

LATEST SPORTING NEWS

FEW CHANGES IN NEW RULES

AT LEAST THAT IS APPEARANCE
OF THE SITUATION.

Committee on Football Rules Will be
Called Together Shortly.

Within a very short time rules committee revisers will meet in New York, and it is a safe bet that there will be but few changes as the committee has been urged to let the playing element and the people who officiate, make use of the knowledge of the new game acquired last year. The meeting of the committee will probably be held this month.

No game was ever more thoroughly overhauled than football was a year ago. Even the meetings of 1908 were not more productive of radical changes in the game, and when, last May, the playing rules finally were adopted for the 1910 season, there was a general satisfaction expressed that they would make the game a better one for young men to play, and also one in which the opportunity for severe injury had been greatly reduced.

Reforms in the Game.

The great reforms in football came last year through the rules regulating mass plays, interference for the runners, protecting the ends, and so governing the outside kicks that few players could be grouped about a free ball.

These reforms were voted for unanimously in the committee, which from the date of its first meeting entered into its sessions solidly bound together to make the game a better and a less dangerous one. In making changes in conditions the rule makers thought only of the game itself, and there was little or no personal controversy.

But when it came to the forward pass things were different. The forward pass was put into the game back in 1906, and never produced anything but trouble. Some big games were won with it, but Yale which stood out stronger than any other college against the use of the forward pass, was the college which in five years counted the most victories as the direct result of its successful use.

So satisfied have the members of the combined rules committees been with the working out of the first group of changes made in the rules last year that it seems certain that they will make no more radical changes this fall. But if there is any legislation at all it will be to simplify the rules governing forward passes or else to provide special rules and regulations for the officials, whose work has been so complicated that even the officials have felt that they could not do themselves justice.

At the meeting there will doubtless be several members who will urge that the forward pass be eliminated, but also several of the men who voted against the pass last spring will be willing to allow it to stay in the game at least for one more season. In fact there is a very strong desire among the committee members to let the game alone for a while and to give the players and the officials a chance to get really accustomed to the game as mapped out for 1910.

And as the game was revised to prevent injuries, and football in 1910 undoubtedly did pass into history with fewer casualties to its credit, there would seem to be little reason for much more legislation along these lines.

Now, if reforms are to be made they will be made to make football a better game in itself. These changes may come some time, and perhaps in a season or two, but most of the committee seem to be of the opinion that the game deserves another tryout before being shaken up again. And this is why the rules committee meeting, which will be held a few weeks hence, is not expected to bring sensational developments.

Brown to Have Aero School.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 4.—A course in aeroplaning and the study of aer-

onautics will shortly be added to the curriculum of elective studies at Brown university, if the plans for the establishment of such an extension are carried out in line with the purposes of Prof. J. Ansel Brooks of the mechanical engineering department of the college.

LOCAL SPORTLETS, COMMENT AND THE LIKE.

Ell Burdette of Perry has purchased a Ford touring car, of the new model, from the Smith garage.

A Ford roadster, costing \$750 f. o. b. La Grande has arrived and is now on the demonstration floor at the Smith garage.

Haines and Union will play basketball at Correy's hall tonight.

Union is preparing to enter the base ball arena for the year 1911, and other towns will be asked to reckon with the best team that ever came out of this town, says the Union Republican. Manager Robert Smith has the matter in charge, and predicts great things for Union for the current year.

Automobile sales have commenced and several sales have been recorded the past week, indicating that the coming spring will be an industrious one.

Cove girls come to La Grande next Friday evening and the Observer predicts the liveliest title in the coded games seen here in many a month will take place. The following week Imbler will be contested.

A new 33 torpedo Hudson will reach the Dittebrandt garage in a few days and will be shown to the buying public.

With the arrival in a few days of an Excelsior motor cycle, the list of the small automobile owners in this city will have grown to about a half dozen and there is some talk of organizing a motor cycle club for the purpose of taking long drives and increasing the popularity in that branch of sport.

Bean, center on the M. I. A. team is credited by the Pendleton East Oregonian sporting writer with being the star of the visiting aggregation at Pendleton the other night, while Childers got the greatest number of free throws. Bean got three baskets from the field and Childers got four fouls out of eight.

Imbler put itself on the map strong last Saturday evening when the girls from that town fairly swamped the Wallowa girls' team by the score of 25 to 3. The game was exciting for all that—the Wallowa girls are big and strong but lacked the speed necessary to stop the fast Imbler quintet. The members of the Imbler team are: Pearl Skillings and Nellie Loyd, forwards; Leola Billings center, and Ruth Billings and Gladys Lloyd, guards.

No takers have accepted the def of "Dutch" Rose who has been sojourning in La Grande the past few days. He wants them at 175, give or take; ten pounds and pin falls desired.

An interesting demonstration of wrestling was given the B. M. A. club this week by Mr. McMahon, the Hot Lake adept. The entire club enjoyed every minute of the lecture.

BASEBALL NOTES

Jack Miller has signed with Pittsburg at a nice increase over last season's salary.

Carrigan, Gardner and Collins, of the Boston Red Sox, are holding out for more money.

As the Giants have 14 and the Cubs 16 pitchers to try out, there will be quite a bunch of fingers to return to sage brush scenery.

"Duke" Farrell, the drill master of

M. I. A. LOSES THIRD BALL GAME

Walla Walla, Feb. 4 (Special).—Unable it appears, to overcome the slump which the team took when Pendleton administered its first defeat at La Grande a week ago, the M. I. A. team completed its tour of the inland empire yesterday evening by losing a very one-sided contest to the Y. M. C. A. in this city. The final score was 54 to 7, an overwhelming defeat. The two previous games told severely on the players from over the mountains and last night's performance was not

up to the standard. The Y. M. C. A. had little trouble in taking an early lead and maintaining it to the end. La Grande M. I. A. never had a chance against the Christians and were outclassed in various departments of the game.

The team plans to return to La Grande this evening, though if a game can be arranged with any of the teams in the surrounding towns for tonight, the contest will be scheduled and the arrival home delayed.

the Yankee pitchers, is sweet on the chances of his protegee copping the American league pennant.

Joe McGinnity is seriously thinking of leasing a farm near Lakewood, N. J., and establishing a permanent training camp for the Newark team.

Manager Jesse Burkett of the Worcester Club is on the job building up another team of youngsters that will cop the New England league pennant.

The St. Louis Americans have refused to waive on Tom Jones of Detroit and the chances are that Tom will perform once more with the Browns.

Edward G. Barrow, the new president of the Eastern League, has accepted the invitation of Jack Dunn to witness the opening game at Baltimore.

Harry Davis, Sherwood Magee and Eddie Collins will be tendered a dinner by the Sporting Writers' Association of Philadelphia on the night of Feb. 20.

The South Atlantic league has adopted a salary limit of \$1900 per month, including the manager's salary. Each club will be allowed to carry thirteen men.

The San Juan Times says that Charley Ebbetts, who is now in Porto Rico, is planning to have his Brooklyn team tour Porto Rico, Bermuda and Cuba after the close of the 1911 season.

First base position on the Milwaukee team looks to be criss-crossed with jinks trimmings. Dan McGann, committed suicide; Pat Hynes who played the bag before Dan, was murdered, and Quate Bateman, who held the job just before Hynes, was stabbed and nearly killed in a row with Charley Dexterm.

GOOSE IS TRAINED TO DECOY

Oklahoma Hunter Plans to Use Big Fellow to Call Others.

Oklahoma City Feb. 4. (Special).—An Oklahoma City hunter, Coley Moulton, who ranges the South Canadian river country in search mostly of the big honkers from Canada, has added to his hunting outfit a gander that measures five feet ten inches from tip to tip. At least that was his spread before his wings were clipped. Moulton "tripped" the gander during a recent hunt on the South Canadian and saved him for use as a live decoy in calling wild geese from the clouds to the blinds where Moulton and his hunting companions lie in wait for them with automatic guns loaded with chilled No. 2's.

For years Moulton has had a wild geese caller named "Jojo" which learned to come when its name was spoken, and followed Moulton close at his heels in the crowded streets of Oklahoma City. In a storm one night on the South Canadian, Moulton left Jojo in a box beside the river rather than carry him to camp, intending to return next morning and get the goose. That night a hungry wolf, prowling along the river, smelled goose, and next day the only trace of Jojo was a few feathers scattered along the sand.

Moulton expects his new wild goose to become tractable in a month. The gander ranges Moulton's back yard with a leather thong tied round one of its legs, a tub of water open for plunge baths, and a liberal scattering of corn for feed. Wild geese are voracious eaters. The goose is safe

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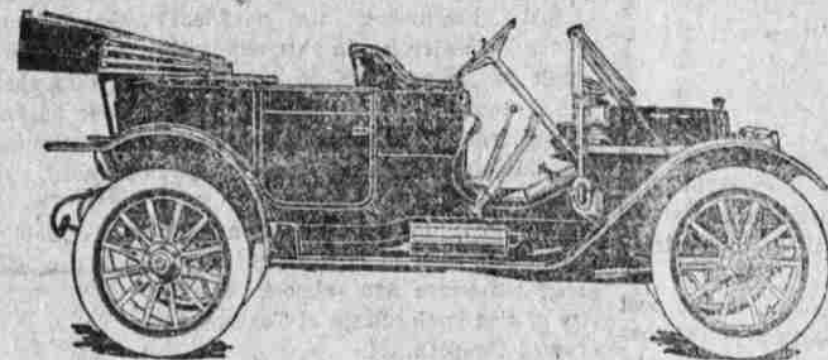


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