

HISTORY OF THE DAVIS CUP

How the International Trophy Came to Be.

ANGLO-SAXONS CLAIM IT ALWAYS

Lawn Tennis Prize Has Been Held by This Country, the United Kingdom and Australasia in Turn Since 1900.

It is for the privilege of going after a lawn tennis trophy something like 10,000 miles away that the American and British players did battle recently at the Longwood Cricket club courts near Boston.

It was held from 1900 to 1903 by the United States, from 1903 to 1907 by the United Kingdom and last year the men from the downwind country carried it off to Australasia. And now, since the matches at Longwood are over, the American winners will prepare for the trip across-country to take a Pacific steamer to Melbourne, there to struggle with the holders.

England's First Invasion.

The English sent over A. W. Gore, E. D. Black and H. Roper Barrett, a very excellent trio, but not the best men in England. The Doherty's did not make their invasion until later. Against the British three America nominated Malcolm D. Whitman, Holcombe Ward and the donor, Dwight F. Davis.

The Plan Behind the Suit



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challenged, but at the last moment withdrew the team, although all arrangements had been made for them. That did not interrupt the good feeling for more than a brief time, and in 1905 there were Davis cup matches here again.

R. F. Doherty and Larned faced off in singles for the first day and Whitman engaged Dr. Fim. In both cases rain stopped the matches after two sets. America was jubilant because Larned was leading Doherty two sets to none and Whitman had won the first set.

It was at Longwood the year following that the British lifted the bowl after some very exciting incidents. For one thing the Doherty's, who came over with the late Harold E. Mahony, seemed to be doing for hard luck. While playing at Nahant five days before the matches R. F. Doherty wrenched his shoulder and was unable to do much with it.

The Doherty's played against the Wrenn brothers, Robert and George L. Jr. in a great match. The scores, if nothing else, show what a struggle it was. America won the first set after sixteen games and the British the second after twelve games.

There were some unfortunate complications the next year. The British players were played, as this week's will be, at Longwood. The first day America took the lead. Whitman easily did away with Gore and Davis put out Black.

Belgium and France Challenge. The year following, 1904, the Americans had not gathered forces enough to try to regain the cup. On the other side, Belgium and France challenged for the trophy.

Hard Fight in Singles. Wright was not included in the singles in the challenge with the British players. Ward was the American singles champion and he played with Larned.

Accident to Wright. That was the year of the accident to Wright. As it was explained, two mornings before the players were to leave this country, Wright arising early in the Crescent Athletic club house at Bay Ridge, cut his hand while attempting to open a bottle of champagne.

Wright is a left handed player, so that directly did not affect his game. But the effect of the injury was to cause blood poisoning. Wright was unable to play on the other side and furthermore had to have part of the finger taken off.

matches and Foldevin lost his, so that it came down to the doubles. Ward and Little were chosen as team-mates, but luckily for them equally so were Whiting and Poldevin. This produced raged, but aggressive tennis, in which the Americans won.

Australia Gets the Cup. It was last year that the cup changed hands again. The playing of Norman F. Brookes was wonderful and upon him fell the greater part of the work of taking the Davis cup. He was a master at every point and unbeatable.

Results of Cup Play. The results of the Davis cup matches from the beginning of play for the trophy are: 1900. UNITED KINGDOM VS. UNITED STATES

1901. UNITED KINGDOM VS. UNITED STATES M. D. Whitman, United States, defeated W. A. Larned, United States, 5-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

1902. UNITED KINGDOM VS. UNITED STATES R. F. Doherty, United Kingdom, defeated W. A. Larned, United States, 6-1, 6-1, 1-6, 6-0.

1903. UNITED KINGDOM VS. UNITED STATES H. L. Doherty, United Kingdom, defeated R. D. Wrenn, United States, 6-0, 6-3, 6-4.

1904. BELGIUM VS. UNITED STATES Belgium defeated France, three matches to two. England defeated Belgium, in the final round, five matches to nothing.

1905. AUSTRALASIA VS. UNITED STATES W. A. Larned, United States, defeated N. E. Brookes, Australasia, 14-12, 6-0, 6-3.

1906. AUSTRALASIA VS. UNITED STATES N. E. Brookes, Australasia, defeated B. C. Wright, United States, 6-2, 6-4, 7-5, 6-3.

before were in Internationals. Larned in the eight international matches lost four. Wright has played four singles matches, winning three and losing one. In doubles he has played four matches, winning three and losing one.

That is twelve years older than Parke, who has been Irish champion three times. There is a sort of rivalry between the Ritchie-Parke combination and that of Wright and Behr. Not that Wright is as old as Ritchie, but in that there is one tried man again and one new one, the sort of players who may rise to emergencies.

Boxing Game Pays Big Profits. Fight Clubs at San Francisco Take in Large Sums at Gate. SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 26.—Profits made by the boxing clubs here exceed all expectations for the hot season.

Penn Squad Looks Good at First. Men Return from Seashore Well Browned and Hardened. PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 26.—The University of Pennsylvania squad is hoping for the best, yet fearing for the worst.

Aeronautics. It is estimated that the skins of about 600,000 cattle will be required to construct Zeppelin's new airship.

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