

Livey Ball Hasn't Upset Pitching, Says Christy Mathewson, Greatest Hurler

New York, Dec. 17.—Christy Mathewson, the acknowledged peer of baseball pitchers of all time, rest of his 210 pounds of overweight in a hotel lounge chair, adjusted his tortoise shell spectacles, and proceeded to shell out his bits of advice to "Babe" Ruth and bits of reminiscences of "the good old days" when Matty was king.

Coming down from Saranac, where he has been countering the scourge of tuberculosis, Matty is aiding in the sale of anti-tubercular stamps to the Christmas trade. But wherever Matty is, baseball is talked, and so he was asked his opinion of the livey ball which has resulted in hundreds of home runs in the last two seasons.

"All this talk of a livey ball appears to be all stuff," Matty answered with a smile. "I don't think the livey ball has really upset pitching. It makes no difference whether it's a livey ball or an old-fashioned one, a batter must get hold of it to smack it. It's the pitcher's job not to let them get hold of it."

Matty was reminded that "Babe" Ruth frequently gets long drives on balls apparently not pitched perfectly—on balls that the "Babe" did not "get hold of" just right.

"Yes," replied Matty, "but that bird does get hold of many of them. 'Babe' is the best pitcher in the world's series that I ever saw in my life. You remember the one that Tinker hit over Cy Seymour's head in that play-off game with the Cubs, in 1908? He played away back and then missed it. Let me tell you something: On this one hit by the 'Babe' to Cunningham—well, if Cy had been that far back he would have had to run in 50 yards to have caught Tinker's smash—that's how far out it was.

"Then you don't think the livey ball is tough on pitchers?" "Sure," it's tough on 'em to see the old pill plasted out of the lot. They can learn how to pitch it. 'Babe' is the best pitcher in the world's series that I ever saw in my life. You remember the one that Tinker hit over Cy Seymour's head in that play-off game with the Cubs, in 1908? He played away back and then missed it. Let me tell you something: On this one hit by the 'Babe' to Cunningham—well, if Cy had been that far back he would have had to run in 50 yards to have caught Tinker's smash—that's how far out it was.

"How do you account for all the home run busting this year?" "Why, the fellows are using long handled bats and are trying to hit home runs because they are popular. In the old days if a batter took a swing like that he'd be fined. That's it. Why, Hornsby, Williams, Ruth—all of them—are taking that long swing simply trying to hit home runs. That's it."

"Feel like you'd like to get in there again?" "No, but I won't. I'm getting good at that. You know," he added exhibiting his 220 pounds of weight. "I am a full exercise man now. Know what that means? It means the doc has said that I can take as much exercise as I want. Up to a few weeks ago I could take only 20 minutes a day. I haven't got a sign of 'em any more. 'Tm about well—but I'm running on one cylinder."

Incidentally, "Babe" Ruth himself has been down from his farm, near Sudbury, Mass., for a couple of days, although it has been thought he would stick religiously to the farm until time for making some next spring. The "Babe" insisted he is training constantly.

Walking, hunting and shopping trees are the three P's in the Babe's forest catechism. "I get up at 7 o'clock every morning," he explained, "and take a ten mile jaunt through the woods. Half of it's jaunt and the other half I jog, and it has worked wonders with me. I went up there scaling about 235 and I was flabby. I'm down to 215 now. "My eyes are stronger and keener than ever," he continued. "The other day I was out hunting and out of eight shots I came through on seven."



Babe Ruth

Denver Will Remain in League—After New Manager for Next Year—Need Players

Giants' Kidding New to Bezdek

Mention of Hugo Bezdek's name as successor to Irving Wilhelm as manager of the Phillies calls to mind an incident of his first week or so as leader of the Pirates. The Giants visited Pittsburgh for a series and during the first game the boys had considerable to say to the stocky Bezdek, who was on the coaching lines.

Most prominent in this connection was Charles Herzog, then the Giants' second baseman and widely known as a goat getter. His running fire of comment aimed at Bezdek, evidently got under Herzog's skin, for that night the Pirate manager sought Herzog out at the Giants' hotel and demanded an explanation from him. Plainly he was ready to fight if the explanation was not satisfactory.

"You shouldn't mind a little thing like that," said Herzog, with a laugh. "You're new to the game, so we just thought we'd put the bridle on you and ride you around a bit."

This jargon of professional baseball was quite beyond the comprehension of Bezdek, whose experience up to that time had been solely in collegiate athletic circles, but Herzog made it plain to him that the boys merely had been kidding; that it was the accepted thing in professional baseball; that no harm was intended.

"We didn't cuss you or call you any names, did we?" insisted Herzog. "Well," answered Bezdek, rather dubiously, "you did say I looked like Barney Dreyfuss."

Creighton Followers to Start Drive for Stadium and Field Fund
A drive to raise \$20,000,000 to erect a new stadium and athletic field at Creighton, will be launched early next spring, according to present plans of Creighton university officials.

Maroons Play Tabor Soon

Retiring Army Officer Is Presented With D. S. C.
Columbus, Dec. 17.—Retiring from active service in the army after 27 years, Col. James Swilson, medical corps, was presented with the Distinguished Service Medal for "exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service as chief surgeon of the American Expeditionary Force in Siberia."

"Battle of Tijuana" Raging Between Croffroth and Bassity

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 17.—Out here they call it the "Battle of Tijuana" this fight between the Croffroth and Bassity interests for possession of the Tijuana race track. Aside from one day's suspension of racing, however, the horsemen nor public has been inconvenienced.

The suspension came on an order from the minister of war at Mexico City, who had received tidings of disorder and street fighting between members of the rival factions. His telegram was received at 11 o'clock in the morning. Three hours later, after being assured that all was quiet in Tijuana, he rescinded the order, but it was too late then to go ahead with the day's sport.

The only casualty to date is Col. Carlos Robinson, and his worst injury is to his feelings. "The colonel is six feet in height, weighing more than 250 pounds and carrying a sword fully three fathoms long. As the commander of the Mexican garrison at Tijuana, he threw a guard of soldiers around the house of Judge Preciado,

Breaks Most Targets at Ak Traps

Work on New Creighton Athletic Field Will Probably Start Early Next Spring
Creighton university is to have a new football stadium. Work on the new structure will probably begin next spring and will be completed in time for the 1923 football season. The stadium, being erected in connection with the new \$2,000,000 expansion plan recently adopted by Creighton and to be undertaken next spring.

The initial cost of the new stadium will be about \$150,000 and plans have been so drawn that additional units of seats may be added as needed. The stadium will seat 7,500 persons, according to the plans already drawn and accepted. Creighton athletic officials believe that the 7,500 limit of the first structure will be reached the first year after its completion and that the capacity will have to be doubled within a couple of years in order to take care of the crowds which will follow when Creighton is admitted to the Missouri Valley conference.

The new stadium will be located on the Creighton campus along Burt street from Twenty-fifth street to Twenty-seventh street. The city of Omaha has recently abandoned cross streets in this section to make room for the new building plan of the university and the way is now practically cleared for action. The present football field at Creighton is already outgrown in size but in addition, it will have to be abandoned and torn down to make room for buildings under plan by the university.

The first unit of the grandstand will be erected on the south side of the new stadium. It will be of permanent construction only concrete and steel being used. Not a stick of wood will enter into construction of the stand. The seating capacity of the first unit will be 7,500. Plans for the second unit, including the first unit, have already been drawn by Architect John Latenser. Bids for the work have not yet been called for and specifications will probably not be given to contractors until spring.

Creighton athletic officials have strong hopes that Creighton will soon be admitted to the Missouri Valley conference and are working to that end. The rules of the Missouri Valley conference are being rigidly enforced and adhered to this season and this is the policy which Creighton will pursue in the future.

Once the conference is attained, Creighton will feel assured that games with the very largest institutions in the circle will be brought to Omaha, which, by the way, is the largest city in the Missouri Valley conference.

Hampton Roads Boxers Defeat Great Lakes Team
Norfolk, Dec. 17.—The Hampton Roads naval training station boxing team defeated the Great Lakes training station at the Hampton Roads Naval base, in five out of eight bouts, which, by the way, is the largest city in the Missouri Valley conference.

Legion Planning Fight Show

Cancelled the match because of a toothache or something. Anyway, Isaacson of the Douglas Legion athletic committee, says the Legion is ready to stage the match any time Stecher and Hanson can get together.

Coming Matches in Ring and on Mat
Dec. 18.—Kid Williams vs. Young Montez, 12 rounds, Jackson, Baltimore; Jamaica Kid vs. Tiger Flowers, 10 rounds, Cincinnati; Alvin Karpis vs. Pat O'Connell, 10 rounds, London; Mike Kelly vs. Frank Danonno, 10 rounds, Brooklyn; Eddie Jolley vs. Bert Johnson, 10 rounds, Detroit; Mickey Walker vs. Phil Krug, 12 rounds, no decision, Newark, N. J.; Frankie Johnson vs. Jaber White, 12 rounds, decision, Harlem, N. Y.; Willie Garber vs. Young Jack Moore, 10 rounds, N. Y.; Willie Garber vs. Willie Curry vs. Harry Rigby, 12 rounds, St. Louis, Mo.; Red Chapman vs. Roy Chalmers, 10 rounds, New Orleans; Al Carlie vs. Raymond Cullotta, New Orleans.

Dec. 21.—Eddie Anderson vs. Terry Martin, 10 rounds, New York; Joe Benn vs. Willie Herman, 12 rounds, Paterson, N. J.; Harry Kelly vs. Lefty Thomas, 8 rounds, New York; Pal Moore vs. Bud Taylor, 10 rounds, Chicago.

Dec. 22.—Jimmy Mars vs. Willie Garber, 10 rounds, Harlem, N. Y.; Bobby Fitzsimmons vs. Jack Britton vs. Bobby Fitzsimmons, 10 rounds, Philadelphia; Willie Fitzsimmons vs. Alvin Karpis vs. Benny Gould, Toronto, Ont.; Herman vs. Johnny Martin, 12 rounds, no decision, Passaic, N. J.

Dec. 23.—Fanecho Villa vs. Terry Martin, N. Y.; Jimmy Russell vs. Charley Winley, 8 rounds, Dayton, O.; Jan. 10.—Harry Greb vs. Jim Delaney, New York; Joe Beckett vs. Dick Smith, 20 rounds, decision, London, Eng.

A new potato scraper has been invented, made of a glove covered with a rust-proof wire netting.

Says "Bugs" Baier: 'TIS OF THEE

Sweet Team of Guessers, of Thee We Sing.
AFTER having broken your leg in two places for one college, it's a lot of butter on your bread to get picked for somebody's All-American football team.

Population of United States and averages is 110,000,000. There are 10,000,000 experts. Every expert picks 11 people for his All-American football party.

That's the reason they call it All-American. Everybody in works plays on it. Like beauty contests, All-American team is picked by photographs.

No two experts agree on same players. If any man is picked for two teams, he must be twins.

Expert doesn't have to see his picked birds play to know that they are good. All he does is read list of other experts. Then he disagrees with them.

If one of these guessing teams were to play against Weejeo team for championship of colleges, swamps or Automats, it would be the worst game played since 1492 or any other historical date.

Fortunately, All-American teams don't play. All they do is to get picked up and put into catalogues like Burpee's flower seeds.

Why not get two of those teams together and let 'em play and prove something? Nobody knows what it will verify. But if it only endorses Einstein's theory of universal flying pans, that would be something.

Joe Stecher Wants to Know What Has Become of Charlie Hanson

By RALPH WAGNER.
It's a open season on wrestlers. Joe Stecher, former world's king in among the mat artists, has armed himself and brother-in-law manager Tony, with a flock of challenges and is going to step forth in the cold, cold world and hurl his challenges at all the wrestlers in the land.

The Dodge (Neb.) rapper says he is in a fine condition for a hunt and is all dressed up and hasn't any place to go, which translated means that Charlie Hanson, Stecher is rarin' to land a match with any bone-crusher in the world, bar none, and Champion Ed (Strangler) Lewis included.

"What has become of Charlie Hanson?" chirps the Stecher brigade. "Not a thing," snaps back "Doc" Elwood, manager of one Charlie Hanson. "Why can't we wrestle?" means Joe Stecher. "I want you a couple more apartment houses before all the boxers get 'em."

"Hanson wants to wrestle the champion before meeting any second-raters," comes back Elwood. "Wow," says Stecher. "That's the blow that killed the old man. How stand in position and kick the ball so that one of the ends could snatch it over his shoulder while running. It required far more accuracy than the pass. I think I had on the only piece of equipment furnished by the university that year. Knowing that we were outweighed Yost figured our only chance was by using the quarterback kick. So the university bought me a pair of shoes and I completed 10 out of 11 attempts which was a record in those days.

We had two games in Colorado that year, one with Colorado university and another following with the Denver Athletic club's team. The latter aggregation was a professional outfit recruited from college players, most of whom were from the east. We won both games, beating the university

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Promising Cagers at Chadron Normal

Chadron, Neb., Dec. 17.—Two veteran players and a substitute of last year's team will form the nucleus of the Chadron Normal school and Teachers' college basketball team this season, according to R. E. West, director of athletics at that institution. Former Captain Ernie Bruning and McKelvey of Casper, Wyo., are out for guard and forward positions, respectively, while Pete of Alliance, former substitute and utility player, is keeping an eye trained on the center station.

New men of considerable playing ability from which the team will ultimately be selected in part are Ed of Alliance, center; O'Connor of Alliance, center; Lingle, Morrill, center; Kulkik, Gordon, forward; Chalfout, Chadron, forward; Fisher, Chadron, forward; Powers, De Moines, Ia., forward, and Greenman, Indiana, Ia., guard.

Yates of Ottumwa, Ia., last year's captain, did not return to school this year and it will become necessary to select a new captain from the two letter men on the team.

The Chadron basketball schedule about complete. It is as follows: December 25—Chadron High school at Chadron; January 12—Spearfish Normal at Chadron; January 13—South Dakota School of Mines at Chadron; January 15—Wayne Normal at Chadron; January 23—Midland college at Chadron; February 6—Wayne Normal at Wayne; February 7—Midland college at Fremont; February 8—Custer college at Bethany; February 9—Peru Normal school at Peru; February 14—Kearney Normal at Chadron; March 1—Kearney Normal at Kearney; March 8—South Dakota School of Mines at Rapid City, S. D.; March 9—Spearfish Normal at Spearfish, S. D.

Game Wardens Arrest Man for Shooting Golden Eagle

New Lexington, O., Dec. 17.—William White of Corning, Perry county, was placed under arrest here by game wardens charged with shooting a golden eagle. The bird measured 82 inches from tip to tip and was only two-thirds grown. Farmers declared the bird was responsible for the disappearance of many of its lambs in this section in the last few days.

Basket-Ball Facts You Should Know

Q. In an amateur game, after dribbling down the floor, takes a shot at basket and misses. May I follow in and shoot another shot before the ball has been touched by another player?
A. Yes, as soon as you let your first shot your play is completed and the ball becomes a free ball.

Q. If two opponents strike a ball at the same time, how long is the referee allowed to strike ball on its way up?
A. None. The ball must be tapped at its highest point and before it has its way down in professional game.

Q. How long is the referee allowed to keep his right or left hand behind his back?
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Ray Elliott Compares Present Day Grid Game With Old Style of Play

By RAY ELLIOTT.
Milton's Note—One of the best quarterbacks who ever played on a 1898, but has been closely identified with Nebraska football ever since. He was the only player in the game who was in the early days excepting in the class of play used today. He was a coach at Michigan, the only year "Hurry-Up" Yost directed a Nebraska team.

In writing of the old 1898 team, after having been interested in every Nebraska team since that time, forces me to go pretty deep in my memory.

Fielding H. Yost was our coach that year and I believe his salary was \$600, of which he had \$200 still due him after the season closed. They called him "Hurry-Up" Yost, and that certainly was an appropriate name. But

between halves, if you had happened to pull what is now termed a "bone" his knowledge of explosives was not only a source of wonder to our members of the team, but served as a marvelous tonic. The player addressed was certain never to repeat the mistake which called forth the censure.

In those days we would start on a trip with four substitutes and always played a game Saturday and another Monday. There was no surplus of players and there a regular went out of the game he could not return. Naturally every one of them had to play in the fray as long as he could stand on his feet. That was the worst feature of the game as it was played in those days.

Played William Jewell. We played William Jewell a pro-

vided in position and kick the ball so that one of the ends could snatch it over his shoulder while running. It required far more accuracy than the pass. I think I had on the only piece of equipment furnished by the university that year. Knowing that we were outweighed Yost figured our only chance was by using the quarterback kick. So the university bought me a pair of shoes and I completed 10 out of 11 attempts which was a record in those days.

We had two games in Colorado that year, one with Colorado university and another following with the Denver Athletic club's team. The latter aggregation was a professional outfit recruited from college players, most of whom were from the east. We won both games, beating the university

best. Knowing it was to be minutes the ball straight out and the player here the man crosses, a team uses better generalship in sending him across in order that the kick may be made from a vantage point rather than an angle.

I have followed the grid game closely since it quit playing and I can see little difference in the present game, excepting in the class of play used. It is, and always will be, a case of balance, brains and coaching. Any grid star must have individual coaching along the lines of stiff-arm, side-stepping, twisting and change of pace and then have the head to "tuck his shifting" to get his opponent off of balance. After the individual work has been completed then comes the

team work. Football playing should be called football working. I have seen men who did not look good to start work hard and use their head and by doing this climb to stardom, where the man with plenty of natural ability refused to work and didn't get any place. My contention is that instead of having one man star in the backfield, every back should have the same stuff. Then the opponents would be watching all of them instead of having the star marked.