

PAGE OF SPORTS

IF IT'S HERE IT'S RIGHT

AMERICAN LEAGUE BETTER CROWDS

Ban Johnson's League Proves Better Money Getter Than National.

GREATEST SEASON KNOWN EACH YEAR SEES MORE FANS FOLLOWING BASEBALL.

The greatest baseball season ever known has just closed. A careful compilation of the daily attendance figures, which have been kept ever since the American league expanded east, shows that 1907 leads all other baseball years by more than 25,000,000.

The figures show that the American and National leagues drew a grand total of 6,123,557 persons. The nearest approach to these figures was in 1904, when 5,869,250 persons witnessed the combined games of the National and American leagues. These figures are an increase over last year of 417,283.

The American league again outdrew the National. Ban Johnson's organization showing a total of 3,282,327. The National's figures show a grand total of 2,841,230. The American league drew 60,000 more than last year, while the National league shows a decrease of 40,000. Last year the Americans outdrew the Nationals by 125,000. This season the Americans outdrew the Nationals by more than 600,000.

This is accounted for by the sensational race in the American league from start to finish, while it was a foregone conclusion before the season was half over that the Chicago Cubs were the best in the National.

The Chicago White Sox led all individual clubs with 1,282,327. The Athletics of Philadelphia come next with a total of 623,281. Connie Mack's team drew 1,000 more than last year, while the Phillies' figures show an increase of nearly 50,000.

This season the Chicago Nationals outdrew the American league nearly 200,000 in this season, although the White Sox did not land the pennant, and the Nationals and Comiskey's team pulled 250,000 more than the Cubs.

The figures of the clubs that play Sunday ball show that more than one-half of the attendance witnessed the games on the Sabbath. Taking this into consideration, the eastern cities are the best baseball towns, as the entire attendance has to be divided by seven days.

The eastern cities in the National league include the western cities of the American league, the western cities outdrawing their eastern rivals. The four western clubs pulled 1,284,457, while the four eastern clubs had an aggregate attendance of 1,343,907.

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COLLEGE SPORT ALWAYS POPULAR

Many Reasons Given Why English Games Do Not Take in America.

Four kinds of football are played in the United States. College football, Gaelic soccer or association football, Rugby or English football, are the ones which engage the attention of Americans.

The Gaelic "hurling" football is a misnomer.

"Rugby" football is played in this country at the University of California and Stanford. It bears slight resemblance to college football.

The Gaelic football is played in the county of Kerry, Ireland, and is played in a scrumlike manner. The English players start off with a "scrum."

Locking their feet together and whirling like flying dervishes, they "heel" the ball out from a hollow circle.

Soccer football and Irish Gaelic football are closely related. They are both played in the same manner, and the players can use their feet only. Advancing the ball with the hands is prohibited.

In some of the western states where a game of "Rugby" has never been played, writers and spectators confuse American football with the English college game.

On Soldiers' field, Cambridge, Mass., I saw a game of "Rugby." President Eliot of Harvard was one of the spectators.

Among the American sportsmen present I observed little interest. It is neither spectacular nor thrilling.

College football is the only fall game which is intense and exciting enough to suit the American people.

Neither cricket nor Rugby will ever be popular on this side of the big pond.

In their temperamental characteristics Americans differ from the British. Cricket and Rugby are too slow for Americans who want more excitement, more broken bones and bloody noses are only interesting bits of by-play.

It is no fun for an American to see someone boot a ball about with his foot. It is too tame a sport.

Sons of Uncle Sam like the personal conflict, the bitter man-to-man struggle, the excitement for the popularity of prize fighting.

College football is one of the most thrilling and exciting of sports.

It has all the elements of a great sport—an autumn sport which will hold the interest of Americans forever.

American sportsmen do not have to import any games from England.

That's why football and baseball are so popular in America.

TEDDY, JR., OUT OF GAME

Has Bum Knee as Result of Injury —Is a Hard Luck Candidate.

Cambridge, Oct. 15.—Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., will be unable to play football for at least two weeks. He has water on the knee as the result of an injury. He has just developed, received from the game when he played right end on the second team. He is under the care of a physician.

This is not the first time that young Roosevelt has been injured while playing football at Harvard. On October 6, 1906, while doing stunts on Soldiers' field, he cut himself under the eye as he was tackling a player.

A month later, while he was at left end on the Harvard freshman team against Yale, he sustained a broken nose and was compelled to undergo an operation at the hands of a Boston specialist. However, this operation cured an injury in his nose which was received while he was boxing with Mike Donovan at the White House.

Only last year he gave up pole vaulting as a mishap. While he was boxing the bar at 8 feet 8 inches his pole snapped and he plunged to the sawdust, and sawdust filled his eyes, ears and nose. Then he confided to a friend that the sport was a little too strenuous.

Young Roosevelt played football for years at Groton and he has been trying to make the varsity team, but has proved unsuccessful.

College football was evolved from old English football.

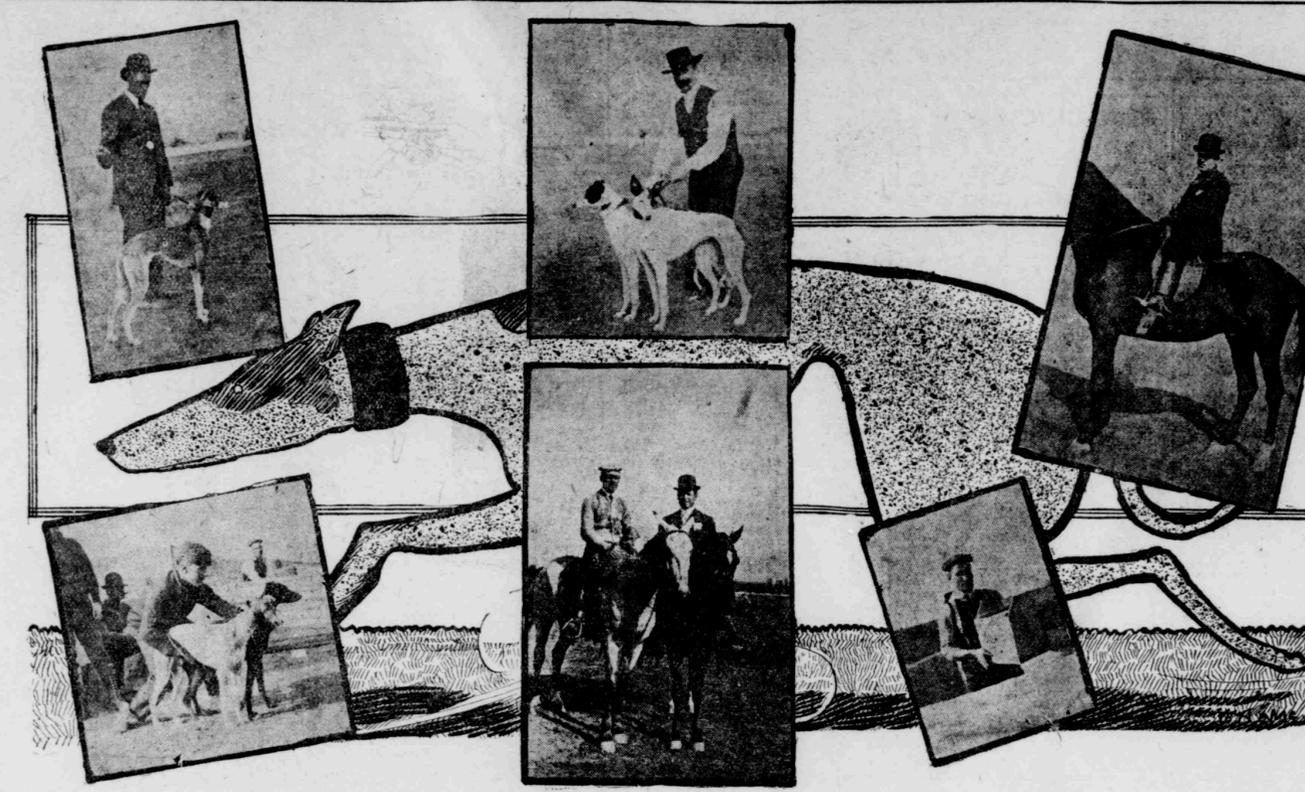
It bears so little resemblance to the original British Rugby that the parent country does not recognize its child.

Good old American games are good enough for us. We can do without cricket and Rugby. They may please Englishmen, but they don't please us.

It's because of sporting proclivities that we are quite unlike the peoples of the old world.

Baseball and college football will always be the favorite fall and summer sports because Americans originated them, perfected them and "fathered" them.

A DAY WITH THE HOUNDS AT THE NATIONAL COURSING MEETING.



Upper left hand corner shows Tom Mulholland with Helen, just before the local dog started against her father, Northern Light, Friday. O. P. Smith, secretary and manager of the meeting, is shown in the next photo on top, holding Clipper Girl and Harpoon, ready to enter the slips. To the right is B. F. Redman, vice president and treasurer of the International Coursing club, acting as official announcer of the meeting. Below, in the left corner, "Jimmy" Noce, the crack slipper of Denver, is sighting Something Handsome and Miss Fair preparatory to a course. In the middle photo below is Judge J. J. McKeon of Colma, Calif., on the right, and "Sam" Handy of Fairbault, Minn., on the left. These two men have made themselves extremely popular with the crowds on account of their ever-ready willingness to explain the fine points of coursing and their ability in pulling off a coursing meeting. In the lower right corner, "Jimmy" McDonald stands ready to turn a hare loose.

Sporting Terms Worry the Kid

"Say, pop, do baseball players get big wages?"

"Well, pop, baseball tossers receive salaries, and the pay is more than the average granted the president of the United States."

"Then a fellow ought to study to be a baseball player, hey, pop?"

"My son, it's better to be a president."

"But presidents don't play baseball; they don't know how, do they?"

"We are blessed with one president who knows how to play both baseball and ride and shoot and—"

"Oh, you mean Teddy. Well, does he draw a salary for playing baseball and boxing and rowing and shooting and—"

"My son, those are simple diversions. President Roosevelt is a lover of athletics and—"

"Does he play the races, pop?"

"Why, my boy, that would be undignified in a president."

"But, pop, I see where a whole lot of well-known people go to the race track and plunge. Does plunge mean swimming?"

"No, my boy; it means wagering a large sum of money on a certain horse to win."

Stories of Baseball Players

What Mathewson's Teacher Used.

Frank Bowerman of the New York Giants is a prosperous lumberman up in the wilds of Wisconsin during the off season, and 'tis said that the popular backstop is a rich man in his own name, having literally hewed his wealth out of the forests surrounding the spot where he first saw the light.

When it comes to a conversation about matters pertaining to wood and the uses to which different species of timber are put, Bowerman is a regular encyclopedia of information, as he has made this subject a lifelong study.

"What do they lay, pop?"

"The odds, my boy."

"Then these layers are not hens, pop, are they?"

"Oh figuratively, my boy. They lay the golden eggs for themselves."

"So they hand the shells to the public; is that it, pop?"

"That's been my experience, my boy. Now, hurry off, your mother is calling you."

SPARK PLUGS AND SPEEDOMETERS

Don't attempt to ford any stream until its depth is known.

The sixth annual show at Buffalo, N. Y., will be held during the week beginning March 8.

A choked vaporizing nozzle can oftentimes be freed by flooding the carburetor and speeding the motor.

Of 1,623,771 foreigners residing in France 6,150 are Americans, a great majority of whom own automobiles.

The American Motor League has been seriously taken up by enthusiastic sportsmen of wealth in several European cities.

The Mount Farmers' Club of Ventura, Cal., has declared war on motor cyclists who exceed the speed limit.

The American Motor League has organized a Pennsylvania division and will divide the sixty-seven counties of the state into fifteen districts.

A Tennesseean who bought a two-cylinder runabout six years ago still is using the motor, but to drive a sawmill instead of the car.

It has been authoritatively announced that the Fielder Jones automobile park will be completed in time for the Vanderbilt cup race of 1908.

Great Scott, they were inaugurated at New York City by a parade of twenty-five of the brilliantly-colored vehicles driven by motor-driven chauffeurs.

Baltimore's first motor-driven police patrol wagon has been assigned to the central district of the city, where it also will serve as an ambulance.

A more strict enforcement of the signboard law will be demanded of local authorities by the New York State Automobile Association.

State divisions of the American Motor League have been formed in thirty-six states, each with its own executive officers and representatives to the national body.

The city of Wilmington, Del., which is to spend \$500,000 on its streets the coming winter by the Van derbilt cup race of 1908.

There are few more ardent motorists in Paris than Mme. Anna Gould, who seems to find great relief from Count Boni de Castellane in touring the country side.

WHEN SILK TURNED UMPIRE IT DOESN'T PAY TO BE A FIGHTER

Was Poorest Batter on Team, Made a Hit and Then Quit.

Here's a story that Silk O'Loughlin, the crack umpire of the American league, tells on himself: "I played on an amateur team in Rochester and my position was left field. I'm not a bit swelled when I say that I was a jinxed outfielder. The first ball came up I shut my eyes and could throw more than fairly. But at batting I was a frost. Jack Townsend, formerly of the Cleveland team, always reminded me of myself. He hits 'em just about as I did.

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