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In the World of Sport

RUGBY IN RHODESIA

The Game Enthusiastically Played Under Serious Difficulties.

The history of Rhodesia may be said definitely to have begun in October, 1899, when the British South African Company obtained their first charter from the British Government. Yet it is remarkable how soon the sporting instinct, existent in every British community, manifested itself in practical form, for the Rugby Union Board was founded in 1895, only six years after the occupation of the country. The early pioneers must have been real Rugby enthusiasts, too, for the climatic conditions are not those usually associated with the game, while the mere sight of a Rhodesian football ground is often enough for the new arrival from home. Imagine a brown, dusty expanse of ground, unrelieved by a single blade of grass, the similarity of which to a London pavement is but thinly disguised by a layer of gravelly sand. During the course of a game the players are frequently hidden in a dense cloud of dust, which is gently wafted into the eyes of the spectators on a windy day. The unfortunate half-back, operating behind the scrum, is often unable to see the ball coming out of the back row of the forwards; and as it is his habit to keep his head bent down close to the ground to get a better sight of the ball, his throat and eyes soon become full of sandy dust. The dust, however, is not without its compensations, for the players' thirst is worth a fortune.

The surface of the ground is so hard that the ball bounces in a most unexpected and astonishing fashion even when backed out of the scrum. To the player accustomed to the green grass of the old country the ball seems like an elusive eel. "Never let the ball bounce" is a well-known axiom in Rugby football; in Rhodesia it is a sine qua non. After effecting an ordinary tackle, the player usually leaves the major part of his outcicle on the field, receiving in return a generous supply of gritty sand; and, as the soil is full of poison, great care has to be taken even with a scratch which one would ignore at home. Then a winter's afternoon out here is usually associated with brilliant sunshine and a cloudless sky. This makes it doubly difficult to watch the flight of the ball.

In spite of these climatic and local disadvantages, Rhodesian Rugby, though still in its infancy, has flourished to a remarkable degree. The players themselves seem to have been benefited rather than handicapped by the hard grounds, as they suit themselves to the conditions and play a hard, robust game to show their indifference to such minor drawbacks.



PRESIDENT A. E. APTED of the Eton A.A. hockey team.

A BRAINY PITCHER

Eddie Plank Knows Something of Hurling the Horsehide

"Eddie Plank pitched the greatest game in the recent world's series between the Giants and Athletics that this game of baseball has ever known." This declaration coming from Clark Griffith, the Washington manager, can be given a deal of value, for Griffith bears a reputation of having been one of the brainiest pitchers in the country and knows something of the art of hurling the horsehide. Griff goes on to explain that he means that Plank pitched the most finished game, taking in all the technicalities and the like of the pitching box, and it is certainly a flattering compliment to pay to the Athletics' veteran left-hander.

"Plank really worked to perfection," continued Griffith. "He had terrific speed and his curves broke to a nicety. His side arm delivery was very baffling and save for an error of the outfield the veteran would have scored a shut out. I have seen games in which pitchers struck out more men and did more sensational pitching stunts, but for some wonderful pitchin' and the like of the pitching box, and it is certainly a flattering compliment to pay to the Athletics' veteran left-hander."

"Plank had the Giants bewildered at all times. They did not seem to know where the ball was coming and their efforts with the stick were woefully weak. I have seen the Giants in action, too, and know that when a pitcher gets them in that condition he was doing some little twirling."

SNOW SNAKES WILL WRIGGLE.
F. O. Loft, a well-known Onondaga has secured some snow snakes from the Indian reservation in Brant county, and will present one to the Provincial Museum. The snow snake is a peculiarly constructed wooden implement, which is thrown somewhat after the manner of a javelin. It is thrust along the snow, and an expert manipulator can send it three hundred feet and more. It resembles a snake in action. The Cayugas and Onondagas have great sport with the snakes and are particularly expert in use.

RIGHT-HAND PITCHERS STEADIER THAN LEFT

Weird Performances Would Give Impression in Favor of the Southpaws.

The weird performances of some left-handed pitchers have given fans the impression that practically all southpaws are of the wild and woolly variety. The averages tell a different story. A comparison of the records of the five leading right-handed pitchers of the major leagues with those of the five best left-handers shows that the control of the southpaw is almost as good as that of the starboard fingers.

National League right-handers were somewhat steadier than left-handers, and the port hurlers of the National were a trifle wilder than those in the American.

Beider, Coombs, Ford, Johnson and Walsh are the leading American League right-handers. The five gave 355 passes in 1,325 innings, or 169 nine-inning games, making an average of little over two passes per game. Gregg, Plank, Collins, Vaughan and White, the leading southpaws gave 296 passes in 1,056 innings, or an average of 2 1/2 per game in 117 nine-inning games.

Alexander, Matheson, Brown, Adams and Suggs, of the crack right-handers of the National League, averaged two passes for every nine innings. Marquard, Salle, Witte, Rucker and Leffield, the crack left-handers of the same organization, averaged 2 2/3 bases on balls a game.

Christy Matheson, averaged one, Ed. Walsh's average was about 1 1/2 per battle. "Doc" White was the steadiest of all the left-handers, with only 1 1/2 passes per nine innings. Leffield of the Pirates was the steadiest National left-hander, with 2 1/3 passes per nine innings.

A WONDERFUL CLUB

The Unique History of an Australian Racing Organization.

A remarkable organization is the Onkaparinga Jockey Club, a South Australian club, which has been in existence for thirty-six years, operating on only one day in the year, Easter Monday. Yet it is not an insignificant institution, by any means, and some interesting statistics were quoted at the recent meeting. Taking the figures for the last twenty-three years (since the totalizer was introduced) it had disbursed £103,251. Of this sum £52,920 had been paid in stakes; the improvements and upkeep of the course had cost £15,443; and £27,087 had been spent in "expenses." Charities had benefited to the extent of £2,358, and the Government had been paid £4,920 as stamp tax (nine years only). This year the club is offering 2,750 sovereigns for seven races. The club is making improvements to the extent of 2,000 sovereigns, and will carry forward a balance of about £1,000.



DEDIER PITRE, the sensational Canadian wing player, the highest paid hockey player in the game.

A REMARKABLE ATHLETE

A Versatile Scotsman Who Excelled in Many Sports.

Scotland has turned out some remarkable athletes, but none more remarkable than Leslie M. Balfour Melville, who represented her at Rugby football so far back as 1872. But this was only one of the sports in which this versatile Scotsman excelled. He was open amateur golf champion in 1895, and runner-up in 1889, and has won thirty-one St. Andrew's medals. He was lawn tennis champion of Scotland in 1879 and was one of the best cricketers in Scotland for the twenty years from 1870 to 1890. Though he is now fifty-eight years old, he retains his interest in sport. There are probably few men in the world of athletes who have excelled in so many departments, and Leslie M. Balfour Melville will always be regarded by Scotsmen as one of the world's greatest athletes.

TAX ON BOOKMAKERS

Hungarian Cabinet Proposes to Take 15 Per Cent. of Their Revenues

A proposal was introduced in the Hungarian Parliament by M. G. Polanyi, M.P., to the effect that the 12 per cent. tax on bookmakers' net revenues should be raised to 15 per cent., and that the sum so gained, amounting to about \$100,000 annually should be used for sporting purposes. The Cabinet, writes a Hungarian correspondent, has supported the proposal. It is already planned to utilize part of these sums for the expenses of an Olympic Games, which Hungary would like to arrange in 1920, and to build a large, modern stadium, which would serve for this purpose.

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Lot 4, Block 25, Section 5, with 5-room house worth \$900, renting for \$20 per month. Price \$1,775. Terms, \$1,375 cash, balance \$400 per month.
Lots 15 and 16, Block 5, Section 6. Price \$4,200. One-half cash, balance 6, 12 and 18 months.
Lots 9 and 10, Block 5, Section 6. Price \$3,500. \$1,200 cash, balance 6, 12 and 18 months.
Lot 18, Block 2, Section 7. Price \$900. \$150 cash, balance 6, 12 and 18 months.
Lots 33 and 34, Block 16, Section 7. Price \$1,600. One-half cash, balance 6, 12 and 18 months.
Lot 4, Block 23, Section 7. Price \$750. 400 cash, balance 4 and 8 months.
Lot 19, Block 23, Section 7. Price \$450. Equity out.
Lots 1 and 2, Block 31, Section 7. Price \$1,275. \$575 cash, balance 6 and 12 months.

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Lot 69, Block 3, Section 7, \$800; 1/2 cash, bal. 6 and 12.
Lots 5 and 6, Block 35, Section 8, \$650; 1/2 cash, bal. 6 and 12.
Lots 50 and 51, Block 38, Section 8, \$650; easy terms.
Lots 52 and 53, Block 38, Section 8, \$800; \$200 cash, bal. easy.
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LAND PURCHASE NOTICE

Skeena Land District—District of Cassiar.
Take notice that Clarence Bowen, of Seattle, Wash., occupation woodsman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted four miles east of the Naas River and about five miles north of Aliyash, thence west eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence north eighty chains to point of commencement.
CLARENCE BOWEN.
H. P. Rutter, Agent.
Dated Oct. 31, 1911.
Pub. Dec. 14.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, Dagobert Auriol, of Nanaimo, B. C., occupation miner, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted at the southeast corner of Lot 5130 (being application to purchase No. 1683), District of Coast Range Five, thence south forty chains, thence west forty chains, thence north forty chains, thence east forty chains to point of commencement, containing 160 acres, more or less.
DAGOBERT AURIOL.
Fred E. Cowell, Agent.
Dated January 26th, 1912.
Pub. Dec. 9.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, William Fraser, of Spokane, Washington, occupation farmer, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted about four miles west and three miles and a half south from End Hill, Banks Island, thence south 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence north 40 chains, thence east 40 chains to point of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres, more or less.
WILLIAM FRASER.
Fred Dawson, Agent.
Dated March 5, 1912.
Pub. March 23, 1912.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, George Graham, of Prince Rupert, B. C., occupation brakeman, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted about four miles west and three and a half miles south from Banks Island, thence north 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence east 40 chains to point of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres, more or less.
GEORGE GRAHAM.
Fred Dawson, Agent.
Dated March 5, 1912.
Pub. March 23, 1912.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, Paul Curtiss, clerk of Victoria, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted on the east boundary about five (5) chains from the Naas River, and about eight miles north of Aliyash Indian village, thence north eighty chains, thence east eighty chains, thence south eighty chains, thence west eighty chains to point of commencement.
JAMES EWING MACRAE.
H. P. Rutter, Agent.
Dated Oct. 31, 1911.
Pub. Dec. 14.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, CAROLINE JOHNSON, of Vancouver, B. C., occupation married woman, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted at the southwest corner of Lot 3068, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains to point of commencement, containing 640 acres, more or less.
CAROLINE JOHNSON.
R. Carr, Agent.
Dated Dec. 23, 1911.
Pub. Jan. 18, 1912.

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that Kathleen Agnew of Montreal, occupation mining engineer, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted at the witness post of the northwest corner of Lot 625, Range 5, Coast District, distant 13.73 chains south from the northwest corner of the said lot, thence west 40 chains more or less to the east bank of the Heceta River, thence south along said east bank to mouth of Falls River Slough, thence following bank of Falls River Slough easterly and northerly to point of commencement, to contain 40 acres, more or less.
KATHLEEN AGNEW.
Augustus W. Agnew, Agent.
Dated February 1, 1912.
Pub. Feb. 10.

Prince Rupert Land District—District of Coast Range 5.
Take notice that I, Lemuel Freer, of Vancouver, B. C., occupation broker, intend to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands:
Commencing at a post planted on the shore in a northerly direction from Port Nelson (annexed), marked L. F.'s S.E. corner, thence 20 chains north, thence 20 chains west, thence 20 chains south to shore line, thence east along the shore to point of commencement, containing 40 acres, more or less.
LEMUEL FREER.
Dated Dec. 7, 1911.
Pub. Jan. 5, 1912.

LAND LEASE NOTICE
Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range 5
Take notice that I, Alfred Christian Garde of Prince Rupert, B.C., occupation mining engineer, intend to apply for permission to lease 70 acres of land described as follows:
Commencing at this post planted 1-4 mile east of the Tye Station, G.T.P.R., and approximately 27-1/4 miles east of Prince Rupert, thence north 40 chains, thence east 20 chains, thence south 25 chains (more or less) to railway grade, thence westerly 25 chains (more or less) following said grade to point of commencement, containing 70 acres more or less.
ALFRED CHRISTIAN GARDE
Date Jan. 31, 1912.
Pub. Feb. 3, 1912.

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