

AUTOMOBILE AND SPORTING NEWS

LOCAL SQUAD GIVES PROMISE

"PO" CAYLOR HAS BEEN SECURED TO COACH TEAM.

Many Old Players Return and Considerable New Material Available.

The prospects seem to point to a very successful football season for the La Grande high school. "Po" Kaller has consented to handle the coaching of the team and has already commenced systematic work. "Dutch" Lottes is the captain of this year's eleven and as he was undoubtedly the best player of last year he will make a success of his position. "Pukey" Reynolds has acquired that strenuous and unthankful position of manager. A heavy schedule will be played including games with Baker City and Pendleton.

Among the old players are Belton who kicks with the best of them; Bohnenkamp, the best center in the northwest scholastic circles; "Bud" Garrity and, Ralston and several others.

There is much new material among which is Kale and Roberts of Cove. There is some talk that they will not play but it is hoped that they will be able to make arrangements so that they can enter, as they are both valuable men and are needed.

LAJOIE'S BEST

"I have, of course, made quite a few long hits and hard hits in my time," said Larry Lajoie, the veteran infielder of the Cleveland Americans, the other day. "Some of them went a good deal farther than others, and some of them were smashed with a good deal more vigor than the rest, all depending largely, of course, upon the way the bat met the leather.

"I have a keen and painful recollection, however, of what I think was the hardest hit I ever made. The recollection is specially keen and extremely



Photo by American Press Association. LARRY LAJOIE, CLEVELAND'S GREAT BATTER AND INFILDER.

painful because I wasted so much energy on the blamed thing and because the best I got was the hawhaw.

"It was way back in the days when I was on the old Philadelphia team, which, as you will remember, was some aggregation of swat-smiths. Although I was rather new to the big league in those days, I seemed to fit in with that bunch all right and was hitting along with the rest of the tribe.

"In those days the right field fence in Philadelphia was close, and the

fielders used to play to take them on the bound as they came back from the fence. In one game, if I remember rightly, three men were thrown out at first on what should have been the safest kind of hits. But that is another story.

"The afternoon I made my great hit was one of good, husky batting. Life was miserable for all the pitchers and especially for our performers. When the last half of the ninth arrived we were to the bad something like 9 to 7. There were a hit, an out, a base on balls and a pop fly. I came up, with men on first and second, two gone and the chance to tie or win before me.

"The ball came over hissing hot. I grazed it, and that was all. The next one must have been intended simply as a teaser, for it drifted over so slow and easy that a baby could have hit it with a wire. I thought the hurrier never meant to get it near the pan, but was playing wide to get a possible fall out of the runner, who was leading off second. Anyhow, it came over the size of a balloon. 'Oh, joy!' said I, and I leaned the bat against that ball with all my weight and muscle.

"To the best of my recollection I never before or since hit a ball so hard as that one. I could almost feel the leather being driven into the core of the yarn and rubber by the force of that tremendous drive, and the sting ran up the bat. The ball went out, not whizzing, not sailing, but faster, more terrifically speedy than anything I ever laid the wood against in all my life.

"There was a glad roar from the multitude, and I went down to first, bent for a home run, while two men flew along ahead of me. Round first I went and steamed for the middle corner. Suddenly a man rose up in my tracks and stuck the ball into my diaphragm—it was the third out, and the game was over.

"How and whyfore? Only this: I had hit the ball so fearfully hard that it rebounded back from the right field wall like a snapped piece of rubber band. It shot straight back all the way to the diamond and leaped right into the second baseman's hands for a sure trap and the last one of the afternoon. And that is the story of the hardest ball I ever hit. Do you wonder that the memory gives me a pain?"

"Fourth of July" in Mexico.
City of Mexico, Sept. 16.—Today, being the 161st anniversary of Mexican independence, was recognized as a general holiday in all parts of the republic. Almost all of the elaborate celebrations customary to the occasion were cancelled, however, owing to the fear of an uprising against the government.

Rejected Compulsory Happiness.
In 1880 the inundation of the Yellow river caused great suffering in China. The inferior people not only "groaned and murmured," but died by the hundreds. In order to raise funds for the relief of the survivors the prefect of Hangchow levied a tax on each cup of tea sold in the tea houses of the great city. The ancient capital assented to this arbitrary fashion resented that tax after the manner of the Bostonians of 1773. In spite of the humane object of the assessment, the citizens put a boycott on tea, and the proprietors of the tea houses cried out in protest.

The prefect issued a second proclamation, in which he assured his people that happiness was their sure reward if they cheerfully contributed to this excellent cause. This agreeable assurance had no effect on the boycotters, and the tax had to be removed. Perhaps this is the only instance on record where a cityful of people were banded to resist compulsory "happiness."—Youth's Companion.

That Was Different.
Repeatedly he had heard the young woman boast of eluding the vigilance of the conductor and riding home free, so when he got a chance to sneak a ride for both of them he slipped the dime back into his pocket and smiled upon her in triumph.

"Didn't you pay your fare?" she asked.

"No," said he. "The conductor never even looked our way. She said nothing, but her look of disdain was unmistakable.

"I've heard you tell many a time of doing the same thing," he said defiantly.

"Oh, well," she said, "that's different. For a man!"

And the young man understood then that there certainly is a double standard for the sexes.—New York Sun.

Western Society Girl Has a Trained Coyote as Her Pet



HOW would you like to have a coyote as a pet? Would you prefer a small wolf or a Boston bull or a collie or a dachshund? Coyotes are not usually regarded as desirable pets, but when caught young it is possible to tame them. Miss Kathleen Laird, a society girl of Spokane, Wash., has a coyote that she prizes highly. She is a nephew of Andrew Laidlaw, a millionaire horseman and mine operator. The coyote was given to her when it was in its infancy, and her kind treatment won the little animal's heart until today it is a devoted slave and is her companion on daily walks. She has taught the coyote to do a number of tricks, and it is as affectionate and playful as any puppy. The accompanying picture was taken recently at the home of Miss Laird's parents.

A TRIAL OF STRENGTH.

The Feat That Was Performed by Adargoma, the Wrestler.

Tradition has immortalized one Adargoma of Grand Canary, who could wrestle for two consecutive hours and, having been thrown undermost in a certain contest, got his antagonist between his legs and arms and squeezed him so that his bones began to crack.

The native was subsequently sent as a prisoner to Spain, where he astounded the people by his performances. One day in Seville he was visited by a brawny youth of La Mancha, who was anxious to try a bout with him. "My good friend," said Adargoma, "as we are going to wrestle together it is only reasonable that we should begin by drinking something."

A large bowl of wine having been brought, he took this in one hand and continued to address his challenger: "If with both your arms you can over-

power one of mine so as to hinder me from drinking every drop of this wine we will try our strength together; if not, you may return to your home." The struggle took place, and Adargoma by degrees drained the bowl in the coolest manner without spilling a drop of the wine. His one hand was more than a match for the other's two.—London Spectator.

Not Consistent.

"You are very foolish, Mary, to think of getting married. If you will give up the idea I will raise your wages a dollar a week."

"Huh—a dollar a week! That's a fine argument against marriage to be put up by a lady that's drawn \$400 a month alimony."—Judge.

The soldier is the only wild animal that does not eat what he kills.—Jesus.

Automobile News and Gossip

The recent movement on the part of the governor in naming a commission to draft an ideal road law has met with favor among the Union county auto owners and is all the more pleasing because Dr. M. K. Hall of La Grande was named as a member of the commission. The motor club passed resolutions approving the state aid plan and has suggested that the state pay one half and the county one half of the road expense. This is following out what other clubs have done except that the ratio of state and county expense is not uniform, some clubs believing that the state should pay more and some less. The Commercial club also adopted a resolution and placed it in the hands of Dr. Hall advocating convict labor and a volunteer commission to disburse the funds raised by the new law. This would do away with any possible chance of graft and is one of the main points raised against the law offered by the last legislature.

The different auto owners who have

made the trip to the Pendleton Round-up know what a long hill means now. The hill coming out of Pendleton is one of those rises which has a tendency to boil water in the radiators and cause an engine to heat. So far as known all the La Grande machines got through with little or no trouble.

The Dittebrandt Auto company is enthusiastic over the new Chalmers for 1912. In talking with one of the company he said: "The Chalmers company finished on June 15th, the most successful year in its history. The company announced at the beginning of 1911 reasons for building 6,500 cars. This number was built and sold and did not nearly supply the demand. Many more could have been sold but the company adhered strictly to the policy of putting quality ahead of quantity. We think the 1912 car is certainly a fine piece of work and as the general public grows to know the merit in a Chalmers there is no doubt as to the demand for them steadily increasing."

THE FIRST AERONAUT.

Kingsley's Querer Idea and an Embarrassing Coincidence.

Charles Kingsley was at a dinner once with the aeronaut Coxwell. It was shortly after Coxwell and a companion had made a flight in which they had risen so high that Coxwell's hands were frozen and he had time only to tear open the air valve with his teeth. A. C. Benson tells the story in "The Leaves of the Tree" in the North American Review. After dinner Kingsley suddenly said:

"I have often thought that the first man that ever went up in a balloon must have been a dentist."

Some one laughed and said, "What an extraordinary idea!"

"I don't know," said Kingsley. "A man who is always looking down people's throats, and pulling their teeth about, and breathing their breath, must be inspired with a tremendous desire to get away and above it all."

Coxwell leaned forward and said very good humoredly, "Well, Mr. Kingsley, it is true that I am a dentist, but it was not that that made me become an aeronaut."

"My dear Mr. Coxwell," said Kingsley, flushing red, "I am sure I beg your pardon. I had no idea it was so. You must have thought me singularly ill mannered to make a joke of it."

Kingsley could not recover his spirits for the rest of the evening. He hated giving pain to any human being more perhaps than anything in the world.

Ancient Inkstands.

An inkstand that was probably in use 3,400 years ago is exhibited in a Berlin museum. It is of Egyptian make and is supposed to belong to the eighteenth or nineteenth dynasty, or somewhere about 1500 B. C., although its real age can be judged only approximately. It is made of wood and has two compartments, an upper one provided with two holes, one for black and one for red ink, and a lower one for holding reed pens. The black and red ink are certainties, for some still remains, in a dry condition, within the receptacles. Another ancient inkstand is supposed to have been intended for the use of a schoolboy. It would certainly hold ink enough for a schoolboy's needs, for it has no fewer than four ink holes. Both inkstands were found at Thebes.—London Globe.

Eased His Conscience.

Dean Buckland when at Westminster used to tell a curious story of a brown paper parcel which he received one day by post. After many wrappings had been unfolded he found a small black splinter of oak about an inch and a half long. The writer of the unsigned note accompanying the parcel said that when he was a boy, many years before, he had chipped the splinter off the coronation chair. As age advanced his conscience grew troublesome, and he asked the dean to be kind enough to restore the splinter to its place.—Pall Mall Gazette.

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