

TWO FAVORITES WIN AT JACKSONVILLE

Court Lady and Talconda First, While Outsiders Have Their Innings.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., December 3.—Only two favorites, Court Lady and Talconda, took first money to-day, and the outsiders had their innings. Court Lady was heavily played, and she, however, topped the boom in the same race, was almost played out of the bag at 13 to 5. The second race, which was won by Dan Ives, was probably the most exciting race of the afternoon.

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WHAT IS FUTURE OF FOOTBALL?

Severe Arraignment of the Sport by Professor R. H. Dabney.

WANTS GAME ABOLISHED

Suggests That Virginia, Carolina and Georgetown Take Lead.

In view of the widespread comment from many sources concerning the advantages and disadvantages of football as a college sport, the following communication from Professor R. H. Dabney, of the University of Virginia, on the subject will be read with unusual interest by all who are concerned in the question as to the future of the game.

ions in the rules might slightly improve the game. But there is only one change that can free it from ineffect and deadly peril. That change is to forbid tackling altogether, which would involve also forbidding the players to take the ball into their hands at all.

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Boys' Knickerbocker Suits at \$2.05—Cassimeres, Tweeds and Chevots, in attractive, stylish effects of plaids, stripes or mixtures—newest fall models, superbly tailored and substantially trimmed—good \$4.00 values. Here in all sizes \$2.95 to 17, only \$2.95.

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FINAL ARTICLES ARE SIGNED FOR JEFFRIES-JOHNSON BOUT

Great Battle Will Be Held in Salt Lake City or Vicinity of San Francisco.

Western Men Who Gave a Fortune To Get the Jeffries-Johnson Bout

NEW YORK, December 3.—The Jeffries-Johnson fight, the heavy-weight championship of the world, will be fought either in Salt Lake City, Utah, or in the vicinity of San Francisco, on July 4 next. Final articles for a forty-five-round contest were signed by the principals to-day at Hoboken, N. J.



JACK GLEASON. TEX RICKARD. The Winning Bid For the Big Fight.

If Jeffries, Johnson and 'Tex' Rickard and John L. Gleason, the two last named the successful bidders cannot agree on a referee, Jeffries and Johnson are each to select two men and from these four Rickard and Gleason are to make any selection they desire. The referee is to be paid \$1,000, the contestants paying him two-thirds, the promoters the balance.

We, the undersigned, G. L. Rickard, of Ely, Nev., and John J. Gleason, of San Francisco, Cal., submit the following bid for the contest between James J. Jeffries and Jack Johnson for the heavyweight championship of the world. Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), of which fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) is in currency and five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in a certified check, accompanied by a guarantee of good faith.

Signature of G. L. Rickard and John J. Gleason.

John Gleason ever cautious, suggested a safe deposit box with three locks, each of the contestants to have one key and the third to be held by a disinterested party. The promoters objected to this, and the plan outlined above was finally adopted.

FREE-FOR-ALL STAKES ENDS. Trials of Pointer Club of America Concluded at Barber.

AMERICA WILL SEND AMATEUR TRANSPORTERS TO OLYMPIC GAMES. NEW YORK, December 3.—America will have a representative team of amateur transporters at the Olympic games in Athens next fall, according to a resolution adopted to-day at the annual meeting of the Interstate Association for the Encouragement of Trap Shooting.

the Pacific coast handicap at Seattle early in September. E. J. Hobard, of New York, was elected president of the association. Y. M. C. A. Athletics. A hot game of indoor baseball was played at the league last evening between the Old Boys and the Pirates, the former finally winning out, 9 to 6.

Demarest Wins Final Game. NEW YORK, December 3.—Calvin Demarest, of Chicago, won the final game and the championship tonight, defeating George Sutton, of Chicago, in the world's professional series at 13.3 bag line billiards by 500 to 78 in the fourteenth inning. Demarest won the bank and blanked Sutton made four and missed an easy one. Demarest took forty-seven, and Sutton responded with another and in the following inning his count of

WHAT IS FUTURE OF FOOTBALL?

As the writer has witnessed football games for twenty-one seasons; as he never missed a game, and that one unforgettably before the year when the university team played in Norfolk instead of Richmond; as two of his brothers have been members of the university team; and as he has yelled himself hoarse at the games, he is not a stranger to the game.

But the writer was younger when he uttered that sentiment than he is now. He makes no claim even yet to be a philosopher, but he does realize that that sentiment was the product of enthusiasm and hot, red blood, rather than of reason and wisdom. It was right for the followers of Lee to risk their lives in defense of Southern independence. But that should not be a precedent for the public and by college faculties to risk their lives and the happiness of their parents for the sake of a mere game, is a wholly different proposition.

It is argued, however, that risk is inseparable from every sport, and that the only way to protect a boy from all danger is to pack him in raw cotton and keep him in a safe deposit vault. This being a reductio ad absurdum, it is further contended that, since baseball, rowing, skating, hunting, riding, or any other sport may result in death, it is nonsense to pretend that there is in this respect any real difference between football and other athletic amusements.

In this plausible contention there is just enough truth to deceive those having but superficial knowledge of football. Genuine devotees of the game well know that there is a fundamental difference between it and the other sports mentioned, but they dislike to admit it and close their eyes to it just because they are devoted to it. It is true enough that death lurks in ambush everywhere. It is true enough that baseball players have been killed and that swimmers have been drowned. It is even true that quiet people, in the execution of their ordinary household down stairs and been killed. But in all these cases death is due to genuine accidents. The numerous deaths and multitudinous injuries occurring in football contests are, however, not really accidents at all. They are caused, on the contrary, the direct result of the inherent nature of the game. The rules of baseball do not make it necessary that a player's body should be struck by a thrown or batted ball, and it is rare that an accident of this kind occurs. The rules of football permit any player to lay violent hands upon an opponent. The rules of football, however, do make it necessary that in practically every single play the man with the ball in his hands must, while running with it, be assailed by one or more of his eleven opponents. The rules also require the team-mates of the man with the ball to prevent his being assailed, and to do this by "interfering" with an opponent, by attempting to "tackle" him, or by "interfering" with another player, or by "interfering" with the ball.

The truth is—as a brilliant writer of the University of Virginia writes of football "is a humbug, but it is an entrenched and semi-sacred humbug. People apologize for criticizing it. Yet most of its pretensions are glaringly fraudulent. Instead of being a pure sport, it is largely a spectacle offered for the sake of training a valuable means of developing many qualities in college students, it is a means of training a ridiculously small squad of students for contests that the great body of students may watch without any risk or exertion or training. It can be won by a military man, or a man who has spent his time at West Point and at Annapolis; it is well even at great cost, to train a small body of men to lead or to be led in actual war; but the proposition that, with expenditure of great stores of time, energy and money, a small minority of students should be trained so that eleven men may be available for a brief series of combats to be watched by the large majority of students—along with as many outsiders, men, women and children, as will pay the price—is surely not fit to be entertained by the authorities of any civilian college."

Of course, the advocates of football will immediately quote, in reply to this, the hackneyed saying that the Battle of Waterloo has been won on the football fields of Rugby and Eton years before it was actually fought. In refutation of this epigrammatic piece of profundity, we might ask on what football fields Blucher and his Prussians acquired that splendid courage and constancy which enabled them after losing 20,000 of their number at Ligny two days before, to march with indomitable resolution over miry roads and reach Waterloo in time to save Wellington and his football graduates from defeat.

We might also inquire how many of Pickett's Division, how many of Stonewall's Brigade, how many of Mosby's men ever saw a football or indulged in any intercollegiate athletics whatever. But we are pressing the point, and are assuming that the epigram about Waterloo is wisdom rather than clap-trap. I wish simply to remark that the game said to have fitted the English officers for their work at Waterloo was a radically different game from the game of football. The game of Archer Christian. If the Rugby game really overthrew Napoleon, why isn't it good enough to enable us to overthrow our future foes? Why should we not substitute it for the present game? Why not try it as a means of training our young men? Why not let it be developed in college students unless they make their mothers wretched by recklessly hazarding their lives in a brutal game, is not merely a libel on human nature; it is actually silly. People who say that the game is a means of training to go further, and propose the revival of the medieval tournaments and the ancient gladiatorial combats. No one will dispute the fact that these sports required even more courage and caused even more deaths of honor and courage, such qualities may exist in a weak body. The difference between Stone-wall Jackson and John L. Sullivan."

In conclusion, then, I repeat: American football should be abolished, and something else substituted. We do not know the exact differences between Rugby football, association football and soccer; but it is probable that any one of them would be an excellent game. Personally, I should favor lacrosse. It is an interesting game, both for players and spectators. If football were out of the way, I see no reason why lacrosse might not become ex-

and finally of other Southern States, will follow their good example. Moreover, if the death of young Byrne should induce the War and Navy Departments to forbid football at West Point and Annapolis, their example might finally rid the whole country of a curse. R. H. DABNEY, University of Virginia, Nov. 23, 1909.

CONSIDER CHANGES IN FOOTBALL RULES

Conference of Schools and Colleges of State to Meet in Charlottesville--Will Make Suggestion to Rules Committee.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., December 3.—Following a suggestion made by General Nichols, Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, and others, President Edwin A. Alderman, of the University of Virginia, has issued a call for a conference of representatives of the schools and colleges of the State or the discussion of the all-important question of changes in football rules. The delegates will consider and discuss the question whether or not the elimination of danger in gridiron battles can be sufficiently minimized or not, and, if so, by what means. What ever conclusions will be reached at the conference will be recommended for collegiate Rules Committee, which meets in New York during the Christmas holidays.

The date of the meeting is fixed for Saturday, December 18, at the University of Virginia. The letter addressed by President Alderman to the heads of the various colleges and schools of the State is as follows: "It occurs to me that it would be a wise thing for the schools and colleges of the State to meet for the discussion of measures to lessen the danger of football and to bring any conclusions reached to the attention of the rules committee. I therefore beg you to send a representative here on December 18 for this purpose. This idea did not occur to me, but has been suggested to me by other institutions, at the same time suggesting this as the place of meeting. I trust that you will be able to send a representative and that the meeting may result in great good."

While the talk before the rules committee is a very difficult one, the one that prevails here, that some changes will be made in the rules which will further protect the participants and at the same time not destroy the value of the game, is a sportsman's viewpoint. The above conference is only following a suggestion made by President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton, and President Alderman, of Virginia, both came out recently in interviews expressing the confident belief that the delegates attending the American colleges getting together and standing by the rules committee with resolute-ness and determination insist that the committee find and remove the elements of inordinate danger in this great sport.

MR. DAVIS RESIGNS FROM HUNTS COMMITTEE. Westmoreland Davis, a former M. F. H. of the Loudoun Hunt and a keen sportsman, has resigned as a member of the hunts committee of the National Hunt and Steeplechase Association. Mr. Davis's excellent work on the committee received the praise of all the hunting people of America. It is understood that he has resigned on account of the pressure of his personal business. Losses on Foul. SAVANNAH, Ga., December 3.—Jaik Farmer, of Chicago, lost to Kid Farmer, of Florida, here to-night in the third round of a scheduled fifteen-round fight, when he dropped Farmer with a blow which was low, it is estimated easily Britton's fight up until that time.

Princeton Schedule. PRINCETON, N. J., December 3.—The schedule of the Princeton University wrestling team for the coming season was announced to-day, and is as follows: February 13, Pennsylvania; at Princeton; 23, Yale; at New Haven; and finally of other Southern States, will follow their good example. Moreover, if the death of young Byrne should induce the War and Navy Departments to forbid football at West Point and Annapolis, their example might finally rid the whole country of a curse. R. H. DABNEY, University of Virginia, Nov. 23, 1909.

TELLS OF WORKING OF CROOKED SCALES

Richard Parr Leading Witness in Sugar Frauds Trial.

HIS CREDIBILITY ATTACKED. Claims He Was Working Under Orders of Roosevelt and Loeb.

NEW YORK, December 3.—The storm center of the sugar trial to-day focused upon Richard Parr, the special agent of the Treasury Department, who was foremost in discovering and exposing short-weight frauds on the Williams docks of the American Sugar Refining Company. Parr rebuffed one more his story of how he caught Keboe, a tally clerk manipulating the scales; how Oliver Spitzer, one of the company employes now charged with conspiracy, offered to let him name his own price for hushing the thing up, and how Berezinski, Spitzer's partner, hooked him by the elbow and asked: "Dick, this fellow says you are all right. Does that go?" "Nothing goes with me," Parr testified he said.

With heat and great circumstance the narrative made a visible effect, and counsel for the defense was quick to react with an attack on Parr's credibility. "You called to investigate without orders from any superior officer," he was asked. "If you said President Roosevelt and his secretary (now Collector Loeb), superior officers, were working under orders," replied Parr. "But if you mean the secretary of the Treasury, then I was working without orders from any superior officer," he was asked. Further inquiry along this line was dropped.

Questions designed to show that Parr had once written checks for pool and policy room keepers were barred by the court, but Parr insisted in an angry denial. "The man who was known as a former trial, the scales were manipulated, was produced in court again to-day and identified. A working model of the scales was exhibited for the benefit of the jury. Parr told how he first came upon Keboe crouching behind the scales. An adjournment was taken until Monday. Waging War on Bull Weevil. RALPHIGH, N. C., December 3.—The North Carolina Board of Agriculture this afternoon passed a regulation having for its purpose the keeping of the boll weevil out of this State. The regulation forbids the importation of cottonseed, cottonseed hulls, loose cotton in any shape, and baled cotton unless consigned from Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Alabama. King Edward Accepts. LONDON, December 3.—King Edward, through the Foreign Office, today formally accepted the invitation of the United States to visit the United States and Canada. The date of the visit has not yet been decided.