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GENERAL REVIEWS

NEWS

TIMELY COMMENTS

HOCKEY IS POPULAR WITH WEST POINTERS

Coach Marchand's Squad Had Successful Season and Created Good Impression.

Ice hockey has become one of the firmly established sports of the United States Military Academy at West Point and this season in particular Coach Ray Marchand, of this city, had great success with the cadets down there.

Nearly every sport imaginable is played by the cadets at the big institution. There are some fourteen hundred of the boys, recruited from all parts of the United States, and they have some great athletes among them.

Baseball, association and rugby football, lacrosse, rowing, swimming, hand polo, water polo, tennis, golf, ice hockey, boxing, wrestling, fencing, basketball, and other branches, are all followed up under the direction of expert coaches.

A graduate coach of U. S. M. A. is the nominal head of each sport and under him any professional coaches employed give their instruction.

On account of the nature of the climate, which allows little opportunity for ice unless in a covered rink, hockey has been under difficulties, but with gymnasium facilities for practise in every point but skating this was partly overcome.

A squad of about thirty boys turned out for hockey and during the season they played ten games. Winning six and losing four. The losses were all close with the exception of the game here against R. M. C. cadets and even in that, working under the handicap of much colder air than they are accustomed to and without very much skating practise, the team showed fine hockey.

Ray Marchand, who is now at his home here, says that his treatment at West Point and the facilities for training the boys, could not have been better. He speaks in the highest terms of all the branches of training at the big institution and said that he expects in the course of a few more years, to see the annual R.M.C. vs. U.S.M.A. hockey match considered as important a feature in the sporting life as West Point as the Army-Navy contests in football, baseball, basketball, etc. The Army-Navy basketball match this year drew a crowd of 4,500 people, which may give an idea of the popularity of sports.

At the present time a giant football stadium is under construction at West Point and it is expected that it will be ready for use in the coming season. Baseball is a very popular sport and the season is usually opened by an exhibition game with either the New York Yankees or the New York Giants.

The day of the West Point cadet is a full one. The sports set aside for hours from 3.30 until about 5.45 and competitions with visiting teams are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays at which great crowds attend. Dances are held on Friday evenings for the staff and on Saturdays for the cadets.

The life of the recruit is not an easy one. He is compelled to do all kinds of manual labor and is confined to the limits of the academy for the first two years of his course. He serves the senior cadets at meals, runs the errands, and does other "fatigues."

Among the teams met by the West Point hockey team this year were: Princeton, Bates, Williams, University of Pennsylvania, Royal Military College of Canada, Boston A. C., Massachusetts Agricultural College, Union College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Westphalinger, the big defence man of the hockey team, is one of the leading football players of the Army squad. Martnell, the centre man, is a star lacrosse player and McNary, the sensational goal-keeper, will this season be in the nest for the lacrosse team. Caywood, the captain of the hockey team is a member of the baseball nine.

The cadets take a great interest in

FROM THE OUTSIDE—LOOKING IN.

Another of the last stray bits of hockey will be completed when the Verona and Sunbury juniors settle the junior title of the County League at the Holt Rink, R.M.C., this evening.

United States tennis will be crippled at the Olympic games when Tilden, Johnson and Richards will be absent. The interference of the governing bodies in the private business of the players has created havoc in American tennis ranks.

OUR HOCKEYISTS.

Our hockeyists, seen by foreign eyes, Must seem a selfish lot of guys For, without any sacrifice, They capture everything on ice.

No matter where these babies go They always give a first class show. No matter in what arena These athletes from Old Canada.

No wonder brother wins from brother! They have no rivals like each other. The greatest athletes in the world Dwell 'neath the greatest flag unfurled!

—Montreal Star, with apologies to W. F. Kirk, of the New York Journal.

K.C.I. girls will meet the girls of Ottawa Collegiate next Saturday in Ottawa at basketball. The conquerors of McGill and Queen's should make a good showing.

Central Y.M.C.A., Toronto, will send the senior team to Kingston for Saturday night to meet the Queen's seniors in an exhibition tilt. They are reported to be equally as good as West End "Y," the team defeated by the Tricolor here by one basket.

Frank O'Rourke, mainstay and shortstop of the Toronto International League team, has again signed a contract with the Leafs. Without the few real baseball players used to bolster it, this team would indeed look poor.

hockey and the players themselves are fascinated with the game. It is a coming thing at West Point, Coach Marchand believes, and when he returns next year he expects to round out one of the finest amateur squads across the border.

again—that his nerve would be shattered. But true to his promise, Hill did go back to the speedway shortly after his release from the hospital and started a sensational winning streak that put him at the top of the heap of better American drivers. Within two years he has developed into one of the most successful pilots, exhibiting more skill on the track than he ever showed before his terrifying accident.

He won the closing event in the 1923 championship season by winning the 250-mile event at the Beverly Hills track, Los Angeles.

HOOSIER RACE IS A LURE TO HILL

In Spite of Accidents "Little Benny" Returns to Speedway Undaunted.

Indianapolis, March 13.—Benjie Hill, diminutive scion of speed, is the second driver to be announced as a competitor in the international 500-mile race to be held at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, May 30th.

Hill's entry in a Miller Special has been accepted and it is simultaneously announced that Hill will be up on car No. 3, being the third entry in the coming classic.

"Little Benny," as he is affectionately known wherever present day speed creations are discussed, drove in last year's 500-mile race which was won by Tommy Milton, in an H. C. S. Special, but he was forced out bright and early with engine trouble.

Hill is one of the outstanding examples of fearlessness in automobile racing. He was not prominently considered as a dangerous competitor until after he suffered a sensational spill in a race—an experience that would have sent many a driver to the grand stand for the remainder of his days.

It was during a short exhibition event at Indianapolis when Hill at the wheel of one of Louis Chevrolet's Frontenacs speeded too rapidly round the first dangerous turn on the Hoosier course, hurled the safety retaining wall without touching, rode 75 feet through space in the runaway and landed a prisoner beneath the overturned car, his body cut and slashed and his bones broken. His mechanic, Henry Frank, escaped without a mark, thrown clear of the wreckage as the car landed.

For weeks Hill remained immobilized in a hospital, maintaining an optimistic and cheerful outlook that has endeared him to all race goers. Despite his announced ambition to return to the track as soon as he was discharged from the hospital, his close friends admitted at the time that he would never be able to race

ALL ATHLETICS TEND TO LENGTHEN LIVES

Such Is Finding of Harvard's Director of Physical Education.

It has been quite a common belief that competitive athletics tend to shorten life. Those who have indulged in strenuous sports of other days have been disinclined to believe this. They have seen many of their former companions on the field and track pass away by adventitious causes which apparently had no connection with athletic conditions. They see Walter Camp, Hector Cowan and a host of other stars of thirty-five and forty years ago still in the prime of physical condition and wonder whether the longevity question is an insoluble mystery, writes Luther E. Geer in the New York Herald.

Now comes along William H. Geer, director of physical education at Harvard, with a statistical analysis of the problem, in which he controverts the popular belief. His investigation covers the records of the men who have participated in major sports at Harvard in the last fifty years. He does not contend that his analysis is conclusive, but that it raises a strong tend to prolong life.

Geer is convinced that, as the result of this preliminary study, an investigation on a somewhat larger scale should be undertaken. He points out, however, that all studies of this character must ignore the one factor that is probably most important in any consideration of longevity, that is, heredity.

At any rate in the long run, athletes and non-athletes are in the same boat as regards the chances of good heredity, and the only thing to be said is that for the sake of

comparison the handicap is about equal.

At the present time there is a medical and scientific supervision over college athletics that did not obtain a generation ago. Every detail is studied carefully and the only substantial criticism to the selective process of to-day is that the ambitious coach is apt to put his own interests sometimes above that of the athlete.

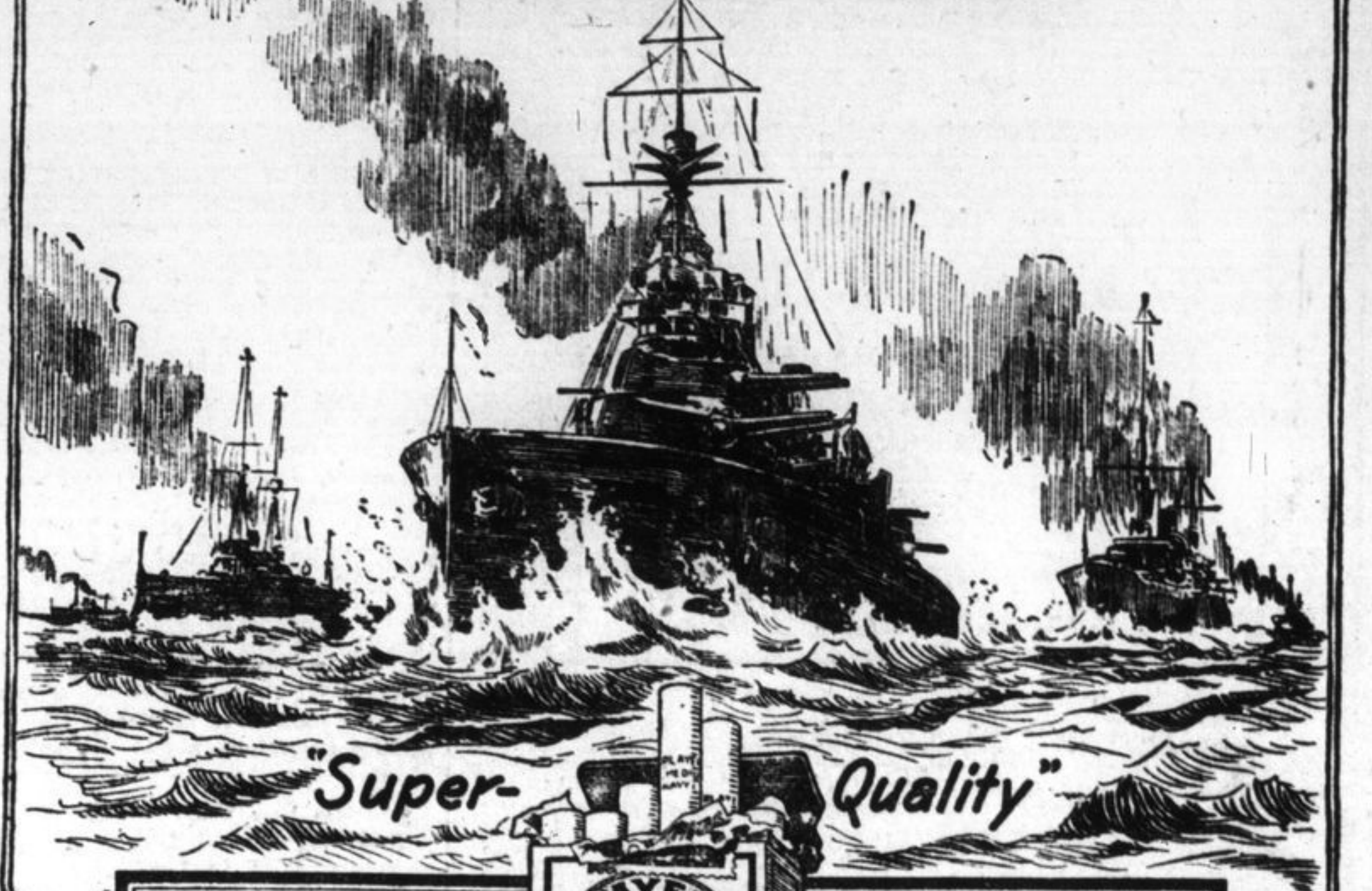
As long as the spirit of making mere victory the whole object exists, the financial and physical ills of sports will continue. The pendulum seems to be swinging to a stricter regulation and the reforms are headed toward a common sense, mutual interest basis.

College athletics to-day are sound fundamentally, the proselyting by graduates is becoming more restricted in the case of the older universities at least, the system of intracollegiate athletics is developing and the student bodies are reaching a higher cultural standard. In other words, there has been a steady growth of intelligence in the field of sports.

"The following study of a group of 528 Harvard athletes gives the average expectation of life as well as the ratio of actual to expected deaths for the men in this group. The data for the research was found in 'The 'H' Book of Harvard Athletics' and the 'Harvard University Quinquennial Catalogue of Officers and Graduates.' The study is confined to 'H' men and includes competitions in rowing, football, baseball and tracks," says Geer.

"The group contains the membership of teams from the time of the first intercollegiate competitions to the year 1900. This gave a period of forty-eight years for crew, thirty-four for baseball, twenty-six for football and twenty years for track. The mortality of the 528 athletes included in this study was traced from the time of the first competition to the year 1920. The men who were alive

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The Trappers of North Bay, junior N.O.H.A. champions, 1923-24.

In 1920 had all been 'exposed' for a period of at least twenty years after their college competition. It would seem safe to assume therefore that any after effects of competition would appear in that period.

"A study was made also to find the ratio of actual deaths among the oarsmen to the expected deaths by the American experience tables. In the group of 159 men there were sixty-seven deaths, while the number of expected deaths as computed by the American table was 36.52, giving a ratio of actual to expected deaths of 69 per cent.

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