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THE ORIGIN OF FOOTBALL.

All nations have played football, says A. B. Reeves in *Outing Magazine*. The ancients inflated a bladder, or follis, and kicked it about. In Greece there was the episkuros, a game played in much the same way as with us, only by a large number of persons. Then the Romans played a game called harpastum with both hands and feet, which show that even then carrying the ball was permitted. Here were the foundations of "soccer" and Rugby.

In the Philippines and Polynesia it is played with a light ball made of thin, split fibers of bamboo, ingeniously interlaced. The Eskimos play it with a ball made of strips of leather. The Maoris of New Zealand and the Faeroe Islanders have a game of native football. East and West, North and South, we find football of one kind or another.

There can be little doubt that it was passed on to Great Britain by the Romans from harpastum where they strove by a "conquering cast" to throw the follis into each other's goal. Centuries before cricket was born in the South of England football was common in the North.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Sand or flour thrown over burning oil will extinguish the flames quickly.

Lamp chimneys should never be washed. Dampen a cloth in alcohol and rub them with it and it will clean and polish them.

Any one who practices economy in cooking should always bear in mind that no amount of gas or heat will make anything cook faster than it does at the boiling point.

To clean neglected lacquered brass wash it gently in lukewarm water, rub with cloth dipped in equal parts of vinegar and lemon juice and then polish with dry leather.

To remove scratches on furniture, dip a woolen rag in boiled linseed oil and with it well rub the scratched article which should then be varnished with shellac dissolved in alcohol.

New ironware should not be used for cooking unless it is first boiled. The addition of potato parings to the water is one of the best means of getting the new ware in proper condition.

When making glue you will find that the addition of a little glycerine increases its adhesive quality and makes it more elastic. One part of the glycerine to three parts of glue is the right proportion.

If the brush of the sweeper is dipped in kerosene about once a month it will be found that the lint and dust will come out in a mat, that the sweeping will raise no dust and that the rugs will look much fresher.

When lace curtains are ready to be washed, baste a narrow strip of muslin along each outer edge and let it remain until the washing and drying process is completed and you will find your curtains are straight and do not sag.