

FOOTBALL SEASON OPENS TODAY--STARS IN FINE TRIM

Gridiron Heroes Are Rapidly Crowding to the Front—Close Contests Expected

(By Monty)

New York, September 20.—Beginning today and continuing for the next three weeks, the greatest amateur and professional sports in America will be engaged in their annual duel to decide which shall demand the bulk of attention from the populace. Just as baseball is nearing its climax, as the regular seasons in the two big leagues draw to a close and the world's series edges up into the dope, football comes a-rolling in, end over end, and the most glorious period of Uncle Sam's national pastime finds a counter-attraction in his national college game.

The Carlisle Indians-Albright game at Carlisle, Pa., today ushers in the gridiron year. Two weeks later, when the baseball season winds up, all the big events will be in action, and the following Saturday when the world's series is at the height of its tension, the footballers will be racing "midseason form." It is a fact that these coming three weeks are about the busiest of the entire sport year, with the two biggest games overlapping and dovetailing into each other, and the third of the three will mark the climax.

It seems as if the intention of the rule makers to introduce more open play this year has gone sadly awry. After noting the success of the open game last year from the standpoint of the spectator as well as the player, they thought it would be a good idea to introduce more. So they changed the rule that made it necessary for a kicker to be at least five yards behind the rush line. He now is allowed to be right up under the center. This is in a way, the bringing back of the old inside kick of several years ago, the difference being that it is not an inside one, since the kicker's teammates can not take the ball until after one of the defensive side has touched it.

The main effect of this new rule will be to open up the defense—spread it out so that the secondary line can clutch the ball on a quick kick from formation before it gets a chance to roll too far down the field. With the defense scattered, can you see what will follow? It will leave weakness in the first line of defense which will mass plays more effective. This opinion is held by the coaches of both Princeton and Yale, who accordingly have planned more plays straight through the line and just off tackle.

But another thing that will be brought about by the rule, which is by far the most important new one in the book, is the revival of the position of quarterback. Last year many teams practically had no quarterback. Owing to the rule that allows backs to run with the ball after a direct pass from center, the quarterback was rendered useless on teams where the long pass had been mastered. They played him back with the other runners in whatever formation the coach thought a good one for purposes of interference. Some teams played him in the old place just behind center because of the fact that, with short hand passes there is less chance of fumbling. But the rule makers feared that cleaner handling of the ball which would come in later years after more attention had been given to the long passes would make the connecting-link unnecessary and thereby put the institution of quarterback out of existence. The new rule, however, that allows the quick kicks from formation will make it good policy to have a man close up which will keep the other side guessing all the time.

Steve Farrell, trainer of the Michigan athletic teams, so we are told, has gone to Coach Yost of the football team with an invention of his in the form of a new style pad that he says "will prevent all injuries to the hips in future." The only thing we know of that will prevent ALL such injuries is a feather bed, and a football player would not be able to travel at quite his usual speed if he had a feather bed bound around him. Moreover, it has been noticed that the fellows who wear the most armor—skin guards, nose guards, head gears, pads, etc.—generally are the worst players. On the best team of its size that we can recall all the members wore unpadding pants, jerseys and vests. Shoes, stockings and belts completed the equipment. Nary a headgear, nary a nose guard, nary a shin guard, nary a pad, and yet this team went through two seasons without a single serious or even severe injury. Talk about the fearful brutality of football! If all teams would keep in as good physical condition as the bunch in question did, there would be very few names on so-called "casualty lists."

Harvard is the only one of the Big Three standing pat on the coach proposition this year. Yale has broken up her entire system of the past, which was that the graduating captain should be the next head coach. That made the qualification for the job one practically of heredity or luck, instead of merit. Captain Ketchum of this year's team has overthrown all that and has gone forth to get the right man, Howard Jones, who is sure to deliver the goods, according to Blue rosters. Andrews, the big end of last year, has supplanted Cunningham at Princeton, with Blumenthal, the great center, as his assistant. Harvard wisely has clung to Percy Houghton, who has given the Crimson, the best teams in its history in the last three years. His 1912 eleven was one of the best that ever trod a gridiron in any colors, if not the best. He is signed up for three years more. If he continues the same rate of progress, it is a hideous thought to imagine what will happen in 1915.

The official slogan of the 1913 football season will be "More brains than brawn." That the football game of the future will be nothing but the unloading of a bag of tricks will be clearly shown from the first games that are played this season.

The coaches realize the possibilities of the new rules and they have passed the words along that the present season will reach a climax in the

CAPTAINS OF YALE AND PRINCETON FOOTBALL TEAMS AND HARVARD STAR BRICKLEY, KING OF FOOTBALL TO BE PLAYED OPENLY



Left to right—"Hobey" Baker, leader of the 1913 Princeton varsity squad. Baker is one of the speediest much more than brawn, that will be in demand. Every player who has shown anything like a championship brand of grey matter has been captured, tagged and caged by the football leaders. From Walter Camp down the football fathers are preparing to witness a series of unprecedented thrills on the gridiron this fall.

Followers of Eli express the belief that Ketchum's ability as a leader putting a team on the gridiron that will prove a match for Harvard's will have much to do with Yale's backfield stars.

Charley Brickley, the Harvard full-back, who is without equal for all around football qualifications. He has everything—speed, kicking ability, brains and herculean strength.

matter of sensational inventions and surprise plays.

Such being the case, if it brains, much more than brawn, that will be in demand. Every player who has shown anything like a championship brand of grey matter has been captured, tagged and caged by the football leaders. From Walter Camp down the football fathers are preparing to witness a series of unprecedented thrills on the gridiron this fall.

This wild demand for brains on the football field comes from the coaches, who are closely studying the practical application of the new rules last season, and with the eyes of experts noting the possibilities for craftiness the only new rule which will have any changing effect on the game is that which permits a kick to be made from any distance back of the line of scrimmage. It is claimed, however, that this rule is the one which will, more than any other, open the way for ready resourcefulness.

The fact that the committee did not disturb the forward pass is sure to make the pass more of a feature than ever according to the wisecracks of the gridiron.

That the rule makers are in sympathy with the surprise side of the game is indicated in the fact that they turned down the objections of those who tried to have the forward pass regulated so that a player cornered for a loss would not be able to throw the ball to the ground and count in an incomplete pass.

This play as pronounced upon by the quick thinking players of the west last year and it netted the western teams many yards. There is no doubt but that it will be employed again this year, even in the east, where it was practically unknown in 1912.

Some of the conservative critics think the play tends to rob the game of scientific accuracy and emphasizes the element of chance too much.

Many of the coaches have already recognized the justness of Camp's recent game of 1912 especially in regard to the success of the "four down" regime.

As Camp pointed out, the critics who claimed the additional down would restore the reign of mass play and hammering tactics were not entirely upheld, as the change resulted in superior generalship and did not bring back mass play, which proved too slow a method of scoring.

With the forward pass still the leading factor in the offensive game, there will be little danger of monotony this fall.

ATHLETES TO MEET AT TRAVERS ISLAND

New York, Sept. 20.—Travers Island is today the scene of a battle royal between the athletes of the New York A. C. and the Irish-American A. C. the occasion being the Metropolitan track and field championship conducted under the auspices of the New York A. C. While there are more than one hundred clubs in today's contests the spoils will more than likely be split up chiefly between the two clubs named.

Experts who have the "dope" on the two big clubs think that the New York A. C. will do the best on the jumps and hurdles, while the Irish will show the way in the weights and distance runs.

The New Yorks will rely on Allan Van Winkle to capture the 100 yards run, while the Irish will pin their hopes to J. M. Rosenberger and A. T. Meyer. All three of these men are

good for about 10 seconds.

But there are many eyes centered on Ravenell, the colored sprinter, and it will surprise no one if he crosses the tape first.

In the 220-yard run Rosenberger seems to be the best the Irish have to offer, while the New Yorks will be represented by Vallean, Wilkie, Frank Lesay and Dick Edwards.

In the 440 yard event the New York entries are Wilkie, Lesay and Edwards, while the Irish colors will be worn by Rosenberger and Hayes.

The half mile should be a spirited contest with Homer Baker, the national champion, leading the New York squad. Since the national meet at Chicago Melvin Sheppard has been longing to get a crack at Baker, and today he has his chance. Baker beat Sheppard at Chicago.

In the mile run it looks as if Kiviat, of the Irish squad, will have everything his own way. And in the five mile run Hannes Kolehmainen will take first place for the Irish, as there is no one in the country good enough to trouble the Finlander.

With Wendell Braun, McDonald and Brady the New Yorks appear to have a firm grip on the high and low hurdles. The only hurdler of serious prowess on the Irish team is I. K. Lovell, and on past performances he does not seem to have the least chance with either Wendell or Braun.

The New Yorks should capture all three places in the pole vault with such men as Babcock, Curtis, Dukes and Halstead. But the Irish will doubtless come into their own in the running broad jump and the hop, step and jump with Tim Ahearn, unless Platt Adams takes his measure in the running broad jump.

PALZER AND MILLER WILL MEET AGAIN

New York, Sept. 20.—Al Palzer, the rapidly diminishing if not entirely faded white hope who was recently knocked out by Frank Moran, the Pittsburgh dentist, is to have another chance to show whether or not he has any of that come back quality which is talked of so much and seen so little. Palzer has been slated to fight Charley Miller, the California heavyweight, at the St. Nicholas Athletic club on next Wednesday evening. Miller comes here with very good recommendations, as he has fought such men as Gunboat Smith, Jim Flynn, Jess Willard and other big men on the coast. He was to have fought Sam Langford at San Francisco, but the authorities refused to grant the club a license. The Palzer-Miller bout will be for ten rounds.

MURPHY AND WHITE

Chicago, Sept. 20.—Chicago fight fans are gratified to learn that the matchmaker of the Kenosha, Wis., A. C. has signed up Tommy Murphy of New York and Charley White, the clever lightweight of Chicago, for a ten-round no decision bout at the opening boxing show of that club on next Monday night. The contest will doubtless draw a big crowd, as the Chicago fight fans are anxious to see White meet one of the top notchers.

BRITTON AND MURPHY

Boston, Sept. 20.—Another match has been arranged between Jack Britton and Eddie Murphy, the latter of this city, the fight to take place at the local Atlas A. C. on next Tuesday night. It was at this same club that Britton knocked out Murphy last October in the eleventh round of what was to have been a twelve-round bout.

This forthcoming fight is for the same distance.

COAST LEAGUE FOR SALT LAKE CITY

Salt Lake, Sept. 20.—Baseball folks on the Pacific coast are turning a serious mind to the proposition of Salt Lake entering the Coast league. It is a cinch that the Coast league will have to extend itself to an eight club circuit ere many more seasons are passed, and it is admitted that Salt Lake would make an excellent selection as one of the two additional towns.

Harry A. Williams, writing in the Los Angeles Times, has the following to offer on the situation: "Salt Lake City is knocking at the door of the Pacific Coast league, the same being a noise denoting a desire to enter."

"The Salt Lakers feel convinced in their own minds that they have outgrown the Union association, a mere quite circuit with which they have been affiliated in the past, and desire to become a link in the Coast league chain of clubs.

"They seem to be very much in earnest, and the Utah city being quite some burg, with pronounced sporting proclivities, said prediction running largely to bicycl racing and baseball, their plea is likely to receive serious consideration at the annual meeting of the league next winter.

"Henry Berry and Ed. R. Maier, Coast league directors, and the principal powers in the southern end of the circuit, were rather noncommittal last night when shown a dispatch stating that Salt Lake would make a strong bid for membership in the Coast league.

Up to Directors.

"Neither offered any opposition to the proposition, but said that it was a matter for the directors to decide at their annual meeting. Both agreed that it is only a question of time until the Coast league will expand to eight clubs, and admitted the possibility of Salt Lake being admitted when such action is taken.

"The proposition has been made to admit both Salt Lake City and San Diego. Should the latter city be found not ripe for class AA baseball, Salt Lake could be taken in and some town in the northwest selected as the eighth club.

"There has been talk of expansion for a number of years now. It may come next year, and again not until 1915. It is believed, however, that the time is fast approaching when the league must increase its circuit to eight clubs.

"Must Be Eight Clubs. "The coasters have major league ambitions. They expect eventually to grow into baseball independence. In order to realize their ambitions they will need eight cities. If they can add to the present circuit two of the most choice baseball towns in the west, they will cover the coast like a blanket, and will have little fear either from the majors or a competing circuit here.

"That Salt Lake could support class AA baseball there is not the slightest doubt. The only drawback is its comparative isolation, and the intervening desert, which the teams would have to cross in making the jump.

"Salt Lake is approximately 800 miles from Los Angeles. This is quite a leap, but only half as far as Portland from Los Angeles, and less than the jump from San Francisco to Portland. The Coast league hasn't and never will have a compact circuit. The 800 miles between Los Angeles and Salt Lake is not necessarily of itself a barrier to the latter as a circuit possibility."

SPURNS \$15,000 BASEBALL OFFER; MACK MADE HARVARD COACH



Sam Felton, the sterling Harvard varsity pitcher and football star, who recently turned down an offer made by the usually economical Connie Mack, the shrewd manager of the Philadelphia Athletics of a flat contract of \$15,000 for three years, Mack broke all of his iron clad rules in offering what was for him a record smashing price in an effort to induce young Felton to twirl for the Athletics. Felton, who lives at Haverford, Pa., is of wealthy parents, who are said to have had something to do with his refusal to play professional ball. It is said that Sam has about decided to spend the fall at Cambridge, assisting in perfecting the Harvard varsity football eleven.

AFTER NEW RECORDS.

New York, Sept. 20.—J. I. Wendell, the New York A. C. hurdler, will have a fine chance to annex two records at his club's games on September 27. The program contains a 100 yard event over eight flights of 3 feet 6 inches, and a 250 yard event over ten flights of 2 feet 6 inches. The record for the 100 yards is 13 1-2 seconds made by H. L. Williams, the old Yale hurdler, in 1909, and G. Schwesler holds the mark of 21.5 seconds for the 250 yard event, made in 1910. These odd distances are seldom included in modern programs and the records could easily fall before the science of up-to-date timber topping.

FIGHTERS GO TO PARIS.

New York, Sept. 20.—Dan McKetrick will sail for Paris on the Olympic on October 4, and will take with him the following fighters: Frank Moran and Joe Jeannette, heavyweights; Tommy Gavagan and Otto Kohler, middleweights of Cleveland; Battling Levinsky of Philadelphia, Young Ahearn, a lightweight; Mickie Dunn and Gene Delmont.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—Preparing for a campaign of football more open than any since the introduction of the forward pass and adoption of the "reform" rules, coaches and players at nearly all the leading institutions of the central states today formally began their practice. A rule of the western conference forbids real practice until the 20th, and many schools not in the "big nine" follow this rule, but when the mentors assumed charge today they found in many cases, that prospective candidates already had loosened joints used in punting. The season promises to equal in interest that of last year in this section of the country. The title of conference champion, which generally carries with it the championship west of the Alleghenies, will be decided only after a hard series of games. To pre-season prophets it seems likely to go to Minnesota, Chicago or Wisconsin, with the Badgers, through the prestige of their victorious career of 1912, and through the return of more than a dozen of last year's varsity squad considered favorites.

Reports that Kirk, the big Iowa tackle, will not report this year are worrying the Hawkeye coaches. His non-appearance will force Coach Hawley not only to find a first class lineman, but also to develop a punter, for Kirk was depended upon to do the kicking for Iowa.

Inter-sectional games this year are important if Michigan's contests with eastern colleges can be called inter-sectional. Michigan's big game is with Pennsylvania and Coach Yost already is planning particular plays for the Quakers.

St. Louis university has an important inter-sectional game with Syracuse on Thanksgiving day. Coach Denny has had men at work for nearly a week.

Notre Dame's last team will play the West Point cadets November 1. Fast work is on the program at Lincoln, where Coach Stehm has four weeks to prepare for the Minnesota game October 18, the first contest.

ARRANGE BIG MATCH. Milwaukee, Sept. 20.—The first big match to be scheduled in the state of Wisconsin under the new state boxing law is the ten round go between Eddie McGoorty of Oshkosh and Frank Klaus of Pittsburg. The fight is to be staged here on next Monday night.