2d	3d	4th	Pts
Burton Downing	1	3	1	0	15
Marcus L. Hurley	4	0	1	0	22
Teddy Billington	0	1	3	1	10
Charles Schlee	1	0	4	1	8
Oscar Goerke	1	0	2	5	8
George Wiley	0	1	0	4	5
A. F. Andrews	0	0	1	0	2
J. Schaefer	0	0	0	1	1

Continuous Dancing, Saltair, Saturday Night.

ABOUT THE NEW FOOTBALL RULES.

Fred Lowenthal, coach of the University of Illinois football eleven, has the following to say about the new rules:

An event of interest to all followers of football is the issuing of the rule book which is out this week. This gives every one an opportunity to study for himself the changes which have been made in the game this season.

All the principal changes in the football rules for the season of 1904 are in the nature of compromises. Under the old rules no less than five men were allowed in the line of scrimmage.

The result was that plays were evolved which depended to a great extent on heavy mass playing for their efficacy. Players were so grouped behind the line that we had the forbidden wedge formations in everything but name. A change was needed, but what the change should be many of the rules committee itself seemed to know. However, an experimental change in the rules was made last year, under which at least seven men were required in the line when the ball was put in play in the middle section of the field—that is, between the two 25-yard lines.

However, the old rules were still in force in the 25-yard lines. The result of this change, though, was a little awkward, as the different rules under which the teams played on the respective sections of the field made it at its best difficult, both for the spectator and the player.

The prevailing idea in the minds of the rule makers evidently was to make a more uniform style of play. Therefore, instead of five men being required in the line of scrimmage in the middle section of the field and seven inside of the 25-yard line, as it was last year, the committee split the difference, as it were, and fixed the limit at six in any part of the gridiron. It is also allowed that the man first receiving the ball from the center may run from any part of the field.

Whether these changes are for the better or the worse is impossible to say until one sees them in actual play. In fact, the whole subject is handled very gingerly by the football ages, as if they were groping in the dark—as if they didn't exactly know what to do to better the game.

The general effects of the above noted changes are, as said before, impossible to say, and yet I am inclined to think that with six men in the line we will see the return of the much touted "whoa-back" play. The "whoa-back" play, it will be remembered, was that in which one man was taken out of the line and played back of the full back. It will also allow a more perfect protection of the kicker in a kicking formation. Unless I am much mistaken this change announces the return of tackle back plays with modifications. All in all, I do not think that coaches will spend much gray matter in concocting new plays, but rather dig up what they used before last year.

The change which the rule book designates as the "most important" change to those mentioned, I believe in some respects to be the most important one. Under the rules as they were a field kick goal scored five points. This year it will count only four, and this is true whether the goal is made by a drop, or a place kick from a fair catch or a kick from placement in the scrimmage. Reducing the points scored on field goal is certainly a move in the right direction. In the opinion of the

writer it would have been a little better if they had shaved off another point, but a half loaf is better than nothing.

I do hope that the rule makers, before next season, take up the matter of the goal after a touch-down. Perhaps it is too radical for some of us to ask to have the goal after a touch-down entirely abolished, and yet it would not be the most foolish move in the world if it were done. If the goal after the touch-down is not abolished before the next season I believe that the powers that be will make a rule which requires the goal to be made by a place kick in a scrimmage.

The other changes are of less importance than those already mentioned, and in the main are for the better. The rule which requires the umpire to have some kind of call distinguishing his signal from that of the referee is a very reasonable one, and much confusion will be avoided. "The play will continue in spite of the umpire's call until the ball is dead, and then the referee will indicate the penalty called for by the umpire's decision. In case the side which has been offended against desires to refuse the penalty, they may do so and take the distance they have gained," says the football guide.

Excellent change that is. As in the past years, under the rules as they then were, many a team which has been offended against has lost more by being compelled to accept a penalty than if it had been allowed the distance gained. A team certainly should get credit for everything it does.

There was much discussion last year over the rule regarding kickoff, no choice of goal. This has been made clearer and provides that if the winner of the toss selects the goal, the loser of the toss must take the kickoff.

Many football followers were under the impression before the season opened last year that the linesman was given too much power. The season's play showed that they were right, and under the new rules the linesman's field of duty is again narrowed.

This year he is allowed only to penalize ends for offside plays, for tripping an end going down on a kick, and for roughing the fullback after a kick. Practically all the other changes are with regard to penalties. They have been grouped into two general classes, viz.: Those where distance penalty is given and those where it is not. Distance penalties are divided into two classes, five and fifteen yards, respectively.

A Cold Settled in His Kidneys.

A. J. Jenkins, 1831 E. 1st St., Chicago, writes: "I am a switchman at Chicago in all kinds of weather. I took a cold which settled in my kidneys and I was in bad shape. I tried several advertised remedies with no benefit, until I was recommended to try Foley's Kidney Cure. I bought a bottle and it cured me." For sale by F. J. Hill Drug Co.

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AMERICAN FARMING FOR EMERALD ISLE.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Aug. 22.—To teach Irishmen to farm on American lines is the object of an interesting scheme recently conceived by Sir Horace Plunkett. Sir Horace is vice president of the Irish board of agriculture, but he is

best known in the United States as the owner of large ranches in Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. An agent of his named Blair is now in the United States for the purpose of inducing young Irishmen now in American cities to go on to Sir Horace's ranches and get an insight into the system he employs there in the hope that they may be induced later on to return to Ireland and become practical agriculturists in their own country. He will also send out direct a number of young men

from Ireland next month. He will pay their passage, and from the moment they commence work on the ranches they will receive wages equivalent to what unskilled labor would command in any city or town in the United States. Sir Horace has commenced to recognize the exodus of emigration, as it affects Ireland, and he is prepared to make big sacrifices to combat them. It is estimated that this experiment of his will cost him at least \$30,000. The Irish board of agriculture, of which he is

practically the head, has nothing to do with this scheme. It is purely an idea of his own. He has recently taken much interest in the work of the Anti-Emigration society, and he has succeeded in finding employment at home for quite a number of young men and women whose passage had been paid to the United States. Under his regime at the board of agriculture, fruit growing, improvement in forestry, and the peat industry are opening up fresh avenues of employment.

HOSPITAL APPEALS TO THE CHARITABLE.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Sept. 7.—London hospital, the biggest of all the great city's charitable institutions for afflicted humanity, has always been famed for its ingenious methods of appealing to public support but its latest device sur-

passed them all and doubtless will be copied in America.

It is in the form of a clock on the face of which appears the announcement that the hospital has to collect one penny—two cents—per second, and on the pedestal is an invitation to the visitor to defray the cost of the institution for that brief period. When the penny is dropped in the slot, it sets some internal mechanism in operation by which the clock hand is advanced and the contribution recorded. The

secretary hopes shortly to add a phonograph to the machine which will acknowledge every gift with a hearty "Thank you," the voice being that of the King.

MUSIC TEACHERS.

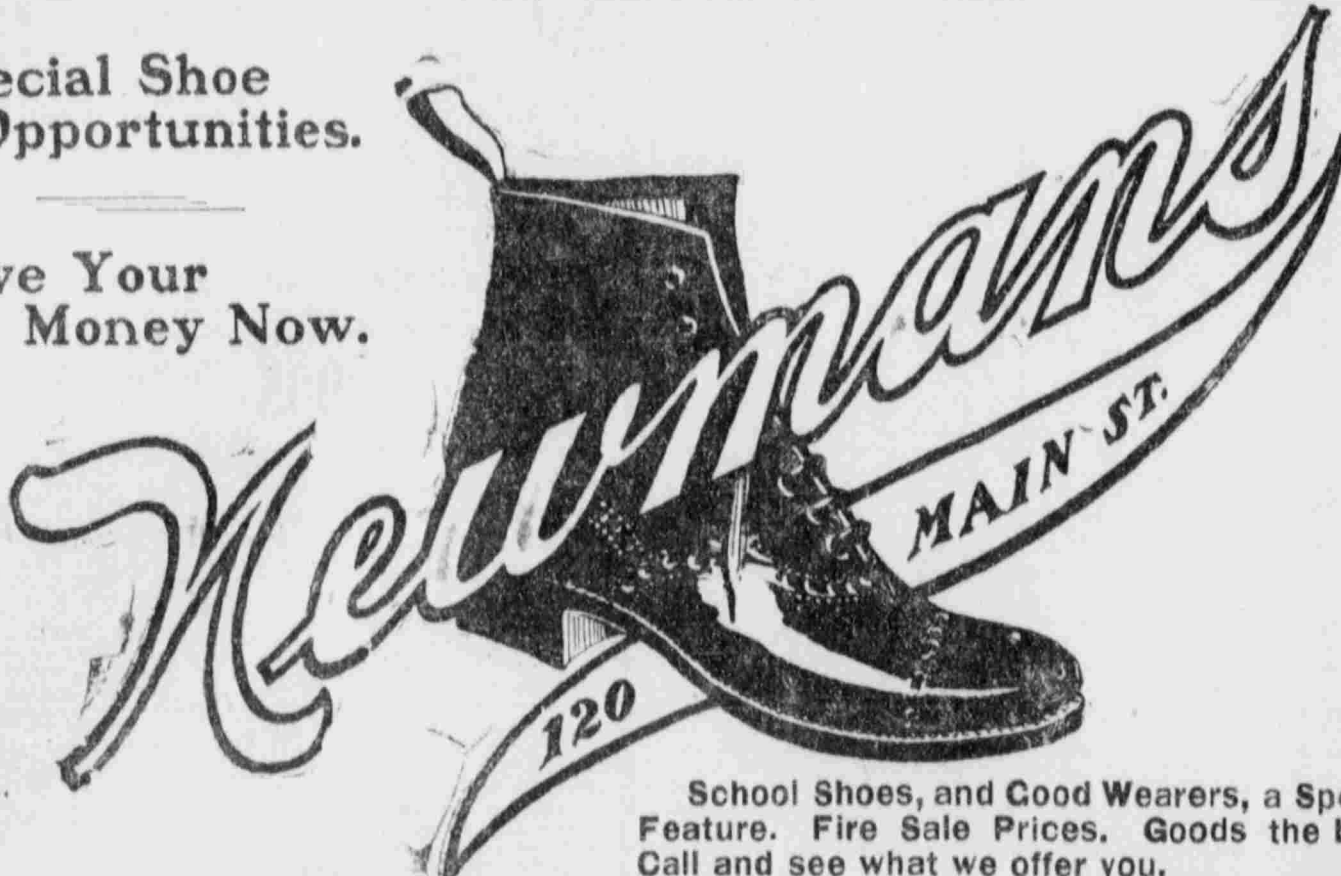
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