

And when the horsehides spring again
From out their war-time hiding nooks,
Will baseball mean the same to men—
Will umpires still be labeled crooks?

\$1,050,000 STARTER FOR ARMY SPORTS

Will each fan gladly pay two bits?
Will homers bring the older thrill?
Will we enjoy the boots and hits?
Will we? You bet we will!

WHO IS THE BEST ATHLETE IN THE AMERICAN ARMY?

Uncle Sam Wants to Know So Adopts Big Sport Program

CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS ON Baseball, Football, Basketball, Tennis, Track and Field Games Under A.A.U. Rules

Who is the best all-around athlete in the American Expeditionary Forces in France? Who is the best sprinter, the best shot putter and the best jumper? These are only a few of the questions that are agitating Uncle Sam just now, and he is going to settle them (tout de suite). In order to accomplish this result, one of the most pretentious and far-reaching athletic programs ever devised has been adopted for the United States Army.

The new sport program is the result of the joint co-operation of officials at G.H.Q. and of the Y.M.C.A. Col. W. P. Johnson of G.H.Q. is the officer who has been designated to supervise all sports in the A.E.F.

Briefly it can be divided into two separate parts. A.E.F. championship contests and mass athletics. Under the first heading will come company, battalion, regimental, brigade, divisional, corps and army championship contests, conducted under uniform regulations to be issued shortly by G.H.Q. A suitable trophy emblematic of this championship will be awarded the successful unit as well as individual prizes to those who represent that unit.

Championship Events

The championship events will include baseball, football, basketball, boxing, wrestling, tennis and track and field sports. The track and field sports include the 100, 200 and 400 yard dashes; 120 and 220 yard hurdles; 800 and one mile runs; 800 yard and one mile relays; broad and high jumps, shot put, discus throw, javelin throw, pole vault, modified Marathon and a Pentathlon. These contests will all be conducted under A.A.U. rules.

Only a glance at the list of events shows that every soldier in the A.E.F. is going to be interested. When the championship football, basketball, basketball, wrestling, boxing, track and field teams of the three Yank Armies have been determined, there will be a gigantic athletic meet and they will contest with one another to determine the champion of the A.E.F.

What Mass Games Are

Now for the mass games. These have been chosen especially to develop speed, muscle and endurance and provoke good laughs for spectators and contestants alike. They have a wide range so that if a man can crawl or walk he can take part and must take part or his platoon loses in points by his absence. They have been arranged for platoon play, in order to determine which platoon in a company excels. Many of the games are new but a Y.M.C.A. athletic instructor and assistants will be attached to each division for the purpose of supervising and instructing the play.

Some of the games are broad jump relay, chariot relay, volley ball, shot put relay, pig-a-back relay, basket ball relay, Indian wrestling, straddle ball relay, hop-step-jump, indoor baseball, hopping relay, rooster fight, dog fight, first aid relay, tug of war, straddle pole relay, basket ball, potato race relay, pull ups, obstacle race, wand wrestling, backward forward relay, wounded man relay, cage ball, three jumps relay, roll over relay, and medicine ball throw.

Supplies on the Way

While the Y.M.C.A. will be unable to furnish athletic suits for the whole A.E.F. it will furnish the supplies, an order having been placed several months ago for \$1,050,000 worth of athletic material.

Under the system of scoring for mass games, Private Smith of the First platoon of a company may prove the best man in an event and see his platoon lose, as the individual score of each member of the platoon is totaled and the platoon getting the most points wins. For this reason platoon managers should see that every member of their unit takes part. No matter how punk he may be at any game, his participation will count for something.

FIRST HORSE SHOW IS GREAT SUCCESS

Rolling Kitchens, Water Wagons and Ration Carts Pass Before Judges

It remained for the Supply Company, 53rd Pioneer Infantry, at Tarras, to hold the first Horse Show ever held in the A.E.F. The novelty of the contest was enough to attract the interest of every Yank who had a horse for miles around, and as a result, for days in advance, there was a great bustle around the stables. Horses were carefully groomed, harnesses polished, and wagons were repainted and washed.

When the day for the show arrived there were 38 teams and wagons lined up, including escort wagons, ration carts, rolling kitchens, and our old friend—the water wagon. A preliminary inspection of horses, wagons, equipment and men followed, and here the judges commenced to have trouble, for the turnout exceeded all expectations, and there was little to choose between the various entrants.

By a careful process of elimination, however, the five winners were finally picked, and, by unanimous consent, another prize was added for a water wagon which had only boasted one horse.

A. E. F. FENCERS ARE INVITED TO COMPETE

An invitation has been extended to fencers in the A.E.F. to participate in the fencing contests which will be a feature of the international tournament to be held in Strasbourg in February. Entries should be mailed to J. J. Carey, director of the athletic department, Knights of Columbus, Paris.

THE RETURN OF SPORTS

With the resumption of the Sporting Page in THE STARS AND STRIPES, we desire to request the hearty co-operation of our friends and fellow soldiers in the A.E.F. so that this page may prove of real interest and benefit to all our readers.

Lack of space will not permit the publication of individual scores, nor is there any real news in the statement that Company Z defeated Company X in a baseball game down at Flocey-sur-Seine.

The average American soldier has lost his interest, for the time being at least, in professional and other sports at home, for the top notchers of the sporting world are in Europe wearing khaki and for the past year or more the sport of soldiering has been enough to keep the doughboy's mind and body fully occupied.

Now that peace is in the air, Uncle Sam has determined upon a broad program of athletic activities for his Army, it is only a matter of days when every Yank will be devoting a whole afternoon each day to some line of sport, whether it be baseball, football, basket ball, tennis or track. One aim will be to touch but lightly upon sports at home and to chronicle broadly the athletic activities of the A.E.F. The test we shall apply to news for publication will be the number interested.

Mr. Yankee soldier, general or private, this is your chance. If you are a sportsman, you will be glad to answer all queries, will be thankful for all suggestions, and will endeavor to serve you in every way.

COLLEGE OARSMEN ENTER BIG RACE

Welcome Chance to Meet European Talent on the Seine

From present indications, America will be well represented in the coming international boat race on the Seine. Already the entry list has passed the half-hundred mark, and a majority of these are from the A.E.F.

Old Harvard and Cornell oarsmen, particularly, welcome the opportunity of competing in their favorite sport and competing with the cream of European talent.

Among others who have already signified their intention of competing are: Lieut. E. H. Dole, Cornell, 1910-11; Cpl. R. O. Pennell, Freshman and varsity crew, Columbia University, 1915-16; Harry A. Whelan, New York Athletic Club for the past eight years; Phil E. E. Seymore, Malta Boat Club, Philadelphia, and Capt. Harry L. Lott, world's champion crew, St. Louis.

SPORTING GOSSIP

While the war has played havoc with sports in America, professional and amateur athletes being the chief sufferers, it has been the cause of a far reaching revival of the art of boxing and has introduced a large number of young Americans to the great outdoor sport, making them realize, for the first time in many cases, the benefits to be derived from open air exercise, plain food and a reasonable amount of sleep. The actual result of the war, as it affects athletes in general, cannot help but be beneficial. Thousands of Yanks will go back to the States, robust and strong and in a love with outdoor life. And as to boxing, its recognition by the officials of the Army and Navy as a helpful means of developing young manhood, has already done much to lift the odium which has been attached to this sport in the past.

Speaking of war and its relation to athletics, we notice many odd items in exchange columns of the United States. One states that the price of golf balls is to be advanced and that their production is to be limited by the government to 40 per cent of the output of 1917. Another item from the Coast Island Naval Station, San Francisco, has found a new way to settle disputes between its men, who are allowed to have a "right" by naming the gloves and "going to it" before their fellows until a satisfactory decision is reached. Still another—the oddity of all—revives the old question as to the status of the Marine, "Is a Marine a sailor, and if not, what is he?" It seems that a trophy was offered for the first sailor to finish in the Diponeau race at San Francisco, and Albert Pinther, a Marine, was awarded the trophy by the committee in charge, whereupon a protest was filed by a Navy entrant, on the ground that a member of the Marine is not to be regarded as a sailor. The cup was withheld pending a decision by the Navy Department.

The old question as to whether or not football at night by searchlight is practicable has been settled. It was left for the ambitious athletic authorities of the University of Michigan to put it to the test. Perry Field at Ann Arbor was "all lit up" and when the college footballists took the field everything appeared lovely. It was not long, however, before it was found that the strong lights affected the eyes and the scheme was immediately abandoned.

No doubt the resumption of the sporting page in THE STARS AND STRIPES comes as good news to many in the A.E.F. We hope to make it "good news" at any rate if the boys of the A.E.F. will co-operate. Write us as often as you like upon sporting questions and if we can serve you, it will be our pleasure to do so. Unfortunately our space is limited and for this reason we shall naturally publish athletic news which has the greatest interest for the largest number.

Announcement that baseball, basket ball and other American sports are becoming popular among our Allies and especially our English cousins, fulfills the expectation of all those who understand and appreciate the Englishman's sport loving Tommy. If there is only one thing about the English the Yank has come to appreciate more than any other, it is his love of wholesome sport which is a national characteristic of the Englishman. The same splendid sporting qualities which make the English soldier such a fair fighter and stickler in battle likewise come to the surface when he throws aside his gun and gas mask and turns to play. We welcome his interest in our games and hope he will come to play them as well as we do ourselves.

It is not surprising that Uncle Sam has decided to adopt a system of mass athletic training for the Army. Mass athletics is the only form of sport which makes it necessary for every one to do his bit. No matter how poor an athlete a man is, his score counts in the final total which spells defeat or victory. Colleges in the United States are gradually abandoning the athletic system by which a few students divinely blessed with fine physique, are chosen to battle for their alma mater. In place of these contests, where thousands cheer a few on to mighty athletic feats, they are endeavoring to stimulate universal participation, so that all may benefit physically. The spectacular side of the big college baseball and football games may be lost, but the benefit derived by the new system in the improvement of the average student's health will more than balance in the final analysis.

BRITISH LIKE OUR BASKET BALL GAME

Two Crack Teams of Yank Players to Make Tour at Their Request

WILL DEMONSTRATE ART

143rd Field Artillery and Orly Aviation Quits Selected by Officials

Two crack basketball teams of the American Expeditionary Force will make a tour of the British front and rest camps and play a series of exhibition contests in order to demonstrate to the British soldier just how the game is played.

The two teams selected for this work are the 143rd F.A. quint and the Orly Aviation team, composed of aviation mechanics. The first named organization has a record of having won 52 games without a single defeat during its stay in France, while the record made by Orly is almost as good.

An official request for the trip was made by the British Mission to American Headquarters and was immediately granted, and the necessary orders were at once issued so that the players might be granted leave.

A Y.M.C.A. basketball coach will accompany the players. The Orly Aviation team will be under command of Captain Fred C. Thompson, former world's champion athlete, while Second Lieut. J. E. Hornbaker will have charge of the 143rd F.A. players.

The two teams will line up with the following men: 143rd F.A.—Sgt. John White, Cpls. Ralph Kendrick, Douglas Powning and Raymond Griffin, and Ptes. Al White, Bernard Hyde and Harry Burton. Orly Aviation—Sgts. Rue, Horst and Evans, and Ptes. Feinman, Press, Volmer, Halbleid and Cole.

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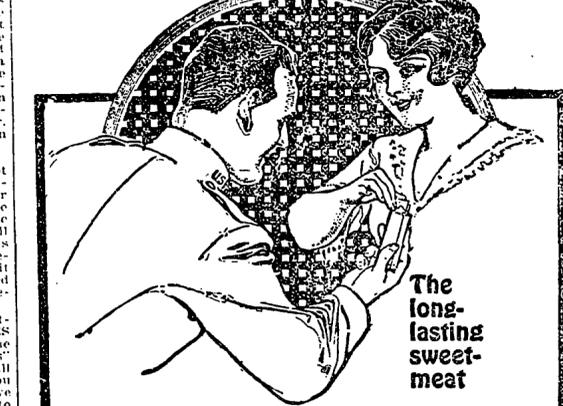
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DIVIDE TENNIS HONORS

French and Australian racquet wielders divided honors in the Allies' Military Tennis tournament held at the Tennis-Club de Paris, when a number of Americans competed.

Finals in the championship singles resulted in a contest between Lieutenant Gobert and Lieutenant Deugis, of the French Army, honors going to the first named, 6-4, 2-1.

Major Heath and Sergeant Lycett, of the Australian Army, won the championship doubles from Lieutenant Gobert and Sergeant Ayme, of the French Army, 6-2, 10-8.

BASE HOSPITAL 22 AFTER PIGSKIN TITLE

W. H. Bender, manager of the Base Hospital 22 football team, composed largely by former University of Wisconsin gridiron stars, declares there will be no armistice agreeable to him until his team has a chance to tackle any other eleven in the A.E.F. claiming honors.

Other managers who desire to communicate with him upon this question should write him care of A.P.O. 705.

TENNIS MAY BECOME MAJOR COLLEGE SPORT

Colleges in the United States may adopt tennis as a major sport if the efforts of Julian S. Myrick, vice-president of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association, bear fruit.

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WITH THE PUGS

American pugilists had one big day at the recent King's Trophy Bout in London, although first honors in the meet went to the British. Upon this occasion the Yanks managed to win five out of six contests. Eddie McGorty, who was defeated by Bombardier Wells tried to make it a clean sweep but he found the advantage of height, reach and weight which lay with his English opponent, too much of a handicap, and finally "bit the dust." The trip was made under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus and the receipts went for the benefit of wounded English soldiers.

Danny Morgan, the well known Wales scrapper, won over Private Gene Delmont, U.S. Army, in a well contested 15 round bout at the National Sporting Club in London last week.

Jimmy Wilde, champion bantamweight of England, has been matched to meet Charles Ledoux, French bantamweight champion of Europe, the match to take place some time in February.

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From the
Minute Man of '76
to the Minute Men
of 1918 in France

COMRADES!

In '76 I didn't see the newspapers and didn't have a chance to see or hear what our people thought of us and our doings. This time I am here while you boys are over there doing the fighting.

I wish you could see the papers nowadays. It would surely make you feel good to know what we think of you and to know how proud we are.

Before you boys got into the midst of things we heard about the Blue Devils, the Ladies from Hell and the Anzacs—now it is the "Devil Dogs" and the Yankees that are coming in for the glory.

Just listen to these headlines:

"Americans Stand Firm under Powerful Blow."
"Americans Capture — in Bayonet Fighting and Force Huns Back After Savage Counter Attacks."
"United States Bayonets Rout Germans."
"Americans Win Big Battle, Hurl Enemy Across River."
"American Valor Praised by French."
"Marines Went Over the Top Singing 'Yankee Doodle'."

And so they go. We knew it, didn't we? We knew it the day war was declared. George Cohan knew it when he wrote "The Yanks Are Coming." There's nothing to it now. The Yanks are still coming and coming fast. The whole world is banking on U. S. That's us.

Go to it boys—we're rooting for you.

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