# NATURE OF FOOTBALL RULES COMMITTEE IS NEGATIVE, DESPITE SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANG

## FORWARD-PASS PROBLEM ONLY ONE UNDER CONSIDERATION BY DOCTORS **OF GRIDIRON REGULATION BOARD**

Football Game in 1916 Was Satisfactory, Better Than Previous Years, and Definite Rules on Aerial Attack Is Lone Proposition for Solons

SEVENTEEN gentlemen who know more about football than the men who invented it will meet in New York tonight for the purpose of safeguarding the great American college game from a lot of foolish reforms suggested by a number of radical but well-meaning enthusiasts. The seventeen guardians are members of the football rules committee, which convenes once every year for the welfare of the game whether the game needs it or not. Sometimes the committee makes a change in the rules, but more often its duties are of a negative nature. That is to say, there are a dozen ideas considered and tabled forever for every one which is finally written into the rules, and this year is to be no exception. As a matter of fact, about the only problem the members of the committee will consider seriously is the forward pass, a comparatively new play on the gridiron, which many do not consider has been developed to maximum efficiency. As the regulations now stand, the penalty for roughing or interfering with the receiver of the pass is fifteen yards from the point where the ball was put into play. This gives the gridiron warriors who were working on the defensive a fine chance to beat the rules, as well as members of the opposition delegated to receive the pass. Last season several teams took the penalty deliberately rather than risk the legitimate completion of the pass. Why hesitate when by fouling and taking a fifteen-yard penalty a twenty or thirty yard gain can be eliminated?

In view of these facts, several members of the committee are convinced that the penalty for roughing or interfering with the receiver of a forward pass is not sufficiently severe, and it is certain that a revision will be offered at the meeting tonight. An effort will be made to have the penalty inflicted from the point where the offense is committed. Naturally, there will be some opposition to the new legislation, for the standpatter is always in evidence, but it is more than likely that those who are sponsoring the change will succeed in having it carried.

ODERN football players are so alert to take advantage of regulations MODERN football players are so alore to take and making it impossible that it is necessary at times to pass legislation making it impossible for them to beat certain plays which must be preserved for the good of the game.

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#### Many Suggestions to Be Considered

S THE game was more satisfactiry last year than ever before, there is a A strong tendency among the rule-makers to let the rules stay just as they are, with the single exception mentioned above. The balance between the defensive and offensive possibilities of the game is just about what the solons have aimed to have it. Each year the committee receives hundreds of suggestions from all over the country, and as all must be considered, most of the time will be given over to a careful examination of the possibilities of everything submitted. Probably the most novel idea which the committee will dissect tonight is the one to change the time of the game, limiting a number of plays to each quarter, thereby doing away with the timekeeper.

This radical suggestion has little chance of being adopted. Its main object is to do away with the frequent taking out of time and the troublesome, dilatory tactics ofttimes adopted by a team. The committee is also sure to receive a suggestion to do away with the goal after a touchdown. This scheme is submitted every year and just as regularly turned down by the committee. Nevertheless, many football men believe that this play is unnecessary and unfair, sometimes giving a team a victory which is undeserved. However, the general tendency is to regard this premium of a goal after a touchdown as a valuable asset to the mame and a just reward for kicking skill.

AND while they are considering the kick from touchdown it is likely Athat Sanford's multiple kick, which caused something of a sensation last fall, will come in for serious criticism. It would not be surprising if an effort be made to rule against this freak kick by changing the definition of a kick from placement.

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#### Attention, Coaches! Here Is a Tip for You!

ALTHOUGH it is scarcely likely that any legislation will be enacted against the unfair and unsportsmanlike practice of sending substitutes in for the purpose of conveying instructions from the coach, an effort will probably be made to impress upon the coaches of the country that the best interests of the game are not served by such tactics. The members of the committee believe that this is a matter which should be left to the honor of the coaches and players themselves, and for several years have declined to provide a penasty against the practice. They consider that part of the code which reads "the game is to be played by the players using their own muscles and their own brains" sufficient. Although the committee favors the numbering of players, it has always taken the stand that the matter is not within its jurisdiction.

THE only objections to the numbering of players come from Harvard and West Point, but it is whispered that the former has seen the light and is now willing to adopt a system which adds to the popularity of the game and the comfort of the spectators who support the game.

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ROBERTSON HAS WATER ON KNEE



#### Deciding Doubles Match for National Title Also Will Be Played

MISSES WAGNER AND GOSS

TO MEET IN TENNIS FINAL

Tomorrow

NEW YORK, March 16.—Miss Eleanor Goss and Miss Marle Wagner are bracketed in the final for the Women's National In-door Lawn Tennis championship here to-morrow morning. Miss Goss, a newcomer in metropolitan tennis circles, vanquished the experienced and skillful Miss Marion Vanderhoef by a score of 4-6, 13-11 and 7-5. Miss Wagner gained the ultimate bracket by defeating Miss Caroma Winn in straight sets, 6-1, 6-4. The final round of the doubles event also The final round of the doubles event also was reached. Mrs. John Anderson and Miss Edith Howe will play Miss Wagner and Miss Margaret Taylor.

#### PENN-COLUMBIA AGAIN MEET IN TANK SPORTS

NEW YORK, March 16 .- Pennsylvania' swimming and water polo teams will tackle Columbia tonight in the Columbia pool in an intercollegiate league meet. It will be the second clash between the colleges this cear

**OTHER SPORTS ON PAGE 18** 

Terminal won the championship of Keystone Club A section by outrolling Pirates in three sames out of four. It was their roll-off series on Keystone alleys, the teams having concluded the season in a tie for first place. Terminal rolled a total of 3743 to the Pirates' 3439. Terminal won the first game by eighty-eight ping, the second by eighty-four ping, lost the hird by eight pins and cluched victory by win-ning the deciding game, 962 to 822.

Billiken won third place by defeating Agam-two games out of three in a special series determine the holder of the position. They al-were tied at the close of the season last week.

ed best for Terminal, getting so 203 and 212, while Braum r with 148, concluded with 202,

McFall got 212 in his first game with Girard beat Harmer two games out of thre this week's German-American League series reature was Riehi's 238 in the third game - being a substitute bowler. It is the bes rake game score of the year. Charley Lamber miributed 103, 143 and 236 for Harmer, Pad ng of 224 in his third game with Girard. Keystone League,

NEWS ABOUT THE BOWLERS

Girard fell four

In the Philadelphia Electr ninal alleys, Moter, the lead from Supply, Underground counting No. 2, including a game, which ended in a 78 mercial wor, all three from mercial wor, all three from

Totals., 80 Totals., 010 858 878



NONNIE MACK is the happiest man in Florida. This veteran of major league Convins march is the mapped at the regain a high position in the American League. There are several reasons why the tall person should be wearing a smile. Primarily, Mack has in the course of development a pitching staff that is going to open the eyes of the Lehigh avenue fans. The days spent down at Fort Pierce have borne fruit. This is seen in the reports of the manner in which the pitchers of that squad worked in the opening practice sessions on Rose Field. This field, by the way, is far superior to that used in previous seasons of training at Jacksonville. In the first place, it consumes but a short period of time to reach. Further, the outfield has been sodded, so that the youngsters do not have to race ankle deep in sand chasing fly balls. An up-to-date clubhouse has been built and the field is inclosed, so that spectators admitted free are not on the scene of daily activities.

Perhaps the most promising-looking regular now is Russell Johnson, who acquired the sobriquet of "Jingling" while shambling over the Ursinus College campus. Johnson has a world of speed this spring, and it requires the attention of Manager Mack to keep him from cutting loose in daily hurling to young batters. Johnson is built for pitching. He has always taken the best of care of his brawn, turns into bed early and possesses the faculty of resting between skirmishes. Another young pitcher who will set a merry chase before yielding to the yearning of a bush league manager is Walter Anderson, who serves with his left fork. Anderson, who is nineteen years of age and stands six feet two inches in bathrobe, comes from Grand Rapids. Anderson first attracted the attention of scouts while twirler amid the cheering of Union High School students. He was one of the idols of the Grand Rapids folks during the seasons of 1912 and 1913.

THERE are enough pitching candidates in camp to operate an eightclub league, and Mack is determined to complete a list, including the veterans Bush and Myers. The Athletics, while not being picked to get out of the second division, are bound to redeem themselves partly this year.

#### **Collegiate Baseball League Would Be of Interest**

Colleges throughout the country are represented in basketball, soccer, tennis and leagues of other sports, and the suggestion made by Roy Thomas, coach of the University of Pennsylvania, for an intercollegiate baseball league is a very fine idea. There are several big colleges in the East that no doubt would approve of the formation of a baselall league, and a circuit composed of eight universities not only would increase interest for students of the various institutions, but also for the general public. Baseball & the greatest of sports in the United States, and leagues, no matter how minor, always carry a lot of interest. A college baseball circuit would be of more than ordinary interest, as in recent years profescional clubs have relied on talent furnished by the colleges. Some of the greatest stars now in the American and National Leagues first got their training on rah-rah nines. Their brilliant work while playing for their respective alma maters attracted them to big league scouts and managers. That real baseball competition would result between college teams also is evident. . . .

While several moves already taken to organize a college circuit have failed, it is only a matter of another year or so before half a dozen universities will get together in a league. Nearly all the big colleges have announced their approval of a league, so that one college can stand out as THE champlo

#### Metropolitan Limelight Is Real Fickle

THERE are few boxers who have made the visit to the metropolis who have not experienced the familiar "raz." Mike Gibbons, Johnny Kilbane, Charile White, Jess Willard, Carl Morris, Packey McFarland and Johnny Ertle have all watched the limelight fade away from their persons. Gibbons was classed as a false alarm in Gotham on the atrength of his trio of defeats at the hands of Soldier Bartfield, and rater, Ted Lewis and Packey McFarland. Kilbane was thoroughly panned se of his showing in Manhattan, as was Charlie White.

sause of the burlesque ten-round bout back in 1913 between Jess Willard and Carl Morris, a farce in which the big fellows floundered about the ring for thirty in a sad exhibition of the safety-first idea, the average New York fan wing when either Willard or Morris is mentioned. Packey McFarland w York twice in 1913 and once in 1915. He came in for enough panning affair to make him swear off from boxing in Manhattan, "Kewple" and with a speciacilar record. He took on a brace of duba fought ord. He took on a brace of dubs, fought



Eddie Shannon vs. Johnny Kilbane

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