Riotous Scenes on Gridirons in Early Days of Foot Ball in America

PRINCETON CARRIES HONOR OF BEING FIRST IN GAME

Tigers' First Contest With Rutgers in 1870, and They Went Down to Defeat.

BY PARKE H. DAVIS

Of the intercollegiate rules committee.

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Foot ball in America owes its origin to the sport of country boyhood of kicking an inflated bladder about the fields. The transition of this sport to the campus of the college was a sequence too natural to be marked by formality or preserved by record. Traces of such play are to be found at Princeton prior to the revolution. Fancy pictures as predecessors of Old Nassau's gridiron stars of today Benjamin Rush, James Madison, Aaron Burr and Philip Freneau. Indeed, in the cause of Princeton's great prestige in games afield, notwithstanding its comparatively small numbers, is due the fact that upon its campus outdoor sports from the very beginning vigorously have thrived. The collegians at this ancient seat of learning, on account of its isolated position in the country, were deprived of the amusements afforded to a college in the city, and were forced to manufacture their own means of diversion.

A search of the records disclose this significant minute in the archives of the faculty of the date of November 26, 1787: "It appearing that a play at present much practiced by the small boys among the students and by the grammar scholars with balls and sticks, is low and unbecoming gentlemen, and inasmuch as it is attended by alternate heats and colds, and as we are accountable to their parents and liable to be severely blamed by them, therefore the faculty think it incumbent upon them to prohibit the students from playing this game." What was this wicked game? The year of 1787, surprising to state, is not too early for "town ball" or "rounders," the predecessor of base ball. Perhaps it was "tipcat" and perhaps it was "shinny." Whatever it was, it had to go.

During the ensuing twenty years it appears the collegians assuaged their rampant spirits by walking, running, jumping with weights and other exercises of an individual character. The establishment of organized contests in skill and brawn further was stimulated by the presence in the student body of a preponderance of youths from the south whose racial insistence upon all political subjects of the day called either for acquiescence or a fight. Thus Potter's woods in the early part of the last century was the ground of many a bloody but fortunately deathless duel. In 1819 the faculty passed a resolution threatening with expulsion every student connected with a duel either as principal or auxiliary.

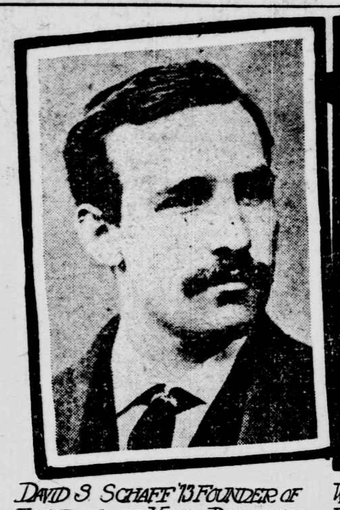
Forced to further invention the young Princetonians of 1829 adopted the English game of ballown, the batting about with the fists of a bladder. The transition also to the feet soon ensued and an ingenious set of rules immediately followed, thus placing at Princeton a definitely organized game of foot ball thirty-five years in advance of any other college. The field of play was the entire quadrangle between east and west colleges with the walls of these buildings the rival goals. The ball was put in play or "bucked" from an old revolutionary cannon, a relic of the battle of Princeton, that lay midway between. With the arrival of 1840 the round rubber ball made its appearance. In this period there was no limitation upon the numbers upon each side, but about 1860 an elaborate and technical code of playing rules limited the numbers in match games to twenty-five upon a side. Princeton's nearest neighbor is Rutgers at New Brunswick. Naturally foot ball at each institution followed a similar development, thus suggesting in 1869 an intercollegiate contest. The preliminaries for this the first intercollegiate game of foot ball played in America or England were arranged by William S. Gummere, '70, Princeton's original varsity captain, who was chosen for the occasion. This game was played at New Brunswick and was won by Rutgers. The importance of this contest in the annals of foot ball is illustrated by a glance at the following compilation of historic "first games":

Princeton, 4; Rutgers, 6; New Brunswick, November 6, 1869.

Oxford, 1; Cambridge, 0; Oxford, February 10, 1872.

Yale, 3; Columbia, 0; New Haven, November 16, 1872.

Harvard, 3; McGill, 0; Cambridge, May 14, 1874.



DAVID S. SCHAFF '73, FOUNDER OF FOOTBALL AT YALE—PROFESSOR IN WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

WM. S. GUMMERE '70—FOUNDER OF FOOTBALL AT PRINCETON AND 1ST VARSITY CAPT. PRESENT CHIEF JUSTICE OF NEW JERSEY

ROBT. GRANT '73—FOUNDER OF FOOTBALL AT HARVARD—JUDGE, AUTHOR AND OVERSEER AT HARVARD

Pennsylvania, 0; Princeton, 6, Germantown, November 11, 1876.

The origin of foot ball at Yale was precisely similar to that at Princeton.

From earliest times young Yale has kicked an inflated bladder about the green. About 1840 an organized rivalry arose between the two lower classes, which seized foot ball as a medium of conclusions. The contest in reality was a rush, but as a foot ball figured in it the struggle must be chronicled as foot ball. To New Haven's green on the afternoon of the fray came sophomores in fantastic garb and painted faces. The freshmen, under the guidance of the upper classmen, were withdrawn to one side and formed into a great, solid, V-shaped mass with the most gigantic freshman of the class carrying the ball and buried within the wedge. At the signal this mass started heavily to plough its way across the green. A corps of picked sophomores threw themselves upon its apex, and their comrades fell upon its flanks in fierce endeavor to reach and capture the ball.

About 1841 an exciting struggle of this character was in progress when a fireman's parade was passing. In the absence of records and at a distance of seventy years it is impossible to state whether the warlike recreation of the collegians aroused the primitive fighting lust in the firemen or whether the ornate costumes of the firemen evoked the sarcastic vein in the collegians, but in either event a clash took place between firemen and collegians that terminated the game and disrupted the parade. Students will claim that the fault lay with the firemen, but candor compels a historian to state that a magistrate in New Haven at that time thought differently. For he haled into his court Thomas H. Moody, '43, who, like little John Hampden, had stood in defense of his right to play upon the green, and fined him $20 with the imposition of $80 additional for costs. From the size of the bill of costs it would seem that the firemen resumed their parade, directing its route to the courthouse, where its members individually filed bills against Moody for witness fees and mileage.

Eventually an orderliness approaching punctiliousness crept into these contests. Thus the freshmen in the fall of 1857 posted upon the door of the Lyceum the following challenge:

Sophomores. The class of '61 hereby challenges the class of '60 to a game of foot ball, best two in three.

In behalf of the class,

R. L. CHAMBERLAIN,
JAMES W. McLANE,
A. SHERIDAN BURT,

Before the day was done upon the door of the Athenaeum appeared '60s reply:

"Come!
And like sacrifices in their trim,
To the fire eyed naiads of smoky war
All hot and bleeding will we offer you."
To our youthful friends of the class of '61.

We hereby accept your challenge to play the noble and time-honored game of foot ball and appoint 2:30 o'clock p.m., on Saturday, October 10, 1857, the foot ball grounds as the time and place.

In behalf of the class of '60.

I. J. POST,
E. G. MASSEY,
A. G. PALFREY,
Committee.

The quotation in the caption of the answer to this challenge, fearful as it is, neverless, was more gentle than some of its predecessors, to wit:

"Let them come on, the base born crew,
Each soiled, stained churl, alack?
What gain they but a splitten skull,
A sod for their base back."

As nowadays, upper classmen acted as umpires for these under class contests, but the townspeople sometimes constituted themselves a superior judicatory. Thus the struggle of October 10, 1857, was declared a tie by the officials, but ladies of New Haven who had watched the conflict from the balconies of the New Haven House and the steps of the old state house reversed the verdict by presenting their flowers to the freshmen.

These rushes at last went the way of all good things. They waxed too rough and in 1860 were abolished both by resolution of the faculty and by ordinance of the city of New Haven. And now foot ball at Yale slept for twelve years. At length in 1872 a young Rugbeian who had entered Yale in the class of 1873, David Schley Schaff, aroused the slumbering foot ball spirit and arranged a game between '72 and '73 upon the green. The authorities of the city, however, had not forgotten their ordinance and descended upon the game, almost provoking a riot. The faculty championed the right of the students to use the green. Out of the warmth of the altercation was born October 31, 1872, the Yale Foot Ball Association, with Schaff as president and captain. Municipal war was averted by the association leasing a lot on Elm street. Here beginneth modern foot ball at Yale, the university's first game being waged and won with Columbia under a modification of "association" rules, at Hamilton Park, November 16, 1872.

Antiquaries at Harvard claim that a foot ball was kicked promiscuously about the yard in a simple game as early as 1800. A few years later some genius devised a contest between the freshmen and sophomores. Today it would be called a rush instead of a game, but since it possessed a few crude rules of order and was played with a foot ball it must be accredited as the lineal progenitor of the fully perfected organism that today is presented upon Soldiers' Field.

The older foot ball generation of the present time well remembers the glories of Jarvis and Holmes fields, but there are a few whose recollection can run back to an arena known as the Delta, now the site of Memorial Hall. Here seventy years ago were held Harvard's first foot ball games, the freshmen-sophomore contests aforesaid. Upon the evening of the match, half-past six being the established hour, the upper classmen assembled and took seats upon a nearby fence.

The two lower classes to the last man present were marshaled in two opposing lines, the sturdiest representatives of the freshmen being in the center of this line with the ball. At the signal both lines advanced on the run to the center of the delta, where the freshmen endeavored to force their champion with the ball through the sophomores' ranks and onward to the line which the sophomores defended. A copious amount of fisticuffs in this encounter not only was natural but also was permissible. These ebullient young foot ball men, however, eventually became so boisterous and, as confidentially hinted, at times so pugnacious, that this sport came under the faculty displeasure. Periodic efforts to official prohibitions launched at it, but periodic was its reappearance. About 1845 some improvements were made in the game, and regular class contests organized, which continued for fifteen years. The pugnacious traditions of the past, however, still were present to keep alive its virile practices. In 1860, belicose year that it was, these class encounters were waged with unusual vim, prodigious noise and petty violence, for in the ranks of the combatants were some destined soon for glorious service upon the country's battlefields. In fact, the leading collegian in these games, Henry Ropes, '62, unconsciously was preparing for a greater leadership to terminate in a valiant death at the head of his regiment at Gettysburg. But the members of the faculty were not seers, so they determined to place upon these contests a quietus from which they never should awake. This was done by a resolution vigorous in its English and dire in its provisions for punishment.

* * *

The student body at Harvard bowed to the decree, but determined that the event should not pass without extraordinary signality. A great funeral celebration therefore was organized, the funeral of Foot Ball Fightum. A grave was dug in the delta, a memorial tablet prepared and a great pageant marshaled. As a capital feature the loudest voiced if not the best orator at Harvard was chosen to deliver the eulogy. This heroic effort, fortunately for posterity, was rescued from oblivion long years after and preserved in the columns of the Crimson, October 14, 1881. Its impressive periods still stir the soul although half a century has elapsed since they were spoken:

"Dearly beloved, we have met together upon this mournful occasion to perform the sad office over one whose long and honored life was put to an end in a sudden and violent manner. Last year, at this very time, in this very place, our poor friend's round, genial appearance and the elasticity of his movements gave promise of many years more to be added to a long life, which even then eclipsed that of the oldest graduate. When he rose exulting in the air propelled by the foot of the valiant Ropes we little thought then that today he would lie so low. Exult ye freshmen! The wise men who make big laws around a little table have stretched out their arms to protect your eyes and noses. For us there is naught but sorrow, the sweet association and tender memories of eyes bunged up, of noses wonderfully distended and of battered shins, and the many chance blows anteriorly and posteriorly received and delivered,—the rush, the struggle, the victory,—they call forth our deep regret and unaffected tears. The enthusiastic cheers, the singing of Auld Lang Syne as each stands grasping a brother's hand, all, all have passed away, and will soon be buried with the foot ball beneath the sod, to live hereafter only as a dream in our memories and in the college annals."

An ode specially composed for the occasion then was sung, the grave closed and the tablet erected bearing the inscription

HIC JACET
FOOT BALL FIGHTUM
Obiit July 2, 1860,
Aet. LX Years.
RESURGAT.

Twelve long years were destined to elapse before the event prophesied in this epitaph was to occur, but arise at last Foot Ball Fightum did, April 21, 1872, when the class of 1874 played the class of 1875 upon Boston Commons. From that day to this Foot Ball Fightum has been a hale and defiant figure at Harvard. In fact, to Harvard belongs the honor of introducing and establishing the present intercollegiate game, a modification of Rugby foot ball. The personal honors in founding foot ball at Harvard belong to Robert Grant, '73, who organized these class games. Singularly it was his brother, Henry R. Grant, '74, who established the sport as a varsity fixture. This youthful genius arranged and won a game with McGill University which was played at Cambridge. The popularity of the Rugby rules inundated the existing games and brought about a contest with Yale in 1875 and with Princeton in 1876. From that day to this the intercollegiate game has an orderly and continuous history.

Foot ball men find a source of signal pride in the achievements of the warriors of the gridiron in the serious pursuits of after life. The distinction of these three founders of foot ball at Harvard, Princeton and Yale is merely the initial achievement in highly successful careers. Robert Grant, '73, of Harvard, today is Judge Robert Grant of Boston, novelist, jurist and overseer of Harvard University. William S. Gummere, '70, of Princeton, is the present chief justice of the state of New Jersey. David Schley Schaff, '73, of Yale, is a famous divine, man of letters, and the occupant of an important chair in one of America's foremost theological institutions.

EARLY BATTLES GENERALLY BETWEEN DIFFERENT CLASSES

Gummere, Grant and Schaff Individual Leaders at Princeton, Harvard and Yale.

AMERICAN BOXERS HAD FINE TRIP OVER PACIFIC OCEAN

Bronson, Clabby, Thompson and Papke Train on Board Ship—Initiated Into the Order of Neptune.

By T. S. Andrews.

SUVA, Fiji Island, September 25 (special).—The American boxers have had the finest kind of a trip across the wide Pacific, and when they reach home they will have as many yarns to tell their friends as the Jackies of the American fleet when they returned from their tour of the world. The weather has been excellent and there has been no illness whatever among the boys. They had a splendid time during their stay at Honolulu and were entertained royally. Arrangements had been made for an exhibition, but owing to the supposed late arrival of the Zealandia the promoters had decided to call it off, and instead of giving a display of their fistic powers they were the recipients of a grand welcome on the part of many sporting men and business men interested in sports. If Battling Nelson had been along it would have given him all kinds of opportunities to rival Jack London as a descriptive writer. The stop at Hawaii was just enough to give the boys a chance to get their "sea legs" in order for the remainder of the voyage to Australia.

At Honolulu there were several American boxers who were very anxious to join the quartet and visit Australia, among them being Charlie Reilly of San Francisco, Jack McFadden of the same place and brother of the well known Kid McFadden and Dick Sullivan of California. Reilly intends to follow on the next boat to Sydney.

Crossing the equator the boxers were given a taste of real sea life when they were made members of the Order of Neptune. They were put through the rites in royal style—Bronson, Clabby, Thompson and Papke—being given the bath and all that goes with it. First they were placed under arrest. Then followed the usual shave by the ship barber and his wooden razor. The doctor gave his terrible medicines and the policeman helped them into the tank of water, a big sheet of canvas being used for the same. The court of Neptune looked like a gathering of Zulu warriors. Bronson said it was worse than going forty rounds with Rudy Unholz. Another amusing feature was blindfold boxing by the Americans and some of the Australian Cadets. It was something new in the line of boxing. The boxers—that is, each of them—had a bell and as they would ring the bell it would give the opponent an idea where to hit, the result being that the gloves were flying in all directions but the right place.

Cyclone Thompson had a cold for a few days and it stopped his training, but he soon recovered and resumed his work. After passing the equator the boys got down to real work, so as to be in shape for exhibitions at Suva and Brisbane, the first city on touching Australian soil. Bronson and Thompson sparred lightly every day and did from three to five miles on the deck every morning. Clabby did no boxing until he reached Suva and Papke also held off till the Fiji Island was reached, although they both did considerable walking and running. Thompson and Bronson had the sailors make an improvised punching bag, which they installed on the deck in the second cabin and made good use of it. In this manner Cyclone took off fully ten pounds in weight and got down to near his fighting weight. Bronson also took off considerable weight, as he had gained quite a bit the first week out, and is now almost in shape for any of the Australian lightweights. Clabby was anxious to add a few pounds to his bones, as he is just a little light at present and prefers to be nearer the 150-pound mark than at the welterweight limit of 145. Papke is feeling in fine spirits and says he has no fear of the outcome of his four battles, no matter whether they are middleweights or heavyweights. The Illinois champion feels so confident that he has written Hugh McIntosh in London to go ahead and arrange a match with Tom Thomas, the English champion, for the title of Great Britain. Papke also plans a fight or two in Paris after his English engagement; in fact, he may take on an extra man in Australia if asked to do so before starting for England.

Bronson is hot after the lightweight title, and if he wins all his battles in the Antipodes he will immediately go after Ad Wolgast for the championship and endeavor to get on with Freddy Welsh in England before Packy McFarland gets to the other side of the pond. Promoter McIntosh has offered a purse of $20,000 for a contest between either Bronson or Thompson and Wolgast, to take place in Australia, the distance to be twenty rounds.

This is probably more than any club in America will offer at the present time. Bronson can easily make the weight for Wolgast, but with Thompson it will be a harder job, although the Illinois Cyclone says he will make 133 pounds ringside whenever the champion will agree to a match, and he will also wager $5,000 on the side, but this goes only for a championship match. Clabby will in all probability be matched with Young Joseph or Harry Lewis in England for the welterweight title of the world, as Mr. McIntosh has intimated that he will make the date for the Milwaukee champion some time in February.

Walter Owens, the Indianapolis trainer, who is with Ray Bronson, will have a busy time of it on the trip, as he has practically arranged to train Thompson and Clabby in addition to Bronson, and he may also help Papke in case Duke Mullins does not arrive in time from England. Owens has been a trainer for the past five years and has made a success of his work. It is the intention of Owens to open a school of physical culture when he returns to the states.

A peculiar incident in connection with the changing of time at the equator, after passing it, to be correct, was the wiping out of Ed Kilpatrick's birthday. Ed is a brother of Charlie Kilpatrick, the well known American cycle performer, and intended celebrating his fortieth birthday September 25, but in this case the 25th does not come around at all, for when they went to bed Saturday evening, the 24th, they woke up next morning to find that they had lost a day, it being the 26th. Now Edward is wondering whether he is really forty or thirty-nine years of age. He will have no chance to celebrate now until September 25, 1911.

Why Harvard Crews Win.

NEW YORK, October 29.—In an endeavor to find out why Harvard crews have been defeating Yale recently a number of interesting statistics and articles have been published. It has been stated that Yale crews have not been heavy enough. From 1891 to 1905 Yale invariably defeated Harvard and had a heavier crew. Beginning in 1906, Yale was outweighed for five seasons and lost four races. Harvard's eight last season averaged 180 pounds and Yale averaged 171 pounds. Since 1891 the total average weight of Yale crews has been 171½ pounds, while that of Harvard has been 174½ pounds. Yale's average height during that time has been 5 feet 11 4-5 inches, to Harvard's 5 feet 11 2-5 inches. The average age of Yale oarsmen since 1891 has been twenty-one years and three months, and Harvard has averaged one month older.

Heavyweight Scrap.

NEW ORLEANS, La., October 29.—Another long-distance battle between heavyweights will be decided just across the river from New Orleans in two weeks. Jim Barry of Chicago, who beat Sandy Ferguson in fourteen rounds, will meet Tony Ross, the Italian fighter of Newcastle, Pa., who recently gave Al Kaufman a hard six-round bout in Philadelphia. Barry and Ross were matched to meet in a twenty-round battle for 60 per cent of the gross receipts. If Barry beats Ross the club officials will try to arrange a twenty-round bout between him and Kaufman, to take place the first week in December.

New Shells for Washington.

SEATTLE, Wash., October 29.—The University of Washington is to raise $1,200 for crew equipment next spring. The Seattle-built shells used last season were unsatisfactory, and an eastern firm is to receive an order for a new one or a second-hand boat is to be purchased from some eastern college.

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ACCIDENTS AND LUCK GIVE BASE BALL GREAT PLAYERS

Amos Rusie, Ed Delehanty, Ty Cobb, Hans Wagner and Ownie Bush Had Their Troubles Before They Finally Established Themselves in Major League Berths.

Some of the greatest ball players the game has ever known have been discovered by accident, or through sheer luck. And this statement is the truest thing you know. Five players have been picked at random, but they stand among the best the game has ever known, just to show the truth of the above assertion.

The men are the late Ed Delehanty, probably the greatest and undoubtedly the hardest hitter who ever put on a pair of spiked shoes; Amos Rusie, who many believe was the greatest pitcher ever in the game; Hans Wagner—by the way, his proper name is John Paul Wagner; Ownie Bush and Ty Cobb.

Amos Rusie began his ball career with the old Grand Avenue team in Indianapolis, when Indianapolis was a member of the old twelve-club National League. This was back in the eighties. Rusie was a pitcher, a powerful, husky young giant, who had a world of speed and a dazzling array of curves. The Grand Avenues had one large picnic with the other teams in the old Indianapolis City League when Rusie pitched.

Glasscock Discovers Rusie.

Jack Glasscock was playing shortstop on the Indianapolis National League team at that time, and Jerry Denny was holding down third base. Glasscock was captain of the team. He heard of Rusie's pitching, and one Sunday took Denny and hiked out to the City League Park where Rusie played. Glasscock watched the youngster work, and both he and Denny were so impressed that Rusie was taken down town after the game.

The next day Rusie appeared at League Park in an Indianapolis uniform. The story of his career in the big league is now base ball history, known to all fans. Rusie was a wonder, but his bad habits put him out of the game when he should have been in his prime. He is now living at Vincennes, Ind., working in a lumber yard and dredging for mussel pearls in the Wabash river.

Ed Delehanty, the greatest of the Delehanty ball-playing family, began on the lots around Cleveland, his home city. In 1886 some one told the manager of the old Wheeling, W. Va., team that Delehanty was a great ball player. Some days later Delehanty received a letter offering him a trial with the Wheeling club.

The youngster didn't have any money and no transportation was inclosed, but he started for Wheeling and made his way there by riding freight trains and walking. He was an infielder, playing second base, and he made good from the jump. In 1887 Philadelphia decided to give him a trial, and along in the fall of that year Delehanty made his major league debut, succeeding Bastian, one of the greatest players of his time, at second base.

Got Off to Bad Start.

As a big league second baseman the man who was destined to become a terror to the best pitchers the game has ever known was not a brilliant success. Neither did he shine with the bat in his first year, as his average for fifty-six games was only .227. In 1888 he played in fifty-four games and soaked the pill for a grand average of .292. He alternated between second base and left field, and in 1889 he went to left field and remained there until his tragic death.

Hans Wagner owes his start in base ball to his brother, Al Wagner. Al was a good ball player, but every one thought Hans was too awkward to ever amount to anything on the diamond. Al was with Steubenville, owned and managed by George Moreland at that time, and Moreland wanted a pitcher.

"Get my brother?" said Al.

"Can he pitch?" Moreland wanted to know.

"Well he can throw a ball mighty fast," Al replied, and Hans was wired at Carnegie to report. His salary was to be $35 per month. Wagner beat his way from Pittsburg to Steubenville on a freight train.

Frank Bowerman was catching for Steubenville and Claude Ritchie also was a member of the team. Wagner pitched the first game, but after that they put him in the outfield. His feet were so big it was impossible to get a pair of base ball shoes in Steubenville to fit him, and the greatest ball player of all times played his first league engagement in his bare feet.

Hans Goes to Short.

The Steubenville team blew up. Mansfield wanted Al Wagner, and wired him at Steubenville. Al had another job, so he sent his brother. Mansfield wanted a shortstop, and, while he had been playing the outfield, Hans switched to short. He made good.

Later the Wagner brothers went back to Moreland at Wheeling, W. Va., and then were sold to Capt. Kerr, at that time owner of the Pittsburg club.

Ed Barrows was then managing the Paterson, N. J., team and he wanted Wagner. Kerr thought to made the deal, but when Barrows explained it was Hans he wanted, Kerr presented him with the Flying Dutchman. Wagner made his big hit right there. Pittsburg tried to buy him back, but he was sold to Louisville, and he broke into the big league with Fred Clarke in the Falls City. Al Wagner is now managing Wagner Bros.' circus, while what Hans is doing is something every base ball fan knows better than any writer could tell.

In 1904 Ty Cobb was begging for a chance with the team at his home town, Augusta, Ga. Con Struthers was managing the team. Struthers gave Ty a chance, and Ty was canned when he jumped into the air while running bases, knocked down a ball which had been thrown to catch him, and was called out for interference. He drew his release about ten minutes later.

Makes Good This Time.

The next year Cobb got another chance with Augusta and he made good. Owing to an arrangement Augusta had with Detroit, whereby the former team was permitted to use Pitcher Eddie Cicotte, with the understanding Detroit was to get a good man at the end of the season, Cobb became a Tiger in the fall of 1905.

In 1906 he didn't show any too much class, and in the spring of 1907 was offered to Cleveland for Elmer Flick, because the Detroit people said he was a disorganizer. Cleveland refused to make the trade. Flick is now warming the Naps' bench, while Cobb is the real sensation of the American League.

ATHLETIC NEWS AND NOTES.

President Everett C. Brown of the national body of the A. A. U. has called the annual meeting of that body for Monday, November 21, in the parlors of the Hotel Astor, New York city. Dr. D. E. Wiber, president of the South Atlantic Branch Association, will probably be the only local man to attend. Among the important reports which will be made at this meeting is that by the committee which was appointed to investigate athletic conditions throughout the United States with the idea of encouraging and improving them. This committee, which is headed by ex-President James E. Sullivan, is composed of Messrs. Weeks, Pratt, Gulick and Wiber.

The meeting will be a very important one to this association in particular, as the South Atlantic Association is boosting Henry G. Penniman, one of its members, for the presidency, and is also endeavoring to land the national championships for next year for Baltimore. Present indications point to success in both of these ventures.

Manager Keets of George Washington University has called out the track men to represent the Hatchetites for the coming season. So far Maxon and Fleming of the long-distance squad have shown up best. If enough men come out Manager Keets is going to arrange an interclass meet for some time next month.

This is splendid cross-country weather and yet no cross-country runs have been announced. A cross-country run for Thanksgiving would fit in nicely. Somebody should get busy and start something in this line. Washington has some splendid material in this respect and some of these clubs ought to get some long-distance events. It is somewhat discouraging to an athlete if he never gets a chance at his own specialty, and does lots of harm to the distance game.

Manager Stokes of the Tremont Athletic Club has had his men out for some time and has announced the following men as members of his first relay team: Swing, Mahoney, Rawlings, Frank, Robinson and Stock. He says his club will have two and possibly three teams during the 1910-11 season and that he expects to show up well with all of them. "Stoksy" is trying to arrange a race between his team and that of the Washington Grove Association.

Harry Long, who has done so much for the swimming classes at the Y. M. C. A., has been transferred from the men's department to the boys' department, taking Chase Taylor's place. Long is the organizer and coach of the crack swimming team of the association and is considered an authority on all branches of swimming. He expects to start classes for the youngsters and to organize a swimming and life-saving team among them.

King of the Grovites is developing into some kind of a bowler and is now a member of teams in three leagues. Some versatility here.

It is not generally known that Official Handicapper J. Townsend England of the South Atlantic Branch Association is a former athlete. He is at present the holder of the quarter-mile record for bona fide members of the association, the time being 51 4-5 seconds.

CONSIDERS DEAL CLOSED.

August Herrmann Says Philadelphia Players Will Be in Reds' Camp.

CHICAGO, October 29.—August Herrmann, exalted ruler of the Elks, president of the national base ball commission, and one of the central figures in the Cincinnati-Philadelphia eight-man base ball trade, came to town last night to be among those present tonight at the Elks banquet. He expressed the belief that Manager Dooin of the Phillies would not be permitted to resign.

"The trade whereby Cincinnati gets McQuillen, Moren, Grant and Bates in return for Beebe, Lobert, Paskert and Rowan has ended so far as the Cincinnati club is concerned," said Herrmann. "The papers were O. K.'d here in Chicago last week by Managers Dooin and Griffith, and I witnessed the proceedings. When the Cincinnati team goes south to train next spring Grant, McQuillen, Bates and Moren will be in our camp."

The Base Ball Writers' Association is thinking of petitioning Ban Johnson to appoint Harry Howell an umpire regardless of Hedges' action in discharging him.

INQUISITIVE FANS.

Sporting Editor Star: I am a constant reader of The Star and wish you would answer the following questions in Sunday's pink sheet: 1. Who writes the base ball dope for the Baltimore Sun? 2. Where did Washington secure George McBride? 3. Did Washington ever finish higher than seventh?

HENRY S. ROGERS.

1. Don't know.
2. From Kansas City club.
3. Finished sixth in 1901 and 1902.

Sporting Editor Star: Please give me the age of "Ty" Cobb in next Sunday's Star. JOHN STEVENS.

Cobb is twenty-five years old.

Sporting Editor Star: A was on second base, B on third and C at bat, with one man out. C flied to center fielder, who made a difficult catch. B held third until the ball was caught, then started for home. A did not wait until the ball was caught, but immediately after it was hit started for home, thinking it was a safe hit. The centerfielder returned the ball to the catcher after A and B had crossed the plate. The catcher threw to second and A was declared out. Does Bs run count, or did A's crossing third, without returning to second, before B had crossed home plate, make the third out? In running to home plate A followed B by about six feet. SPENCE SWAZEY.

B's run counted. See rule 59, remembering that A was not forced out, since he was not forced to "advance."

Sporting Editor Star: A contends that after a runner has safely reached second base he can run back toward first with the intention of helping out a runner who is cornered between third and home and that the runner who was safe on second and now is between first and second must be touched with the ball before he is declared out. B contends that a runner who has safely touched second base cannot run back toward first with such object in view. JACK EPSTEIN.

A is right. The runner can go back, if he wants to, and must be touched to be declared out, but if he runs back and stands on first, after having become legally entitled to second base, he can be put out by being touched while on first base.

G. B. Washington. Old Cy Young has pitched three no hit games, against Cincinnati in 1897, against Philadelphia Athletics in 1904 and against New York Americans in 1908. In the 1904 game only twenty-seven batsmen faced him. Records do not show how many batsmen faced him in the other games. There have been forty-five no hit games pitched in the major leagues. Lack of space prevents reprinting them.

Sporting Editor Star: 1. A is on second base and B on first. B runs to second and holds second. Which is out? 2. A is on first base. B hits a home run, and, as A is a slow runner, B passes him before A gets home. Does B's home run count and is A out? 3. Can a base runner go back after touching a base? F. W. L.

1. Neither is out unless touched with the ball. A has the right to second base. 2. B is out when he passes A and his home run does not count. If B's out was not the third out A's run counted, otherwise it could not. 3. Yes, but he can be put out by being touched while on the base to which he returns.

Sporting Editor Star: A started to pitch. He had three runs scored on him. B went in and the score was 4 to 1 in favor of Philadephia. Who is credited with losing the game, Overall or McIntyre? F. M. JORSTEN.

Overall.

Sporting Editor The Star—Dear Sir: Please publish in your valuable paper what date the pennant parade comes off. By doing this you will greatly oblige me and my other friends. M. J. F.

Pennant parade will take place Friday, November 4.

Sporting Editor The Star—Dear Sir: Will you kindly answer the following question: Is Ty Cobb considered the greatest individual player in base ball today? This is to settle an argument. F. D. L.

Manager Mack of the Athletics in a recent address referred to Ty Cobb as "one of the greatest, if not the greatest, player living." Charles Comiskey of the Chicago club called him the greatest player who ever wore a uniform. He is considered by a host of experts the greatest player today.

Sporting Editor The Star—Dear Sir: Please advise which of following scores is nearest to Athletic 4-1 game and oblige: 5-2, 3-2, 2-1. W. H. B.

According to ratio of 4 to 1, 5 to 2 is nearest, and wins.

Sporting Editor The Star—Dear Sir: A and B have a bet up as to who is the best second baseman, Dick Egan of the Reds or Larry Doyle of the Giants. Will you please give us your opinion. E. J. WRIGHT.

An individual opinion of the merits of Egan and Doyle might be given, but experts might differ. If you desire to decide a bet, why not take official batting and fielding averages, which will soon be issued, and compare them in that way.

Sporting Editor The Star—Dear Sir: In a game of base ball a batter hits a ball to right field and the right fielder reaches after ball and it passes through his hands. Does the batter get a hit or the fielder an error? The fielder does not touch the ball. SPORT.

From your description of play, the batter should get a hit, as fielder tried for ball and yet did not touch it.

The east and the west were certainly represented in this year's world's championship. Chance comes from Fresno, Cal., and Connie Mack hails from Spencer, Mass., originally.

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