MORE TROUBLE FOR THE PLAYERS—FOOTBALL SOLONS ABOUT TO WRESTLE WITH THE RULES

EASTERN FOOTBALL MAKES DEBUT TODAY ON MANY GRIDIRONS

Penn Opens Against Bucknell on Franklin Field, Bates Plays Harvard, Lehigh Opposes Villanova and Dartmouth Engages Springfield—Rules Committee Meets

> By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

operight, 1919, by Public Ledger Co. PENN gets off to a flying start in football this afternoon when the varsity lines up against Bucknell in the opening fraces of the season. This game Is an added attraction on the Red and Blue schedule, having been arranged last week by Major M. J. Pickering. Coach Folwell insisted on playing some one today because the men needed some hard work to be in shape for the battle with P. M. C. on October 4. Bucknell is said to have a strong eleven and

Today's contests open the 1919 season, and several games are on the list Lehigh lines up against Villanova at South Bethleheur and Tom Keady's athletes will have a chance to show what they can do. Harvard meets Bates. but that should be a walkever for the Crimson. Dartmouth will have no trouble with Springfield Tealning and Brown probably will take a fall out of % Rhode Island State. Ursinus will have a nice time playing Rutgers at New Brunswick.

The famous West Virginia I miversity eleven plays its first game of the year with Marietta College in Morgantown. This will be an interesting contest, because it will give us a line on the strength of the mountaineers. On October 11 they play Pitt in one of the most important games in this section of the country. Washington and Jefferson mingles with Geneva

With the big league baseball season about over and the world series to be staged as z finale, football is ready to step in and take its place as the major sport. All of the college teams are rounding into form, and judging from reports there will be exceptionally strong elevens everywhere. The coaches are optimistic regarding the outcome of the season, and none will admit he has not a championship aggregation. However, time will tell,

ONIGHT at the Rillmore in New York the ganual interpretation meeting will be held. Officials, coaches, players and managers will read over the rules and the rough spots will be atraightened out Walter Camp and Dr. James A. Bahhitt, of Philadelphia, will have

Knowledge of Football Rules Essential

A KNOWLEDGE of the rules is one of the most necessary things in fooltheir ignorance of the code is amazing. College and prep school athletes depend upon their conches to tell them what's what, but even then they do not seem to grasp the important points.

In one big college game in which I officiated time had been taken out three times by one side. A player was burt and his captain rushed over to him shouting; "Get on your feet and play. Don't have time taken out or we will be penalized half the distance to the goal line!"

That's a common occurrence on the football field. Although the penalty for taking out time more than three times is only two yards and the distance to be gained remains the same, the players usually get it mixed with disqualification or something like that,

The rules are not the easiest things in the world to interpret, but close atudy will reveal many of the important points. In colleges and prep schools the coaches attempt to drill their men on what is legal and what isn't, but on the lots, where the kids and semipros play the game, this sometimes is difficult. The code needs revision and it also should be simplified. Then

Here are some important things to remember. There must be at least seven men on the line of scrimmage when the ball is put into play-that is, two ends, two tackles, two guards and a center. If one of the end men falls back one yard to make the man on the end of the line eligible for a forward pass, one of the backfield men must take his place. A team may have as many as ten men on the line of serimmage-but it must be seven or more.

Starting before the ball is put into play is offside and is penalized five yards. One man, however, is allowed to run toward his own goal line or obliquely across the field before the ball is passed.

FORWARD passes must be made from a spot at least fice pards behind the center, and the backfield men eligible to catch the ball. must be at least one ward back. If the ball is thrown out of bounds on the first, second or third down, it is not considered completed and goes back to the spot of the preceding down, with the loss of one down. If the ball goes out of bounds on the fourth down, then the ball goes to the other side at the spot of the preceding down.

More of the Complicated, Involved Code

PIHESE points are important to know at the start of a season and the others will come later. As was said before, it takes considerable study to discover the rulings in the book. Sometimes four or five definitions are given on different pages and sometimes they all agree.

One of the most common fouls on a football field is offside. It can be seen from the grand stands and the spectators are well acquainted with it. "What is meant by offside?" a foetball coach asked an official one day. "Starting before the ball is put into play," was the reply.

"Now prove it in the rule book," said the coach.

An examination was made, and, strange as it may seem, that simple explanation was nowhere to be found. Evidently it is assumed that every one knows what offside means, for in four different places reference is made with out one illuminating explanation.

In Rule 6, Section IV, offside is defined as follows: "A player is OFFSIDE when the ball has last been touched by one of his own side behind him.

That's a highly illuminating explanation, but more is yet to come. In Rule 9, Section II, we find that "in scrimmage no part of any player shall be ahead of his line of scrimmage, except in the case of the snapper-back, who, when snapping the ball, may have his head and his hands, used in snapping the ball, ahead of his line of scrimmage." Another involved sentence, which means that players must be behind the ball when they line up. Section Iil of the same rule says: "No player of either side may encroach upon the neutral zone until the ball is put in play.

Then, after looking through ten other sections, we find Rule 19. Section I, which states: "A player is put offside if the ball in play has last been touched by one of his own side behind him. No player, however, called offside while behind his own goal line, nor when holding the ball for a place kick after a fair catch or a touchdown."

FTER studying the explanations of offside what do you find? A Nothing but involved sentences weighted down by heavy English. emplaining everything but the real meaning. It would be much better a rule was substituted stating: "A player is offside if he starts forward before the ball is put into play or lines up ahead of the ball on the scrimmage line.

Revision of Rules Is Needed

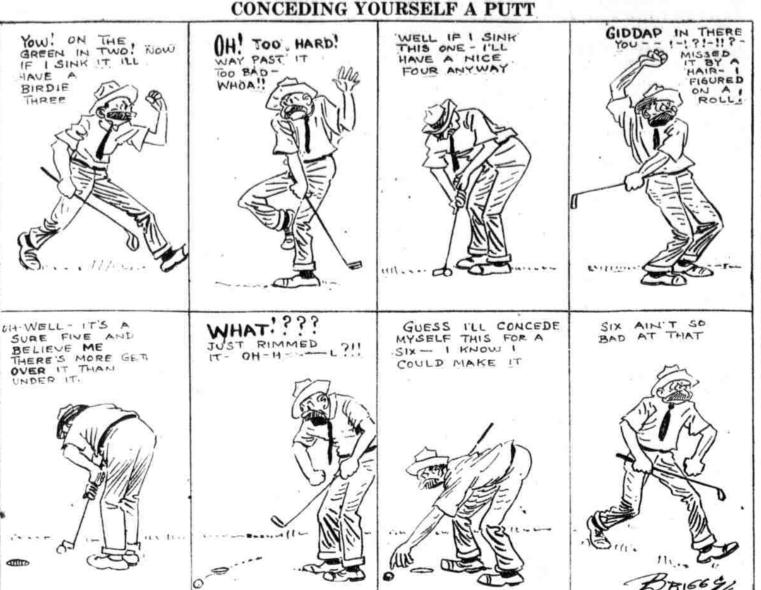
THIS is not an attempt to criticize the rules as inaccurate and incomplete. for such is not the case. The trouble is that the code never has been evised. No attempt has been made to rearrange the sections or substitute impler meanings. If any changes are made, some words are erased and there substituted. This has been done year after year, and now you can what has happened. It's a good thing that the sport is indulged in mostly college men, because it takes a college education and then some to dig the true meaning.

As it is now, many things are put up to the officials. If a certain rolling is made which does not satisfy the offended team the official is placed in a tough position. If he could pull out his rule book, point to a certain rule which covers the play in question, there would be no argument.

BEGINNERS find it difficult to master the code, and it would help considerably if a complete revision were made next year.

Lafayette Eleven Is Strengthened

AFAYETTE'S chances for developing a winning eleven this fall were greatly increased yesterday when Jack Weldon breezed up the hill at Easton indulated in a little gridiron work, the first since 1916. Weldon played back for the Maroon team in 1914-15-16. At the close of the season of was elected captain for 1917, but in the meantime the United States of the lists against Mr. Hohensollern of Potsdam, and Weldon enlisted to Hospital No. 20, the same outfit in which Bert Bell, Mike Dorizas, buller and other star athletes were enrolled.



HORNSBY CROWDS ROUSH; SPURT TOO LATE; COBB CLINCHES BATTING HONORS ONCE MORE

Eight Points and Creeps Close to Leader, but Rally Came Too Late

MEUSEL IN FAST SET 3

Club Batting Averages

in National League

ROGER HORNSBY'S belated spurt doubtless cost him the hitting honors in the National League for the 1919 enmpaign. With the National League senson closing today, the Cardinal star ing if he hopes to out Roush from the

gain of eight points during the week ending last Wednesday and this en abled him to get within five points of Roush's .322. Hornsby and Roush each have registered 458 hits but the Cardinal entry came to bat nine times

Meusel still clings in the fast set with his 306, which is four points better than the mark credited to him a week

The Phils managed to get out of last place in club batting, making a one-

The averages, including the games played Wednesday, follow

Yanks to Get Score in France The innings scores of the world's series baseball games will be flashed to all paris of the world for the benefit of American soldiers and saliers abroad the National War Work Council of the Young Men's Christian Association announced last night.

Cardinals' Infielder Gains Jess Barnes, With 24 Wins, and Meadows, With 18 Defeats, Extremes in Pitching

Games Won by Pitchers Games Lost by Pitchers

Cicotte and Russell Both Victorious in Last Eight American League Games

Brilliant Georgian Now Far in Front of Jackson, and There's No Chance to Dethrone Him

BURNS HEADS WALKER

Club Batting Averages in American League

TY COBB is about to win the American League batting crown for the ble for any of the contenders even to threaten him. He has made 184 safe-.379. Ty lost six points during the week but this mark is 29 points in front of Joe Jackson's .350

Bobby Veach is up there with a .347 and Sisler is only six points behind

George Burns passed Walker and now is the best swatsmith on the Mack payroll. George gained five points while Clarence was dropping two. Burns has a mark of .291 against Walker's .290. The Mackmen have a strangle hold in eighth place in club batting, their .243 trailing the Senators by fifteen

The averages, including the games played Wednesday, follow:

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Want Cycle Speed King

IF YOU GO BY DOPE CHICAGO HAS CALL OVER MORAN'S REDS

White Sox Have Lustier Punch, Just as Strong a Defense and Better Form, but You Never Can Tell by "Figgers"

> IN THE SPORTLIGHT-BY GRANTLAND RICE Copyright, 1919. All rights reserved. WHO'LL COP THE SERIES?

Chapter 5—The Round-Up

TF WE are to go by the dope and the figures-or by form-the White Sos have the call.

They have a defense fully as strong-much the lustier punch-and in Cicotte and Collins two of the individual types that are much more dangerous than any two men on the Red roster.

Even if the Reds were stronger in all other ways, two such men as Cicotte and Collins in a world series would make a vast amount of difference-one of them a power for the defense and the other not only a defensive star, but a vital factor in the daily attack.

HE Reds have more good pitchers, but in Cicotte, Williams and Kerr the Sox have enough pitchers to handle eight or nine games. The three of them could pitch the entire nine games without over-

No Easy Victory

BUT there will be no slaughter. In fact, we look for the Reds to put up a much stronger fight than the early dope might indicate. In 1917 the Sox beat the Giants four games out of six. In 1919, when it came to a showdown for the pennant, the Reds beat the Giants eight games out of eleven, an even

Moran has a better club today than he had in 1915, when he sent his Phillies against the Red Sox. The Reds today are the best club the National League has sent to a world series since 1914, when Rudolph, Tyler and James throttled the startled Athletics in four straight games.

Moran has neither the outfield nor the infield strength of the Sox upon both attack and defense. He hasn't a catcher as good as Ray Schalk. hasn't any one pitcher as brilliant as Cicotte.

YOU might say this is quite sufficient to make the result an easy cinch. But it inn't.

The Red Chance

A ND for this reason Moran has one of those well-balanced machines that can be counted upon to play good, hard baseball.

He is fairly certain to get good pitching at every start. He has a club that will fight back with all it has to give. It has fought hard all the year. and when it met the Giants in two vital series there was nothing to it—the Reds tore in and swept them off their well-spiked feet.

The Reds outclass the remainder of the National League by a much wider margin than the White Sox outclass the remainder of the American

THESE impressions are offered to remove the idea which so many A seem to have that the Sox will have a romp. For they won't.
The Sox should win through greater power, but only after a good, hard scrap.

The Jump Game

THE club winning the first game and thereby obtaining the jump has nearly always predominated in these post-season championships. That first affair means more than a little where there are only a few

If the Reds can topple Cicotte in that first battle they will have Chicago backers more than a trifle harassed. A start of that sort would give the Reds a moral impetus of incalculable value.

CICOTTE will only be beaten in one of those 1-0 or 2-1 affairs. He isn't going to yield more than one or two runs.

Won't Hurt the Sox

THE nine-game series isn't going to affect Chicago's chances. The exten sion should make little difference to either club, except in a financial way. As long as Gleason has three pitchers to bank on, Cicotte and Williams can both pitch three games and still draw sufficient rest, although Cicotte will be better at the start than later on, as he is no longer in his piching prime.

The Sox, on form, should win. A fast ball club that can but above 280 twelfth time. Tyrus now is so far in for the season, with three good pitchers and a strong supporting defense, advance of the field that it is impossi- will have nothing lacking when it comes to the test.

BUT it should be one of the best series of many years—well fought and well played from start to finish. For it is a meeting of class-meeting between the best club in the American League and a clui that has rushed the remainder of the National League off its balance.

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