

## IS WONDERFUL PLAYER

President Tom Lynch Lauds Ability of Fred Merkle.

Says Giants' First Baseman Is Man in Every Sense of Word for Standing Abuse Heaped Upon Him for Error of 1903.

A strange world, indeed, this little sphere of ours, and stranger still that portion of its inhabitants which ramps and raves six months of the year over our national pastime. Say one cold, cruel word against "Rube" Marquard to any citizen of Manhattan or environs and then get ready for a punch in the eye. Whisper a scandal against the fair name of Fred Merkle if you are contemplating suicide. Yet a brief spell back the enthusiasts who now worship at the shrine of this grand pair were denying them with oaths and curses.

We will deal just now with Merkle's case. Here is a tribute paid him recently by Tom Lynch, president of the National League:

"Merkle," said Lynch, "I consider one of the most wonderful men that ever broke into baseball. He is a man in every sense of the word. His heart is as big as that of an ox. Otherwise he wouldn't be in major league company today. How many professional baseball players, do you think, could have stood the penning and the roasting and the abuse heaped upon the head of this young gentleman after he failed to touch second base in that memorable game in 1903? I'll tell you. Not one in ten; not one in fifty. You cannot find many better first basemen today than Merkle. Why? Simply because he realized his mis-



Fred Merkle.

take and decided to live it down by deeds of worth. He didn't sulk. He didn't slouch. He held a high head and kept a stiff upper lip. And instead of worrying over that one mistake, as most fellows would have done, he profited by his experience and let it stand as a warning. His game improved. He was a far better first baseman in 1909 than in 1903; far better still in 1910. I take off my hat to Merkle. He's the proper stuff. He'll be better still in 1913."

Tom Lynch comes pretty near to knowing what he is talking about before he ever expresses himself. It is very doubtful if there is a first baseman in the game more valuable than Fred Merkle. There are flashier players, Hal Chase and Jack Daubert possessing more natural advantages in that they throw left-handed, appear a bit more graceful, perhaps.

Yet it is doubtful if either has anything on the Giant as a fielder. Merkle is not showy. But he is wonderfully sure and as expert in making pick-ups off mean bouncers as even the great Chase. He covers as much ground as Hal, is as skilful a base runner and a more dangerous hitter. He is a trifle less agile and cannot go so high for strong-arm pegs, nor is he so dexterous with the mitt hand. Yet Merkle is the only right-handed first baseman who can break up a sacrifice hit play almost as cunningly as either Chase or Daubert.

No one versed in baseball will deny that Merkle ranks among the first three of baseball's first base guardians. That is an honor, indeed, for a youngster that the fans were trying to hound back to the brush four short summers ago. But then he was unfortunate; simply the victim of circumstances. Had Mike Donlin, Arthur Devlin or the great Matty been on first when Al Bridwell knocked out the clean single that should have won the game little would have been thought of the veteran's oversight. The fact that it was a recruit gave the knackers a chance. Or if New York had won the playoff with the Cubs, as they should, Merkle's lot would not have been so hard in 1909.

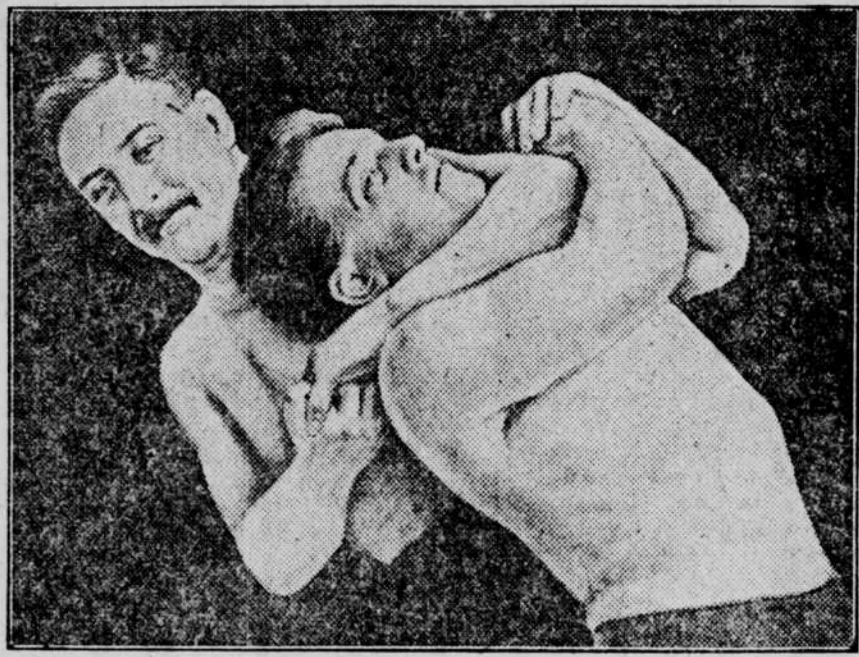
### Navy Baseball Schedule.

The Navy baseball schedule was recently announced, as follows: March 23, University of Pennsylvania; 26, Holy Cross; 29, University of Vermont; April 2, Colgate; 5, Amherst; 9, Cornell; 12, Lehigh; 16, Harvard; 19, St. John's college (Annapolis); 26, Agricultural and Mechanical College of North Carolina; 30, University of Virginia; May 3, Catholic University; 7, Georgetown; 10, Johns Hopkins; 14, Mount St. Mary's college; 21, Notre Dame; 28, St. John's college (Annapolis); 31, Army.

### Detroit's Revised Infield.

Hughie Jennings has selected his 1913 infield. He will play Sam Crawford at first, Louder at second, Bush at short and McLarity at third.

## FARMER BURNS WORKING STRANGLE HOLD



This Hold Is Barred Nowadays.

The strangle hold is a discarded relic of the early ages of wrestling. It is rightfully barred from championship matches, but still may be an effective means of defense in handling a bully or saving one's life in a personal encounter with a robber or murderer.

"I won my first professional match at catch-as-catch-can wrestling with the strangle hold because I didn't know any better," relates Gotch. "That was before I had met either McLeod or Farmer Burns. It was in the match with Marshall Green, the chicken picker, when we wrestled in overalls in the old opera house in Humboldt in 1899. It was a rough and ready battle and both tried for the strangle hold. I was quicker than Green and won three straight falls in about an hour of hard work, taking all three with strangle holds.

"The strangle hold was a common grip in those days. One professional, Evan Lewis, probably developed the hold to its highest efficiency. He made a world-wide reputation for winning matches with it and was known far and wide as 'Strangler' Lewis.

"It is the most dangerous grip in wrestling, and yet the old timers used to employ it quite often. In my match with Tom Jenkins at Bellingham, Wash., when I won the American championship, he put a strangle hold on me after I had won the first fall. His powerful arms and great strength made it difficult for me to extricate myself.

"Maddened over the loss of the first fall and the peril of losing the championship, which he had held for six

years, Jenkins charged at me furiously in the second bout and in a mix-up worked himself behind me. He slipped his left forearm under my chin and bore the weight of his right arm against the top of my head, tightening his grip and completing a strangle hold, from which it would have been impossible for a weak man to escape.

"There is only one way in which to break this hold, and one cannot linger, as delay may prove fatal. That is to employ both hands in grasping the aggressor's left member and below the elbow, and thus lessening the heavy pressure on the Adam's apple. If one possesses great strength it is possible to break the hold. I employed this method in escaping from Jenkins. He was too weak to hold me. It was his last hope of retaining the championship, and he tried it too late to succeed.

"Although the strangle hold is barred nowadays, it is used more or less in many matches. Wrestlers get it when attempting to obtain other holds, sometimes by mistake. It weakens an opponent, and if continued might prove fatal. Jenkins was warned against the hold in nearly every match with me. Sometimes he secured the grip unintentionally.

"Farmer Burns is one wrestler who was practically immune from the strangle hold. This was due to the wonderful development of the muscles of his neck. The 'Farmer' defeated Strangler Lewis for the American championship in 1895. Lewis bumped into trouble when he tried to choke that old chap into submission.

(Copyright, 1913, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

## WOOD AFTER ANOTHER FLAG

"Smoky Joe," Pitching Hero of 1912 Season, Will Try to Beat Last Year's Record.

Joe Wood, the pitching star of the Boston Red Sox last year, will have a great deal to say as to whether or not the Red Sox will be able to capture another pennant. Connie Mack, of the Athletics, is determined that his team will be in the fight from the start this year and will not allow the Sox to slip anything over on him like they did last season.

Joe Wood was the hero par excellence of the Boston tribe in 1912. Before the season started he was known as a fairly good performer with the gloves. When the season ended he was the most-talked-of ball player in the country. Joe hung up a record in the box that made the



"Smoky Joe" Wood.

other box artists in the American league look sick. He won 35 games during the season and lost but 5. Eddie Plank, of the Athletics, was the only twirler who came anywhere near the mark set by Smoky Joe, the left-hander, winning 26 and losing 6. Walter Johnson, the great pitcher of the Washingtons, had 32 victories to his credit and 12 defeats.

Wood will have no easy job on his hands to beat his record of last year, but he has every confidence that he will be able to do it. He has been spending the winter on his farm near Parker's Glen, Pa., and is anxiously waiting the call for the Red Sox to assemble for the spring training.

### Penn Names Relay Dates.

The annual intercollegiate and interscholastic relay races of the University of Pennsylvania will be held on Franklin field in Philadelphia, April 26, and will be open to all the colleges and universities of the United States and Canada.

There will be three races to determine the college championship of America. One race will be for a mile, each of the contestants running the quarter. The second race will be at four miles, each member of the relay team running a mile. The third race will be for a distance of two miles, each runner going a half mile.

In addition to the relay races there will also be scratch events, open only to college men, graduate or undergraduates, in which the first prize will be a gold watch; 100-yard dash, 120-yard hurdle, high jump, broad jump, shot-put, hammer-throw, discus, and pole vault.

## LAST WOOD CHURCH

Edifice Built 900 Years Ago Still Stands in England.

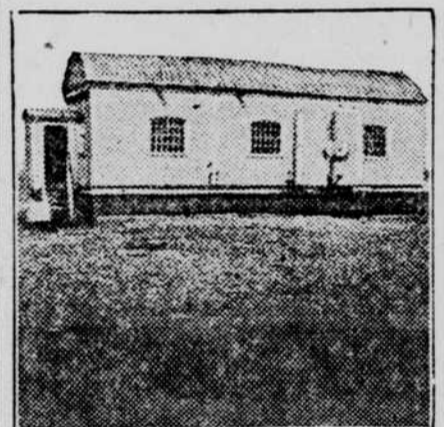
Ancient Building of Greensted Was Constructed of Oak Timbers and Is Believed to Have Sheltered Remains of St. Edmund.

London.—In many of the northern countries of Europe, as well as in England, there is abundant evidence of the use of wood in the middle ages for the construction of sacred buildings. "There was a time," says the Venerable Bede, "when there was not a stone church in all the land, but the custom was to build them all of wood." The earliest cathedral at York and the Church of Lindisfarne, in Holy Island, were built of wood. The best account of these early wooden churches is to be found in Professor Dietrich's book on the Norse Stavkirker. In Norway some 24 out of 1,000 or more of the original stavekirker still exist. In England there remains only one such wooden church, the nave of which is a genuine example of Saxon timber building—Greensted, in Essex.

The little Church of Greensted lies a mile west of Ongar, and about 20 miles northeast of London, and is almost screened from the observation of the traveler approaching from either direction by tall trees. It is in all probability due to its exceptionally sequestered position, as well as to its small size and insignificant endowments, that it has escaped unharmed during 900 years of eventful and tumultuous history.

The accredited tradition connects the foundation of the church with the history of St. Edmund, the martyred king of East Anglia, who was murdered by the Danes in 870 A. D., in the twenty-ninth year of his age. The life and death of this king formed the theme for the songs of many early English chroniclers. When the saint's body was brought from London to Edmondsbury in 1913 a temporary resting place was afforded the remains at Greensted, where the monks hastily erected a wooden chapel to give them shelter.

There is much, however, to suggest that the fabric is of still older date. If the building had been erected for the reason assigned, it surely would have been dedicated to St. Edmund, rather than to St. Andrew, as is the case. Moreover, the method of construction is not that which was usual in the eleventh century, when churches of stone were common, but belongs rather to an age anterior by one or two centuries. The structure also shows no sign of hasty erection,



Old Church at Greensted, Essex England.

but is substantially knit together of the trunks of old oak trees placed one against the other, the round side being outermost. We may therefore from this and other evidence conclude that the church was preserved when buildings of stone became common, because of the sacred use to which it was hastily erected to give a night's shelter to the body of the saint.

In 1848 a thorough restoration of the church became necessary. The oak sills, which had been laid on the earth with some rough flint put under at intervals, had become so rotten as to let the upright timbers drop through. The greater part of the old oak timbers were preserved, but it was necessary to cut some five inches from the lower ends owing to the ravages made by the wood beetle. A course of bricks was placed beneath, and on this the oak trunks still rest. For many centuries the cleft logs or trunks had been covered with plaster within and without, which had doubtless been instrumental in preserving them from the weather. This plaster now was removed. The trunks forming the walls number 25 on the north side and 21 on the south. The total length of the nave is 30 feet, and the width 14 feet. The roof was originally, no doubt, of simple thatch. To this primitive structure was added a chancel or later date.

That now existing, which may date from the reign of Henry VII., probably replaced one of the Norman period, and relics of this earlier flint chancel may be seen under each the present brickwork. A tower and spire covered with shingles of the west end are of fifteenth century date.

To celebrate the nine hundredth anniversary of the founding of this church, the rector and parishioners propose to hold a special commemorative service on St. Alban's day, and to erect a yeh gate as a tangible memorial of the historical event.

Hard and sound, though beaten by the storms of nearly a thousand winters, the ancient trunks of Greensted church yet promise to endure a thousand more.

## AROUSES BOSTON GIRLS' IRE

Professor Says That He Believes Not One of Them Has Perfect Foot.

Boston.—Boston women are sincerely indignant because men who have set themselves up as experts have declared "no Boston girl has a perfect foot." Dr. E. H. Bradford says so. He is head of the Harvard Medical School and is an expert on the structure of the human foot. He says: "I do not believe there is a girl in all Boston with a perfect foot."

## Afternoon Dress a Triumph of the Expert Parisian Modiste



Afternoon dress of red voile, pleated with belt of embroidered ribbon. The skirt forms three rows of straight cut ruffles.

## STYLES IN CHILDREN'S COATS AIM SHOULD BE SIMPLICITY

Severe Simplicity Will Be the Accepted Idea for the Models of the Coming Season.

According to the Dry Goods Economist, simple tailored styles for everyday wear are receiving the most attention in children's coats. Such garments are shown in serges, Bedford cords, wiltons, poplins and fancy mixtures. The collars, cuffs and revers are usually of silk, ratine or cloth in some bright color. On the dressier numbers lingerie collars and cuffs are employed. In most instances these are made detachable, so that they can be easily laundered. Belts are a feature of many of the best selling models. Frequently the belt is seen only in the back section. When the entire belt is used it is placed several inches below the waist line and is made of satin, silk or velvet. Plain or crushed broad velvet belts are considered particularly smart and are used with excellent effect on bright colored coats in red, Wilhelmina blue, tan and rose. Sashes are also being used in a similar manner. These are frequently in black or of the same shade as the coat itself.

Best Ideas for Dressing of Young Girl's Hair Is Here Given From Authority.

In the Woman's Home Companion Grace Margaret Gould writes "A Talk With Girls About Their Clothes." Following is an extract which presents Miss Gould's ideas about hairdressing for young girls:

"In arranging your hair, I would bear first in mind, if I were you, not to hide the shape of your head. You may admire the way your older sister or your best friend's mother wears her hair, but don't try to copy it. The more simply you fix your hair the more becoming it is sure to be. Parting the hair either in the middle of the sides is very pretty if it happens to be becoming to you, but if it is not, the soft wavy pompadour worn without a rat is in quite as good style. The hair which is drawn back from the forehead in a low pompadour and continued back over the crown of the head, where it is then made into a little coil covered by a big bow, is very effective, only it must not have the effect of all bow and little head. The bow should be small enough to show two cunning little curls below it."

## IDEAS FOR SPRING DRESSES

According to Information, Printed Silks Will Be Largely Used in the New Costumes.

Paris dressmakers are using printed silks of rather florid designs on soft silks and crepe de chimes for linings, especially where plain materials are in question. All crepe fabrics also are in demand for home gowns, and with these the introduction of printed silks will take the form of collar facings and little touches in the waist-bands. Buttons will also be covered in small designed printed silk.

Sponge cloths, ratine or velour de laine, all more or less the same thing, will still find favor in the early spring, but serge and suitings in navy blue promise to be more in vogue than ever.

In the navy blue suiting the tiny pin stripe is likely to lead the way, one or two coats and skirts having already been seen in this material. The fashion in tailor makes does not just yet show much change. The lines are simple in the extreme. The inverted pleat at front and back, allowing of a little more freedom in movement, but retaining the straight line, is so far the only innovation.

Frisilly Fashions. Certain details of dress are being hotly debated at the present time, and in the end we shall all follow the whim of the moment, as we are allowed to do in these happy days. Last spring the new fashion of long sleeves was much heralded, which for some queer reason the dressmakers tried to force us to accept when summer was coming in.

The fashion, so far as summer was concerned, was foredoomed to failure. But when autumn arrived, of course, the time of the long sleeve had come, and down it crept accordingly until now, when, apart from the prevailing frills, the material itself reaches down half way to the finger tips in the old familiar Bernhardt fashion.

To Freshen Ribbons. Ribbons and silk can usually be made to look fresher if they are washed in soapy water, dried and ironed. If they are desired stiff they should be ironed while wet. If they are to be soft they must first be dried, and any wrinkles which refuse to iron out without water can be moistened with a sponge wrung dry.

## SMART SPRING SUIT



A spring suit of navy blue broadcloth with one button cutaway jacket.

New Screens. Many of the new screens are exceedingly beautiful. Those of embossed leather are much in demand. Except in the distinctly Oriental screens there is a reaction against anything like sumptuous decoration. When covered with the new brocades that show gold and silver threads interwoven in the lovely patterns of olden time the screens are much to be desired. There is a slight tendency to have the material employed for the screens match the curtains of dining rooms, libraries and bedrooms.

Too Much. "My feelings have been lacerated." "Did it take?"

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, etc. 25c a bottle.

Sometimes the early bird has a long wait before breakfast is served in the dining car.

Red Cross Ball Blue gives double value for your money, goes twice as far as any other. Ask your grocer. Adv.

Not Quite. "Is he what you might call a police captain at large?" "No, he's only out on bail."—Town Topics.

ASK FOR ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE, the Antiseptic powder to shake into your shoes. Relieves Corns, Bunions, Ingrowing Nails, Swollen and Sweating Feet, Blisters and Callous spots. Sold everywhere. Don't accept any substitute. Sample FREE. Address Allen S. Umsted, Leno, N.Y. Adv.

Good Question. "Sunday School Teacher—And the serpent, for tempting Eve, was made to crawl all the rest of his life." "Small Girl—Please, sir, an' how did he get along in the world before?"

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* in Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Directly Children Aright. The young need to be taught that although there is sometimes a pleasure of the senses in committing sin, it is inevitably followed by remorse and punishment. Crime, remorse, punishment form an inseparable trio. On the other hand, while it is often hard to do right, the sense of satisfaction, self-respect and self-control that follows right action is worth all the effort made.

## HOW TO TREAT PIMPLES AND BLACKHEADS

For pimples and blackheads the following is a most effective and economical treatment: Gently smear the affected parts with Cuticura Ointment, on the end of the finger, but do not rub. Wash off the Cuticura Ointment in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water and continue bathing for some minutes. This treatment is best on rising and retiring. At other times use Cuticura Soap freely for the toilet and bath, to assist in preventing inflammation, irritation and clogging of the pores, the common cause of pimples, blackheads, redness and roughness, yellow, oily, mothy and other unwholesome conditions of the skin.

Cuticura Soap and Ointment sold throughout the world. Sample of each free with 32-p. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston." Adv.

Warranted in Using Cuss Words. A small boy in Fort Scott was out playing with his wagon one day and just at the critical moment one wheel came off. The youngster walked around the wagon several times and surveyed it with the air of one accustomed to disappointments. As he dragged the wagon to his home he met a boy friend who joined him, and together they trudged on, the Fort Scott Tribune says. The owner of the wagon sat on the front step with a forlorn look; then quickly brightening up he exclaimed: "Let's cuss." "All right," returned the other, "Cuss, cuss, cuss."—Kansas City Star.

The Silo as a Forage Bank. There is produced every year in this country sufficient forage to feed liberally all the live stock of the land, and leave a good balance besides. The shortage of supplies each year is due to the spoiling and wasting of forage already grown, and the means of preserving this forage will solve the stock problem of the country. The principal waste is now going on with the corn plant. It is most noticeable in the corn belt states where perhaps 80 per cent of the stalk and leaves of this most valuable forage is wasted annually. As economic stock production is determined by the proper use of forage, the silo furnishes a means whereby all farm forage can be preserved and placed in the best possible condition of feeding. The silo is too well known to require a description of this method, but its use is certainly sadly wanting. It can be safely said, on any farm where 10 head or more of cattle are kept, a silo is a proper equipment, and of great economic value.

## THE KNOW HOW To Feed Children and Get Good Results.

There are more nervous persons made so by undigested food lying in the stomach than the average individual would suppose.

If food remains undigested in the stomach, it begins to ferment, set up gas and a large portion is thus converted into poison.

That's why imperfectly digested food may, and often does, cause irritation of the nerves and stupor of the mind—brain and nerves are really poisoned. "My daughter had complained for some time of a distressed feeling in the stomach, after eating, which set me thinking that her diet was not right," writes an anxious and intelligent mother.

"She had been fond of cereals, but had never tried Grape-Nuts. From reading the account of this predigested food, it seemed reasonable to try Grape-Nuts for her case. "The results were really wonderful. The little brain that seemed at times unable to do its work, took on new life and vigor. Every morning, now, before going to school, she eats the crisp little morsels and is now completely and entirely well, she seems to have a new lease on life—no more distress in the stomach, no headache, but sound and well every way." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

"There's a Reason." Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.