

CHANGES IN RULES

SEVEN AMENDMENTS MADE IN FOOTBALL.

Season Opens Today With All the University Teams and Closes November 26—Alterations Were Made by the Intercollegiate Rules Committee, and First Went Into Effect Today—Add to Interest and Effectiveness of the Game When Properly Played.

1. Instead of seven men in the line of scrimmage between the 25-yard lines there must be six men in the line in every part of the field.
2. When there are only six men in the line of scrimmage the additional man in the back field must be stationed outside of either extremity of the line.
3. Goals from field, no matter how made, shall count four instead of five points.
4. The quarterback or the first man receiving the ball from the center may run with it in any part of the field instead of only between the 25-yard lines providing he go five yards outside of center.
5. The umpire and referee shall have distinctive signals.
6. When the umpire signals for a penalty the play may continue until the ball is dead, when the referee shall inflict the penalty. The side offended against may take either the penalty or the ground gained by the play.
7. When one side kicks out of bounds twice in succession on a touchback or a safety the ball shall go to the opposite side on the 25 instead of the 20-yard line.

Football Season Opens Today.

New York, Sept. 17.—Today marks the first appearance of football on the athletic stage for 1904. In the East the season opens today with a game between Carlisle Indians and Lebanon Valley college at Carlisle, and in the West the University of Chicago plays Lombard college.

At most of the big colleges the teams have been engaged in practice for several weeks and with the opening of the college year the sport will be taken up in earnest. Pennsylvania will inaugurate its schedule next Saturday with a game with Franklin and Marshall. Yale and Princeton will not start their schedule until September 28, while Harvard's first contest is down for October 1. On that date all the teams throughout the country will be in action, and from then on there will be football galore until the Army and Navy close the season in Philadelphia on November 26.

Many Changes in Rules.

With the opening of the season the thousands of enthusiasts the country over are interested to know what changes will result from the amended rules which govern this greatest of college sports. When the intercollegiate rules committee met this year it made a careful study of the experiments tried during the last year, consulting the best coaches East and West, before deciding on any innovations. After careful deliberation the committee voted to change the provision for seven men to be on the line of scrimmage, between the 25-yard lines, by a new rule whereby at least six men must be on the line of scrimmage in every part of the field. This allows five men to be behind the line at any time, but in order to protect the players from the much-dreaded mass formations, a provision was added in accordance with which the

fifth player back must stand in a position outside of either extremity of the line. This will permit a great many variations in attack, but will lessen a massing on any one point.

Goals From the Field.

Next to these changes the most important is the different method of scoring goals from the field. Heretofore a goal from the field, no matter how made, has counted five points the same as a touchdown. Allowing a goal from field to count the same as a touchdown has always been the subject of bitter criticism. Every year there have been many instances where this has resulted in the weaker team winning, simply through the possession of some one player proficient in drop or place-kicking. The committee is of the opinion that it is not reducing the importance of the kicking game in counting only four points for goals from field, but is putting rival elevens on a more equal footing. The committee reasoned that if one team scored two touchdowns and failed to kick either goal it could be beaten by a team that was able to score only one touchdown, but which made a lucky goal from field. It was to prevent inequality that the new rule was made.

FOR LAYING DUST.

American Consul at Birmingham Suggests English Plan.

Marshal Halstead, American consul at Birmingham, England, sends the following interesting letter to the bureau of commerce and labor:

A writer in a motor car paper suggests an application of chemical salts to roads as a means of laying the dust. "Calcium chloride is practically," says the writer, "a waste by-product of several manufacturing processes—for example, the extraction of copper from burnt pyrites, Weldon's chlorine process, the ammonia soda process, and the manufacture of chlorate of potash. It is highly deliquescent and soluble in water. Strong solutions of this applied to the roads would keep them almost permanently damp." The writer claims that "it would be cheaper than oils and would be without their objectionable odor, and being a neutral salt, would be harmless to motor car tires, etc." "If this be true," the editor of the journal says, "magnesium chloride, slightly more expensive, but still a cheap salt, ought to be quite as effective. It occurs in large quantities in combination with chloride of potash in the Stassfurt mines in Germany, and is also a by-product of manufacturing processes."—Marshal Halstead, Consul, Birmingham, England.

TO LAND THE THIEVES.

Uncle Sam Offers Large Rewards for Captures.

Oregon sheriffs have received a copy of the "Notice of Reward" issued by the postoffice department, detailing the amounts which will be paid by the government for arrest and convictions following robbery of the mails under different circumstances.

The highest reward is \$1000 and the lowest \$50. Special rewards will be paid in specified cases. The penalties for the various crimes are also given in quotations from the revised statutes.

One thousand dollars reward will be paid for each arrest and conviction in any United States court on the charge of robbing the mails while being conveyed in any mail car attached to a railway train. For the conviction of any one who robs the mails while being conveyed over any road other than a railway a reward of \$500 will be paid. For the conviction of anyone attempting to rob the mails on a post route the reward is \$250.

Fifty dollars will be paid for the arrest and conviction of any person who breaks into a postoffice with intent to commit larceny or other depredation. For the arrest and conviction of a person accused of breaking into a postoffice and stealing therefrom, or of larceny from a postoffice, or of robbing a postmaster or any employee of a postoffice of money or property of the United States, where the amount stolen is \$50 or less the reward is \$50; where the amount is more than \$50 and not more than \$100, the reward is \$100; where the amount exceeds \$100 and is not more than \$500, the reward is \$150, and \$200 in every case where the amount stolen exceeds \$500.

A reward of \$100 will be paid in every case of conviction where the larceny of mail matter is proven, whether it contain valuable inclosures or not.

WONDERFUL ROESCH FAMILY.

Captain of Barkentine Wrestler Tells the Strange Story.

Monarchs would give principalities to know the secret of the Roesch family, says the San Francisco Examiner. For generations back there has never been a birth of a girl in that family. The race has been unusually prolific, but never, so the family tradition runs, has a female ever been born in that name.

The story of this remarkable family was told last week by Captain Roesch, the master of the barkentine wrestler, a vessel plying between Honolulu and this city. He is one of four brothers, all of them married. One had 11 children, another nine, the third five, while Captain Roesch has four. Everyone of this second generation are males. To none of the brothers was born a female.

Some of these sons have in turn married and are raising families. Every child born in this third generation is a male. Captain Roesch is quoted as saying that there is no record of any female births in his family. There is not even any legend of a girl baby.

If this strange propagation continues the tribe of Roesch, which comes from Germany, will people the world eventually, provided the world lives long enough.

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