

BASE BALL FIRESIDE GOSSIP

Things that Keep Game Fresh During the Withering Season.

“WEE-AH” SHALL SOUND NO MORE

Little Cry of the Tigers is Dead, Says Hugh Jennings, the Believable Manager of Detroit.

“Wee-ah” is dead. The battle cry of the Tigers of 1907 will be heard no more. Jennings, the man who invented the exultant shriek, and who electrified the base ball public of America by its use, says it shall be used no longer by the Tigers, for much usage has killed it as a potent factor in the winning of games.

Base ball fans will no longer see the little red-haired Irish double himself into a bow knot to give the inevitable yell. “Wee-ah” is something new for champions to use; something the most worthy will work up. Maybe that is why Hurlie is studying Spanish.

But in all seriousness, Jennings is sick and tired of that yell. It bore him as much as “hidoo” bore the average human being. He isn't getting it any more because it isn't going to him. Every kid in the street shrieks it into his ears, every man greets him with it, every party he picks up uses it as a prefix to his name. It haunts him night and day. He's through with it; he wants to forget it.

He just half admits this; he gives another reason as the real cause. Hurlie's argument is logical in its way. “I didn't yell like that because the crowd wanted to hear it,” he explains. “I just started saying: ‘That's the way. Those Tigers played so fast I had to keep down my mouth to keep up with them. Finally ‘that's the way’ was just one word, ‘Wee-ah.’ Then it became ‘Wee-ah.’”

“Now, when anybody hears that noise it's a joke. It's been used so much the real meaning of it has been forgotten by the players. I want to use it because I want to say something to them that will be taken seriously and make them fight. ‘Wee-ah’ is shopworn.”

That yell brought Jennings a backhanded compliment one day in New York. No one would think to hear Tim Hurst talk that he had any love for Hurlie, but way down in his stubby little boots, somewhere, safely hidden, he has a deep admiration for the Tiger leader.

This was shown in a row he had with Clark Griffith. The Tigers were being beaten, and “Griff,” exultant, was imitating Jennings on the coaching lines.

“Wee-ah!” he yelled, as much like Jennings as his squeaky voice would permit. “Get off th' coaching line,” ordered Hurst.

“Wot for?” “Get off.” “Favoring Jennings, are you—you—?” “No,” snapped Tim. “I ain't, neither. Jennings may be a fool, but he's original; yer just a fool.”

Ty Cobb, the real nifty kid when it comes to the swatting business, has an ambition besides being a crack base ball player. He wants to be a good clog dancer.

Ty spends a good deal of his spare time in learning new fancy dances, and 'tis said that the clever southern ball player is really a finished artist in the style of dancing that appeals to him.

But of course his base ball associates have fun at the lad's expense, and although they know that he is really a clever performer in the jig line, yet he would be the last person to hear it from their lips.

Just before the world's championship series, and while the Detroit club was resting for those nerve-racking some fantastic steps, when the big Sam Crawford happened to come into the room.

“What do you think of these foot movements, Sam?” gaily cried Cobb. “As he went through some airy steps for the edification of his big teammate.

“You'll be a swell partner, Ty,” said Sam, in the best manner he has of speaking, “were it not for two things.”

“And what old two things are they?” cried Cobb, as he paused.

“Your feet,” retorted Crawford, as he hastily backed out of the room.

That the spit ball is most effective is proved by the tremendous number of assists the men who employed it secured last year. Walsh, who is not remarkable as a fielder in his position, made the unprecedented number of 27 assists. To be sure, he pitched fifty-six games, or from fifteen to twenty more than the other leading twirlers.

However, another noted twirler of spit balls, secured 195 assists in fourteen games less than Walsh. The disparity in number of assists between these two is not accounted for by the number of games in favor of Walsh. In fourteen more games than Howell Walsh had 196 more assists. We do not know the department of fielding pitched the spit ball. In any event, he got 195 assists in forty-two games, the same number Howell pitched. Peltz of St. Louis, who is one of the great fielding pitchers, pitched seven games less than Howell, but did not secure within thirty as many assists. Peltz is a truly great fielder, probably the best in his position in the world.

Bender, who is a fielder and a good sifter, does not as far as we know, use the spit ball. So his share of assists is very small. It is noticeable that the Philadelphia pitchers, rated very high in their line and the chief stay of their team, rank very low in the department of fielding.

Expert, who, by the way, is a spit ball thrower and reckoned one of the most finished stylists in his line and also one of the very best pitchers, is one of the lowest in averages. Waddell, too, is at the bottom of the list. To be sure, Waddell's inability to field is notorious.

For two years now George Mullin and Dave Jones have argued whether a whole was a fish or an animal. There is not the slightest doubt that if they are together they will argue for two more years. One night in Boston, they do say, they sat up and argued it all night.

“What are the qualifications of a fish?” demands Dave.

“Dunno,” says George, “but a whale's got 'em.” “Got what?” “Qualifications.” “What qualifications?” “Fish.” “Do you mean to sit there, Mullin, and tell me you believe a whale's a fish?” persists Dave.

WITH THE COLLEGE ATHLETES

Doings in the Field of Sport in East and West.

MINOR SPORTS TO THE FORE

Recent Changes in Eligibility Rules at Carlisle—Break Between Georgetown and George Washington.

There is a sort of saying that suicide to confession, which may be applied in less offensive significance to the recent action of the athletic authorities at the Carlisle Indian school. They have agreed, following the lengthy and free discussion of their athletic methods, to limit competition to the four year period and to bar from their teams the men who are paid employes, as servants, in the school. However, much of an effect previous asseverations by the Indian school managers may have had in creating the strengthening in championship sports in the school was run on orthodox lines, the subsequent announcement goes far to remove the impression.

A critic, in fact several critics of the school's system in athletics, made certain accusations a while ago about the character of the athletes there and were met promptly with the reply that what they had to say was in every detail untrue and that they were saying what they did because of prejudice only. What they charged was denied in every way and form, with long explanation added thereto. However, following the long statement for general public came the apparently was addressed chiefly to colleges and especially those colleges which the Carlisle Indian teams meet. This second statement contained the announcement of the formation of a sort of eligibility code for the institution.

A natural question is that if there were nothing wrong at the school and every opponent of the Indians was content to take them at their own standard why was it necessary to change the rules, under fire, as it were? The colleges which have been meeting the Indian athletes recognize the great ability of the Indians and also recognize that they have certain advantages because of a different sort of supervision of studies and outside activities exercised over the students. They have been willing to take them hitherto, with all their limitations, without making any complaint about it. In view of that fact it is strange that the Indian school authorities should have felt it necessary to change the more so, that the charges of the men who first brought them up this season are “baseless and founded on prejudice.” It is rather a confession of weakness of stand to make any change at all. By the very nature of things Carlisle never can be like an institution of collegiate rank, so what is the use of trying to become one?

No Money to Players. There was one thing said in the course of the recent argument that did appear on its face rather foolish. It was declared by some folks that the money that was taken in for foot ball at the school was split among the members of the team, or rather that some of them got a good share of the season's takings. Any one who ever has been down at the Indian school and who has seen the athletic fields, the gymnasium and the various improvements made by the means of the money brought in chiefly by the sale of the tickets for the foot ball game, would see the folly of the remark. For another thing, part of the money is devoted to helping out the government appropriation for the purely educational purposes of the school. There is small question that under Major Mercer and the other persons in charge of the school the money is wisely applied. There is no possibility of such corruption as is indicated by part of the charges.

It is well worth noting that in spite of all discussion, which in the main has proceeded from Chicago, the institutions which have met the Indians in sport have been very slow to make any comment at all in view of the status of the game. Pennsylvania, Syracuse, Michigan, Harvard and others have nothing to say about these charges in the way of blaming the Indians for laxity, and in fact whatever is said tends to support the other side of the matter.

Subsequent to the foot ball game between Georgetown and George Washington University on Georgetown field there was a break in relations between these institutions. There never has been the best of good feeling between them, and what had more to do with the severance of relations, probably than anything else, was the carrying by the George Washington university men to Georgetown field of a sign, couched in offensive terms about the rivals on whose field the game was being played. The Georgetown athletic managers waited for an apology, but none was forthcoming, and then action was taken calling off all competitors in sport with the George Washington university teams.

Swimming Trials at Harvard. Harvard has not yet chosen a coach for the swimming and water polo teams, and it is likely that if anyone is named he will be a member of last year's squad instead of a professional. Trials will be held about the middle of next month and class relay teams will then be chosen. After the interclass matches the university team will be selected by the men who do best. Harvard has been pursuing that method more and more in choosing teams to represent the university in various branches of sport. A practice meet with Brown and dual meets with various members of the intercollegiate swimming association will be held in February and March.

Syracuse is branching out into sports not hitherto taken up by the students at the university, and the latest plan is for a hockey team. Arrangements having been made for an ice rink upon the campus, it is figured that it will be a short step to the formation of a team. Attempts have been made before at Syracuse to get up hockey teams, but the expense of these has been short-lived. However, the opportunities never before have been as good.

The remark about Syracuse branching out is caused by the fact that in the present season cross-country running and lacrosse have been added to the list. The biggest institutions maintain twenty or more sports. Syracuse is one of the few that has a big rowing establishment, which calls for many men and considerable money, and besides is represented by a large number of rowing clubs. It is a direct result of the increase in students, as the registration has doubled in a brief period of years.

Big Basket Ball Teams Lose. The university basket ball teams in the larger institutions have had some bad fortune at starting. Yale, Columbia and Pennsylvania have been beaten outside the intercollegiate league. Princeton has thus early managed to become embroiled with the Amateur Athletic union over playing against a team not properly registered with the governing body of amateur sport. This is a case that is not infrequent and is regarded as unfortunate. As long as the college teams continue to go outside the class in which they should legitimately play, there is bound to be trouble. When the time arrives that college teams enter on schedules made up of games with other colleges only, the troubles of the Amate-

NEW YORK BASE BALL ROWS

Numerous Riots at Games at Local Parks.

HAPPY DAYS AT POLO GROUNDS

Placards, Police Protection for Umpires and Finances Have Attended Sport Under Civilizing Influences of Metropolis.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The major league ball parks of Greater New York have contributed numerous notable rows to the national game's history. No city on the circuit of either the big organizations has been so active in providing turbulent scenes. There have been ructions of various degrees of strenuousness in the last ten years right here in this refined community, where we refer compassionately to the wild and woolly west. Our benighted fellow countrymen who have the misfortune to live in the west, eat with their knives, wear their trousers in their boots and practise other crudities for want of the ennobling slights of barred umpires, flutters between players and similar evidences of culture and sportsmanship which have ornamented the biggest city of the western world.

Ten years ago there were tempestuous doings at the polo grounds. That was the year in which the magnates, with a great flourish of trumpets, drew up anti-rowdy ball resolutions, resolutions meant to suppress kicking on the ball field and to accomplish the uplifting of the downtrodden umpire. The season had not been under way a week before Umpire Charles Snyder and half a dozen of the New York players were in a row at the polo grounds. The Bostonians were the opposing team, and Snyder called Billy Hamilton safe sliding to third base. There was a howl from the local side. Davis, Gleason, Hartman and others were ordered off the field and the police escorted Snyder to safety through the line of a roaring mob of rosters.

Ducky Holmes' Pleasant Repartee. The celebrated Ducky Holmes case occurred about that time in New York's stormy diamond history. Holmes was charged with directing a remark at the owner of the New York club which the latter considered offensive, and the owner declared he would not let his players continue play unless Holmes was put off the field. This the umpire refused to do. When the New Yorks at their owners' bidding came in from the field the umpire declared the game forfeited by the New Yorks. Then there was a howl from the spectators, who demanded their money back, congregating in groups and gesticulating and shouting their displeasure. They got their money back. The Beckley-Joyce imbroglio occurred during the same regime. Joyce did not like the way Beckley went into him at first base and picked up the ball, let fly and landed with it on the back of Beckley's head.

Each of the two local parks has had a big fiasco, each the result of slighted management on the part of somebody, and each a huge farce and at the same time the source of great annoyance to a big gathering of patrons. At American League park in 1906—the opening game—no rain checks were given out. A drenching rain set in before the game was half over and for a while the contest went on just the same, the players the while being soaked to the skin. The crowd yelled for the game to be called, and though it was prolonged as far as possible in order to get in the necessary four and a half innings the umpire finally ordered a halt. Then followed a demonstration around the gates for return of the entrance money. Announcement was made:

“If you have anything to trade advertise it in the For Exchange Column of The Bee Want Ad Page.”

December 30th, 1907

The Transmississippi Poultry Show

Under the Auspices of the
Tri-City Poultry Association
Opens at Omaha, Nebraska.

In its issue of
December 31, 1907
The Omaha Bee Will Feature Poultry and Pet Stock

Your ad in this paper will be read by over 100,000 people and in addition free copies of this number, containing your ad, will be distributed at the poultry show.

Send your order—not soon, but NOW

People interested in either poultry or pet stock or in articles in connection with them will eagerly watch for this edition. It will be well advertised. They will be looking for YOUR ad. Can you afford NOT to have it here? NO!

Send your ad to the Poultry Department of The Omaha Bee. It will be taken good care of; displayed nicely and given a good position.

Address letters relative to this edition to Poultry Editor of the Omaha Bee.

Write your ad on this Coupon—not soon, but NOW

Phone Douglas 238 and an advertising man will call

If you cannot

Come to The Bee Office

17th and Farnam

.....THE RATES ARE.....

If no cuts are used: 1 inch 70c; 2 in. \$1.40; 5 in. \$3.00. --- If cuts are used: The rates are 84c for each inch.

The above rates apply to advertising which is paid in advance. Use Postoffice or Express Money Order in remitting.

BRITISH SPORTS TURN ON MOIR

London Writers Now Say the Ganner Scotchman.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The sporting writers of the London Press were all disgusted with the Burns-Moir fight. It was hoped, and believed, that the lumbering, slogging Scotchman—they all give Scotland credit for him now he is beaten; before that he was a typical Englishman—would have got in one of his deadly punches and that Burns would have been “put to sleep.” But there was more lumbering than slogging about Moir, who entered the ring in an extremely cautious frame of mind, induced by the overdone counsels of his seconds that he should be careful not to give Burns a chance with his “deadly left.” The knowing ones realized at the end of the second round that Burns could pretty well do what he liked with Moir, who was entirely overmatched in skill and intelligence.

True, he burst out with great effect in a later round, but the effort was spasmodic and only had the effect of making Burns more angry than before. Moir's position was undoubtedly a trying one. Burns was hopping about like lightning, landing a blow at every opportunity and taking his own punishment—which was severe enough once or twice—without the slightest apparent discomfort. On the contrary, to add to Moir's trials, Burns was smiling at him, when he was being “put to sleep.” Burns himself is a typical product of the ring. He seemed to assume that he was dealing with a gang of sharpers and his exiguities about seeing the actual cash and other points rather irritated the Sporting club prize-ring patrons. He had an easy way of it and even the parting of his hair was untroubled at the end.

Some of the papers here have become suddenly alive to the brutality of these contests. Indeed, it looks as if a movement were being started to put an end to them. England, the nursery of “the noble art of self-defense,” has now been unable to produce a heavy-weight champion for forty years. Pupils are fostered and encouraged by every means by the National Sporting club, while not only in the working class districts of London, but all the big cities, there are boxing clubs going all the time. It is astonishing that with all this opportunity, with the traditions of pugilism in the Anglo-Saxon race, they can produce nothing better than a second-rate man. Obviously the time has come to abolish the sport—it can be called a sport. Moreover, its abolition now will not involve any sacrifice of prestige by the English “ring.” The Henley Regatta committee has given a good lead; it might be followed by the department of fielding, an international competition. That is one way of maintaining its prestige as a sporting nation.

CHANGE IN CENTURY CONDITIONS

Important Alteration in One of the Coney Island Stakes.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—In the stakes of the Coney Island Jockey club for 1908 there has been a most important change in the conditions of the Century. It is a mile and a half race for 3-year-olds and upwards, run at the fall meeting, and previously has had a closing for yearlings. For 1908 it closes January 2, with the several other big fixtures of the Sheepshead Bay club.

For the season of 1908 the Coney Island Jockey club has set a record for the wisdom of its stakes and there will be no fixture run for less value than \$5,000, while there are few of them at that figure.

“Talk about fierce swats,” remarked Lulu, “but I never in all my life saw a crowded bleacher. The police saved Chance from a rough handling, and it took some time to quell the disturbance. The cops stood guard over Chance until the field had been cleared and then he was spirited away in an automobile. There was an attack on Bob Emble once at Washington park. The game ended with an adverse decision by him; spectators gathered around him, and one of the latter took a punch at the umpire from behind. Emble is as nervous as they make ‘em. He wheeled and returned the punch with interest and his assailant beat it in a hurry.”

HEADS FOR AMERICAN GOLF GAME

Only One Change Made in Official Roster of U. S. G. A.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The United States Golfing association, through its nominating committee, has announced its new officers for the year 1908. According to the usual custom, the ticket is named thirty days before the annual meeting, which is to be held January 17. The new officers named are as follows:

President, Daniel Chamney, Garden City Golf club; vice president, Silas H. Strawn, Middleton Country club, and Alex Britton, Chevy Chase club; secretary, William Pelletier, Longmeadow Country club; treasurer, Samuel U. Heebner, Philadelphia Cricket club. Executive committee, Leighton Calkins, Plainfield Country club; J. D. Cady, Rock Island Arsenal Golf club; Herbert Jacques, the Country club, Brookline; C. P. Thompson, Homestead Country club.

The only change in the list of officers is the substitution of Silas H. Strawn for Fred S. James as one of the vice presidents. Mr. Strawn is a member of the executive committee and his place is to be filled by C. P. Thompson, J. D. Cady has been chosen to succeed Warren Dickinson of Des Moines.

“77”

Seventy-seven for Colds and GRIP

The epidemic of Grip is so widespread as to interfere with affairs.— Cabinet Meeting broken up because the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Interior are abed with Grip. Social functions, especially at bridge and dinner parties the hostess is at her wit's end to find substitutes. The Stage, the longed for opportunity of the understudy is frequent in the times of sick stars. The Opera, the gathering audience approach the foyer with dread fearing to see the sign, change of bill, so frequently displayed in times of sickness. The College and school classes are slender, so many pupils, especially girls, being laid up with Grip. Offices and factories are crippled by absentees and yet— Humphrey's Seventy-seven is the remedy par-excellence for Grip. Taken early cuts it short promptly, taken during its prevalence, it preoccupies the system and prevents its invasion. Carry a bottle in your pocket, keep it handy. All Drug Stores, 25c. Humphrey's Homeo. Medicine Co., Cor. William and John Streets, New York.