

EXPROPRIATES ROBB IS OLVANE

Warren Bovard, Southern California Graduate Manager, Says Game Isn't Fit.

FATALITIES ARE RECORDED

Contest Said to Be Suited for Clubs, but Not for Colleges—American Football Praised as Aiding Discipline and Unity.

Rugby is a good game for clubs. It cannot stand the pressure of fiercely competitive warfare. It is not exact enough nor the field sufficiently officiated. It is difficult to prevent fouling and officials to stop playing. Permission ought to be given to use more management regarding Rugby football by Warren Bovard, graduate manager of athletics at University of Southern California.

When the University of Southern California, with its 3000 students discarded Rugby football in the past Fall and returned to the good old American collegiate sport there was some of the deathknell of Rugby south of the Tehachapi.

All the smaller colleges and high schools in California have returned to the American fold. So said Warren Bovard, graduate manager at the University of Southern California, who accompanied his football team to Tacoma for the Thanksgiving game with the Oregon Aggies.

Game Loses Favor. Bovard knows both sides of the American Rugby controversy better than anyone on the Pacific Coast because he has handled both games. He says Rugby is losing caste even in Great Britain. The game is too scrumming and too much kicking into the air.

"It was given to California with the very highest of motives, but experience proved these reasons to be largely theory," explained Mr. Bovard. "One of its first backers said 'the nature of the game is such that even the tackling is less vicious.'

"This is not true. President Baer had an amusing experience. While being entertained and persuaded as to the superiority of Rugby, unfortunately he and his hosts came upon a player with a broken leg.

"The New Zealand champions showed us that their game was fatally rough. The All-Blacks simply dribbled the ball over anybody in their way instead of opening up. This style of play, last year, yet I had never seen it before, got here in American football since the rules were changed in 1906.

Many Injuries Recorded. In the All-Blacks series with California, Haskell's front teeth were knocked out and Bogardus was knocked cold with concussion of the brain. Parish received a broken nose. Five men received sprained ankles and Captain Pearl's left arm was disabled.

"We were shown what Rugby might be if handled by Yale and Harvard." Individual skill is claimed for Rugby. "This is all right for clubs, but it is more important that the high school in American football, better than the advantage of unity and system vouchsafed the Southern California official.

It is true that more men get into Rugby than into American football. Rugby limits substitutions to three, while you can use as many as you like in American football. Better still, in American football you can take a tried man out and return him into play when he is rested."

RING VISIONS CALLED UP

TOMMY TRACEY REMEMBERS BATTLES IN YEARS AGO.

Veteran Multnomah Instructor Gives Youths Benefit of His Style and Experience.

It will be just 18 years ago tomorrow that Tommy Tracey, now boxing instructor at the Multnomah Club, fought his 10-round draw in San Francisco with "Australian" Jimmy Ryan. Both boxers at that time could easily have defeated the present-day welterweights in championship bouts.

Tracey and Ryan are Australians, as were several other fighters in the old days, including George Lawson, of "kidney punch" fame; Tom Williams, "Shadow" Billy Maber and several others.

In 1898 the Winced "M" instructor made his last appearance in the professional ring. He was defeated by Kid Lavigne in 20 rounds at San Francisco. In 1900 he was defeated by Joe Walcott in Boston, in the old Middleweight Hall. For 15 rounds Tommy held the championship, but in the next round Walcott slipped over the top of his punch. This bout proved a great disappointment to the Boston fight fans, who were anxious to see their negro boxer soundly whipped.

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There have been many battles between lightweight where the receipts have reached five figures. According to Tom Andrews, the Milwaukee promoter, who is also a close student of the game, Joe Gans and Battling Nelson drew a gate of \$69,000, while Nelson and Jimmy Britt took in \$18,000. Nelson also figured in two other fights on the Coast where the receipts were more than \$20,000. Terry McGovern and Joe Gans drew \$20,000 for six rounds in Chicago and McGovern and Nelson reached that figure in Philadelphia. Seven bouts were held in Gotham where the receipts were \$20,000, few colings save \$50,000. In Milwaukee Ritchie and Wolcott

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Manager Benjamin arrived in Portland in the forenoon to prepare for the two days' exhibition at the McCredie parlors, and he appeared rather peevish when asked about Slosson's challenge.

"Under the rules, when anybody challenges, the champion must be ready to defend within 60 days," he explained. "Slosson knew that Hoppe was under contract to me until the middle of February. He also knew that we were touring the country, and it would have been more tasteful for him to have waited."

Hall for Match Sought. "However, we will be in Minneapolis about January 1, and I have already written to billiard-hall owners with reference to staging the match. Hoppe won this title from Slosson two years ago, and has since defended it against George Slosson, Koji Yamada and Calvin Demaree.

"Personally, I believe Hoppe is so far superior to these other players that he can spot them 1000 points in a 2000-point match and then beat them. This Slosson challenge is for only 500 points, and Hoppe will win easily. He has another 12 months' contract with me."

Benjamin is almost as interesting a character as Hoppe and Inman. He was born in England, but has lived here about 30 years ago. Since then he has been around the world so often that it makes your head swim to listen to him.

One of his brothers, Benny Benjamin, was sporting editor of the San Francisco Chronicle for years. Benny died about 10 years ago and was buried in Smith street up to his position. Another brother, L. S. Benjamin, lives in Portland and is a member of the Portland Ad Club. These two brothers met yesterday for the first time in 30 years and had a great reunion.

Corbett and Benjamin Meet. Corbett and Benjamin met in Edmonton last week for the first time since the two were kids together in San Francisco. Corbett and Tommy Burns both took a special trip down from Calgary to Spokane to see Hoppe and Inman perform.

"I spent 13 years of my wanderings in India," said Benjamin, fondling a glittering gold-headed cane. He broke into a grin when he talked of the needs of the prop in walking. "While there I managed Gama, the famous Indian wrestler who made Gotch and Hackenschmidt hurt their noses. Gama chased Zbyszko out of a London ring in about 10 seconds, and threw Dr. Ad Clark out in 40 seconds at the Alhambra."

Last year Benjamin piloted the Australian champion cricketers through the United States in 5 matches, and made a snug sum from the promotion. Hoppe and Inman, his latest exploitations, will arrive in Portland some time today. They will appear at McCredie's billiard parlors tomorrow and Wednesday at 3 P. M. and 8:15 P. M., exhibiting in both ball and English billiards.

Gridiron Gossip. When the famous Oak Park High came West from Illinois four years ago and played in Washington 1899 to 1902, Portland fans saw a squad of future greats flitting about the tankard. Five greats, including George Lawson, of "kidney punch" fame; Tom Williams, "Shadow" Billy Maber and several others.

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MANAGER ARRANGES HOPPE-INMAN PLAY

R. B. Benjamin Also Accepts Slosson Challenge for Balk Line Champion.

MILL CITY HALL SOUGHT

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From all appearances the new school will be taken in with open arms and this will make seven institutions represented. Franklin High has a basketball team as well as a soccer eleven and it was desired to be represented at the schedules which will be drawn up at the coming gathering.

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Twenty-one games will have to be played in order to complete a schedule and the Franklin High is expected to play almost three months' worth of games before the last contest is staged.

At present the East Side and the West Side are equally represented at the league meeting, but after next Thursday it is almost a certainty that the East Siders will have four members on the board and the West Siders but one.

Washington High, Jefferson High and Columbia University make up the East Side board and Lincoln High, Portland Academy and the Hill Military Academy form the West Side representatives. Father Boland, of Columbia University, is president of the Portland Interscholastic League and Joseph A. Hill, of the Hill Military Academy, is the secretary.

Basketball and soccer practice of the various athletic teams of the league has been in earnest the past few days of this week now that the 1914 football season is a thing of the past. Already basketball enthusiasts of several of the schools have broken into the gymnasiums lumbering up for the coming strenuous season.

The high school lost only two games in basketball last season. The monogram team from the last basketball squad, Hendrickson and Turner Neil, and with MacLeod Maurice, Burke, Cooper, Everett and Captain Bonney, Coach Harper Yamada, are looked upon to hold its own with any of the other organizations.

The Hill Military Academy has never placed a soccer squad in the field, but has several members of the school the matter of getting up an eleven is being given some deep consideration. The result in all probability will be the organization of a team to participate in the British sport.

The football squads of the local league have elected their 1915 captains. "Spud" Normandin receiving the honor from his Washington High teammates and the school's honor from the Pacific Coast League in 1915 will witness the biggest shakeup of managers in the history of the organization. Only one team leader, Walter McCredie, of Portland, has not been mentioned as likely to transfer the scene of his activity, and it is well known how far forward to break into San Francisco to show local fans how he manages to win pennants so consistently.

The other five managers have been slated to be transferred or deposed. The slate, according to stories that are being told in different quarters, is as follows: Del Howard, of San Francisco, to be succeeded by Frank Dillon, of Los Angeles, when Henry Berry purchases the Seals. Bill Abstein to be promoted from captain of the Angels to succeed Dillon.

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