

BASEBALL, GREAT AMERICAN GAME

Professional Matches Seen by 40,000,000 Spectators Last Year.

MILLIONS FOR SALARIES

Develops From Rounders Into Scientific Contest of Skill Controlled by Trust and Watched by Keen Critics.

BY FREDERIC J. HASKIN. WASHINGTON, May 12.—(Special Correspondence)—Baseball is the game that has seen its favorite game played in the professional baseball parks last year. How much more they spent in outfitting and supporting semi-professional, college and amateur clubs cannot be estimated. How many afternoons the sons of Uncle Sam "knocked off" to take in a game could not be calculated without endangering an ordinary man's arithmetic.

Evolution of the Game.

Baseball is the one great American game. It had its origin and its development in the United States, and it has gone through the same series of ups and downs which has characterized the progress of the great American industries today. Baseball was first a purely amateur game played for the diversion of the players. Spectators were attracted and there was a co-operative organization. The consolidation idea went on, as in all American businesses, and uniform rules came into being. Then came the "trust" after the trust came the "strike" against outlawed players. Then the whole business was consolidated and merged, which is the consolidation of trusts, and now five men control the entire professional baseball world. If these things are not enough to give baseball a title to a purely American history, then let it be remembered that Thomas W. Lawson, author of "Pronounced Finance," has written a book about baseball and the question will be settled.

Mr. Lawson's book was entitled "Krank" and was published in Boston 19 years ago. It was found in horsehide of the kind that wraps the "twisted sphere" and was printed on the finest of parchment paper. Mr. Lawson begins with a definition of the word "Krank," which he says is "more or less fitted." He says: "The Krank is a heterogeneous compound of flesh, bone and baser matter. He came into existence in the early '70s. He came to stay. The Krank is purely American. He is found in no other country. The Krank has a shell, which he crawls in the month of November. He does not emerge from it until April. While in his shell, his only article of food is the 'twisted sphere' on 'week.' During the season from April to November he subsists on air, and waxes strong. His first characteristic is 'knowing his own mind.' 'Know your own mind,' 'Times has changed the 'krank' to a 'fan,' but it is a change in name only.

First Big Safaried Pitchers.

In the year 1888, when that little book appeared, baseball had reached for the first time its present status as the leading sport, diversion and study of the American's Summer mind. In that year Boston paid Chicago \$10,000 for the release of John G. Clarkson, the star pitcher of the American league, a "millionaire" ball had dawned. To what dizzy heights salaries of ball-players might have soared, had it not been for the combination which has since been formed, can hardly be guessed at.

The game of baseball was evolved some time in the early '40s of the last century from the old games of "rounders" and "town-ball." A regular code of rules was published in New York as early as 1845. The first newspaper report of a game of baseball appeared in the New York Sunday Mercury in July, 1853.

The Gotham and Knickerbocker clubs played a matched game on the grounds of the latter at the 6th inst. The Knickerbockers won. Gotham, 18 outs, 12 runs; Knickerbockers, 18 outs, 21 runs—2 runs constituting a game.

Becomes Professional Game.

Just after the Civil War the game began to be played for the amusement of spectators quite as much as for the diversion of the players. In 1867 the Washington Nationals, a team made up of clerks in the departments at the capital, and of which Arthur P. Gorman, afterwards Senator from Maryland, was one of the promoters, made the first grand tour of the country to play ball. The trip cost \$300 and there were no gate receipts. The baseball was pitched as air. The team won nine of the 16 games played, being beaten in Chicago by the Forest City team of Rockford, Ill., for which A. G. Spalding was pitcher.

Organized as Trust.

The leagues of leagues which came into existence with the beginning of the 20th century now control practically all of the professional baseball of the country. It has 21 leagues under its management and works in harmony with the two major leagues, the National and the American. No player may go from club to club without permission of this central organization, which last year recorded 460 players' contracts. Men are drafted from small leagues to larger ones, or assigned from place to place, and the will of the central body. This has baseball reached the apex of the inventive genius of the American business man, the centrally controlled combination of combinations, in which the "little fellow" no more dares to talk back than does the cog on the wheel attempt to "argify" with the steam engine.

game. The boys play from the time they are 7 years old and the boys' baseball games are not always to be despised. Many enterprising newspapers publish long lists of results of games and "challenges" for other games each day.

Pitcher Becomes King.

The story of the game itself is just as varied. In 1876, the year the United States celebrated the National centennial, the champions of the Old Dominion of Brooklyn pitched a curved ball. There ended the big scores, there ended the reign of the batsman, there ended the era of the pitcher. The pitcher was made to take advantage of his position to organize a signal service, and he became the chief factor in the field of generalship. From that signal service developed the intricate system of baseball strategy of today.

Baseball is a good thing for boys of all ages and sometimes for girls, too, for it gives outdoor exercise and outdoor air to player and spectator. The Duke of Wellington boasted that the victory of Waterloo was won on the cricket fields of England, thus declaring his faith in the exercise. The Duke of Wellington, nor any other soldier in history, has profited more by the science of strategy than has the player-manager of the American baseball team of today. The baseball nine is no longer made up of nine individuals whose several degrees of skill and enthusiasm the result of the play depends. It is a consummate machine, compact and obedient to a field marshal's will. Baseball to the player is no longer a sport or recreation, it is a highly-paid occupation in life, a science in execution and an art in conception.

Spectator an Expert Critic.

The spectator has changed also. He is not the erstwhile loyal partisan of the home club whose patriotism was too lofty to admit defeat. The man in the grand stand and the boy at the knothole today are students and critics. Quick to bestow praise when the player of the home team does what is expected, he is even quicker to censure if that player is a whit less than mathematically exact in fulfilling the measure required of him.

Whether all of these changes are for the best or not, whether there is a mixture of good or bad, and whether they will progress with time—these are problems for each individual "fan." Henry Chadwick, the octogenarian "Father of Baseball," declared at the beginning of this year, as he has at the beginning of every year for four decades, that the game is better now than it ever has been and will be better further on.

Tomorrow—Science of Dry Farming.

BOYS BUILD CAMPUS WALKS

JUNIOR DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON.

Glaring Contrast to Old-Time Scenes of Class Rushes—Co-Eds. Serve Dainty Lunch to Toppers.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, May 17.—(Special.)—Junior day was appropriately celebrated at Oregon today. Early this morning a hundred students assembled on the campus, and armed with shovels and tools they began the construction of 20 feet of cement walk leading west from Deady Hall. The work was rushed through under the direction of Dr. Lewis, the engineering students. Everything was carried out systematically, the work being divided among the different squads so that each worked in order and the cement was hauled out under the efforts of the ready students so that by noon the whole walk was completed.

MRS. SECHTEM SAYS FRAUD

Brings Suit Against Former Administrator of Husband's Estate.

A suit to recover property valued at between \$50,000 and \$60,000 was filed by Christina Sechtem, a widow, yesterday in the Circuit Court. She alleges that Max Smith, a Portland restaurant keeper, while administrator of the estate of Louis Sechtem, defrauded her and her four children out of property left her by her husband, who died November 28, 1894. Four hundred acres of land in Columbia County and a half block on Gilman street are mentioned in the complaint.

State's Demurrer Sustained.

Attorney-General A. M. Crawford yesterday filed a demurrer in the Federal Court to the complaint in the case of A. H. Burns against the State of Oregon, in which Burns asks pay for horses and supplies furnished in the Indian Wars of 1865 and 1866. The demurrer is on the ground that the court has no jurisdiction. The claim is for \$300. Judge Wolverton sustained the demurrer, and Burns was allowed 15 days to file an amended complaint.

New Washington Postmasters.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 17.—Washington postmasters appointed: Oak Point, Cowlitz County, John W. Taylor, vice H. A. Young, resigned; Winchester, Douglas County, Anna Medlow, vice S. D. Dinius, resigned; Whitman County, La. Walls, vice J. T. Billups, removed.

GRASPING AT STRAW

Reactionists May Aim at Taft's Election.

MEANING OF BOSSES' MOVE

Cox and Penrose Climb Into Bandwagon in Hope to Kill Third-Term Movement and Then Get Milder Treatment.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 12.—These are days of strange happenings politically. "Boss" Cox, of Ohio, heretofore a foremost opponent of Secretary Taft, comes out with an announcement that he favors the nomination of the War Secretary as the Republican candidate for President in 1908. He literally surrenders before the fight between the Taft and Penrose factions, which has really opened. "Boss" Penrose, of Pennsylvania, a machine politician through and through, comes out with a declaration of his profound friendship for Mr. Roosevelt and favors the renomination of the President.

What does it all mean? Why should Mr. Cox surrender there had been a test of strength between the Foraker faction, which he was leading, and the Taft faction, which he was opposing? He says it is only for a few moments. Just follow the crowd to the busy Eilers corner, Washington and Park streets.

Penrose Tries to Save Hide.

At the time Mr. Penrose came out in a declaration in favor of giving Mr. Roosevelt another term, the Republicans of Pennsylvania looked around to discover his reason for changing front. They figured out that Mr. Penrose had discovered the tremendous popularity of the President in Pennsylvania, and feared that, unless he showed signs of friendliness with the National administration, the next Pennsylvania legislature might send to the Senate some man in sympathy with Roosevelt policies.

Mr. Penrose, educated under Cay, is too old a dog in many neckties; he is not sincere in his avowal of friendship for the President and he is not fooling the general public. It is generally conceded that he is merely trying to save his own hide.

Corporations Choose Less Evil.

Some are inclined to accept Mr. Cox at his word. But these are in the minority. Others believe that after conference with Mr. Foraker and the interests he represents, Mr. Cox has declared in favor of Mr. Taft in the same hope of checking the talk of Mr. Roosevelt for a second elective term. Much as the corporations dislike Mr. Taft, they have not the same fear of him that the public has. In the talk of Mr. Roosevelt for a second elective term, they would not have if their friend Mr. Foraker was sent to the White House, but they would run less danger of losing their property than if Mr. Roosevelt should be granted an extension of four years.

The reactionaries, if they could control the convention of 1908 and through he could win, would nominate Mr. Fairbanks. Their second choice would be Mr. Foraker. Mr. Fairbanks is first choice because he is more in accord with the probably the more popular. Mr. Foraker is in general sympathy with this element, but he has ideas of his own and is seldom tractable. He is more apt to carry out his own views. In case of a conflict of opinions, not even Wall street or the railway magnates would be able to whip him into line. That is their sole objection to him.

Hope to Soften Taft's Heart.

Eliminating Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Taft is probably the strongest runner now entered on the Republican list. And, having a strong hope of winning, Mr. Roosevelt, he is more apt to be nominated than any other man. Can it be that the "interests," alarmed at the growth of Roosevelt sentiment, have grasped at a desperate chance, and decided to concentrate their efforts to bring about Mr. Taft's nomination, trusting to the future to soften Mr. Taft's heart, particularly if they give him material financial support, both before the convention and before the country? Mr. Taft might not be unamiable to favors such as those. The money power could force his nomination and force his election, would he turn about and ignore it after he became President? An authentic answer to these questions would do much to clear up the Ohio mystery.

RESPECTS VESTED RIGHTS

Ballinger Modifies Order Suspending Alaska Coal Entries.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 17.—Luna Commissioner Ballinger today modified his previous order withdrawing coal land in Alaska from entry. Under the modified order persons or corporations who had within one year prior to November 12, 1906, filed valid locations may proceed to make entry and obtain patent, the same privilege being extended to assigned locations. The order of withdrawal interfered with many legitimate interests that had initiated rights, though not entries. The modification corrects that injustice.

Land Districts in Alaska.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 17.—The President has signed a proclamation defining the boundaries of the Nome and Fairbanks land districts, in Alaska, the former to embrace all of Northwest Alaska, the latter the great interior, while Southeast Alaska remains in the Juneau district. The clerks of the District Courts of Nome and Fairbanks are designated ex officio Registers of Land Offices, the Marshals to be receivers.

BEST CONCERT OF ALL TONIGHT

NO CHARGE FOR ADMISSION, A SPLENDID PROGRAMME, AND EVERYBODY INVITED BY EILERS PIANO HOUSE.

Saturday Evening Talking Machine Entertainments the Most Enjoyable Attraction of the Week—Comfortable Seats, Music Rendered by the \$500.00 Victor Auxetophone—All Classes of Selections Played, and a Continuous Programme—The House of Highest Quality, Also the House of Greatest Popularity.

If you enjoy music, you'll surely enjoy the concert at Eilers this evening. This will be the third talking machine recital of the series, and another splendid list of selections has been arranged, to include the late pieces, in each of the different classes.

The famous orchestras, the great singers, the world's most renowned bands, all will be gathered together, as if were, for your enjoyment. If you are inclined to be classical, there will be numerous pieces to delight you, and if your taste runs to ragtime, you'll be equally pleased. For every kind are included in the programme. Those who have talking machines will be especially interested, for these complimentary programmes give an opportunity to hear a carefully selected list of records played in a manner which will be well worth hearing. Duplicates of any record may be purchased, by simply making the order known to one of the ushers. Numbers especially desired will be played upon request.

The recital will begin at 7:35 and will continue until about 10. Make a point to be there for a few moments. Just follow the crowd to the busy Eilers corner, Washington and Park streets.

Barrett to Represent Roosevelt.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 17.—Director John Barrett today notified the President that he would go to Seattle as his personal representative on June 1, when ground is to be broken for the Alaskan Yukon Expedition. He will be in Portland May 30 and 31.

New National Bank at Burns.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 17.—The Harnay County National Bank of Burns, Or., has been authorized to begin business with \$25,000 capital. C. F. McKinney, president; Leon M. Brown, cashier.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

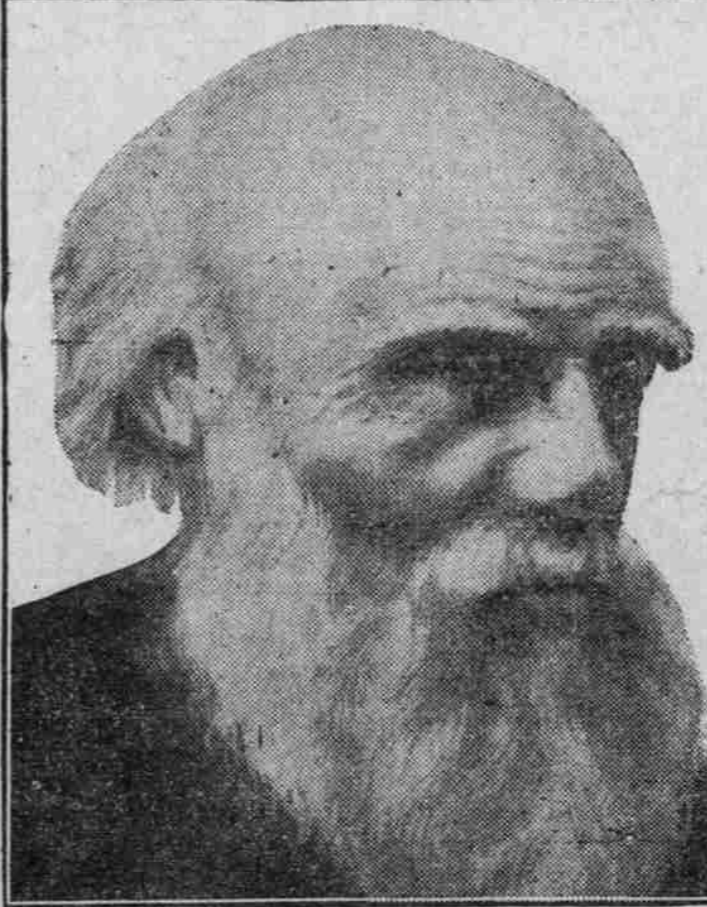
Table listing real estate transfers with names, addresses, and amounts.



Advertisement for Alfred Benjamin & Co. Makers, New York. Made in New York. LFRED BENJAMIN & CO. have maintained, for over one third of a century, their position as the leading makers of Men's clothes in New York City. The retail merchant in this city who sells their Clothing makes it possible for you to wear the same styles that are being worn today by the best dressed men of New York. Correct Clothes for Men. Exclusive Agent Here. Buffum & Pendleton, Inc. 311 Morrison St.

Advertisement for Sunny Brook Whiskey. "O. K." Say U. S. Pure Food Inspectors. This MEANS that our Rye and Bourbon Whiskies, after careful analysis by U. S. Government Chemists, are found to COMPLY with the National Pure Food Law. It also MEANS that Sunny Brook Whiskey is "Bottled in Bond" under the direct supervision of U. S. Internal Revenue Officers, who affix over the neck of every bottle of Sunny Brook the Government "Green Stamp" guaranteeing Age, Purity and Quantity. Of the hundreds of samples analyzed by the North Dakota Pure Food Department chemists acknowledged to be the most rigid in the U. S.—Sunny Brook was the only whiskey found NORMAL. BLUMAUER & HOCH, DISTRIBUTORS PORTLAND OREGON

Advertisement for Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. Oldest Man in America Praises Renewer of Youth. Mr. Frank McNally, of Clinton, Michigan, who is 110 years old, says that Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey has helped him right along and is the best tonic he has used in 80 years. Mr. McNally owes his long life and vigor to Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey, the Elixir of Life. The records of the Roman Catholic Parish of Summerhill, Ireland, contain this entry: "Frank, son of Thomas and Jane McNally, baptized April 10th, 1797."



Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey. Is distilled wholly from malted grain by a most expensive method which has never been made public. This private process insures quality and flavor. Its age, softness, palatability and freedom from those injurious substances found in other whiskies make it acceptable to the most sensitive stomach. If you wish to keep young, strong and vigorous and have on your cheeks the glow of perfect health, take Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey regularly, according to directions, and take no other medicine. It is dangerous to fill yourself with drugs; they poison the blood, while Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey tones and strengthens the heart action and purifies the entire system. It is recognized as a family medicine everywhere. Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey has stood many severe tests by skilled chemists during the past fifty years, and has always been found absolutely pure and to contain great medicinal properties. CAUTION—When you ask your druggist, grocer or dealer for Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey be sure you get the genuine. It's the only absolutely pure medicinal malt whiskey and is sold in sealed bottles only; never in bulk. Look for the trademark, the "Old Chemist," on the label, and make sure the seal over the cork is unbroken. Price \$1.00. Illustrated medical booklet and doctor's advice free. Duffy Malt Whiskey Co., Rochester, N. Y.