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FOOTBALL SIGNALS.

Story of How the Use of the Number System Was Inaugurated.

According to R. W. Maxwell, the famous Swarthmore player, numerical football signals, now so necessary to playing the gridiron game, first originated in 1888, when Pennsylvania Military college used the system against Princeton and won from the Tigers by a score of 6 to 0. The New Jersey team was bewildered by the novelty, but the advantage of the system was realized and Princeton adopted it, followed by Yale and Harvard. In telling of the birth of the signal system Maxwell says:

"Signals seem to be an absolutely essential part of football, and yet it was not until 1888 that they were invented. From the November day in 1869, when Rutgers and Princeton played the first game of football, until 1888 the colleges got along by using systems which varied with every eleven, letters being frequently used. It was left to Pennsylvania Military college to originate the present system of numbers.

"It was on a chill November afternoon in 1888 that Pennsylvania Military college flashed the number system on the football world and, incidentally, used the signals as the means of a coup whereby Princeton was whipped at Chester by 6 to 0. The numbers not only mystified Princeton, but they so speeded up Penn Military's play that it was able to outrush the Tigers at every stage of the game, which was witnessed by more than 1,000 persons, a great football gathering for those days. From that day the use of numbers for signals spread rapidly.

"In defeating Princeton Pennsylvania Military did not use trick plays, spring some new formations or work the 'shoestring' stunt for the first time. The players outgeneraled their opponents, and the outgeneraling was done by using a system of numbers for signals. "Football signals now being used by all of the teams were used for the first time in this contest. Princeton was swept off her feet by the speedy play and was outclassed and outplayed. It was the most successful coup d'etat ever sprung by a football team. It made such an impression on Princeton that the coach adopted it for his team, and within a year Yale, Harvard, Pennsylvania and others also took it up. Penn also was defeated in that same year. This revolutionized football."—New York Times.

Evils of Worry.

Worry hurts health. Worry not only aggravates, but in many cases is responsible for certain disorders of the human system.

People who are subject to spells of worrying are found to have an irregular pulse. Respiration often is repressed, the blood circulation impaired, and the extremities become cold.

And just as worry impairs the blood circulation so, too, it interferes with the proper action of the stomach's digestive apparatus.

This interference with the secretions of the stomach is apt to make the worried man or woman a confirmed dyspeptic.

Worry by continuously interfering with sleep often leads to more or less chronic insomnia.—Pittsburgh Press.

Guncotton.

Intense shock or heat explodes guncotton, and its power can be gauged from the fact that it is the force which blows great holes in ships through the agency of mines and torpedoes. The advantages of guncotton for military purposes are that it can stay for any length of time in water without injury, its explosions are unattended by smoke, and it ignites at a temperature half that required to explode gunpowder. A peculiar characteristic of guncotton is that a brick of it, when wet, may be placed on a bed of hot coals, and as the moisture dries out the cotton will flake and burn quietly. If dry originally, however, the guncotton will explode with terrible force at about 320 degrees of heat.

Giving Him Warning.

"If you come home early this afternoon please go around the house and enter by the back door," said Mrs. Dodsworth.

"What's on foot?" asked Mr. Dodsworth.

"Nothing's 'on foot,' thank heaven! I will entertain the Browning club this afternoon and I don't want any object so intensely material as you are to profane the soulful atmosphere we shall have created by several hours of study and recitation."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Knowledge the Fount of Fervency. Slimson—Now, Bobbie, remember that when we sit down to dinner the bishop will say a blessing.

Bobbie—Does he know what we are going to have?

Slimson—Certainly not.

Bobbie—Better let me do it. He won't put half the heart in it that I will.—New York Sun.

OPENING COCOANUTS.

How the Meat Is Made Ready For the Candymaker.

In large candy factories many cocoanuts are used. In removing the shells from these nuts there are employed men who work at this regularly, just as they would at any other trade or calling.

A cocoanut opener works at a bench. Back of him are stacked up on the floor large sacks filled with cocoanuts. At intervals he empties a sack of nuts on the bench in front of him and then he continues opening.

His only tool is a heavy all steel knife, like an all steel oyster knife, with a heavy solid handle and with the other end flattened and tapered into a round pointed knife. He holds a nut on the bench in front of him and with one whack of the heavy handle he breaks the shell, opening it with irregular fissures, and then with the knife end of the tool he pries off the shell and tosses the shelled nut into a basket at his side. An expert opener can shell a great many cocoanuts in a day.

But the cocoanut opener is not the only person employed at the cocoanut end of the factory. From the opener's bench the baskets of shelled nuts are removed to a table, at which sit girls who remove the brown skin with which the meat of the cocoanut is covered. Knives made specially for this purpose are used, and quickly they cut off the skin and toss the nuts into other baskets, where you see them now, not brown, but milk white.

Then the cocoanuts are dumped into a chute, down which they go to the floor below into the grinders, which break the cocoanuts up into the required degree of coarseness or fineness, and from the grinders they go to the cooking kettles, for the cocoanut for candies must be cooked before it is used. If it were used raw it would soon become sour or rancid from the oil that the cocoanut contains. When the ground up cocoanut has been passed through the cooker it is ready for manufacture into the various confections in which cocoanut meat is used.—Los Angeles Times.

Our First Cocoa.

The first newspaper notice that announced the sale of cocoa and chocolate in America read:

"Amos Trask, at his house, a little below the Bell tavern, in Danvers, makes and sells chocolate which he will warrant to be good and takes cocoa to grind. Those who may please to favor him with their custom may depend upon being well served and at a very cheap rate."

This notice appeared in the Essex Gazette of Massachusetts on the 18th of June, 1771, five years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Despite Mr. Trask's assurance that his rate was cheap, chocolate was very expensive and beyond the purse of any but the wealthy folk.

Even Loss.

At one time Kid Brown, a famous dance hall proprietor and early day character of Alaska, was approached by a gambler and requested to lend him \$10. Without saying a word the Kid punched the cash register, pulled out \$5 and handed it to the gambler.

"What?" said the latter. "Didn't I ask you for a ten spot?"

The kid shifted his chew of tobacco over to the other side of his mouth, kicked his slippers in the corner and drawled in his characteristic fashion:

"We both lose five."—Everybody's.

Names of the Days.

The names of most of the days of the week have their origin in Saxon words and Scandinavian mythology. They are as follows: Monday, the day of the moon; Tuesday, the day devoted to Tiw, the god of war; Wednesday, the day of Odin or Wodin, king of the gods; Thursday, the day of Thor, god of thunder; Friday, the day devoted to Frigga, wife of Wodin; Saturday, the day of Saturn; Sunday, the day of the worship of the sun.

Fractions.

"And have you any brothers and sisters, my little man?" asked the kind old lady.

"Yes'm," replied the little man.

"I have one sister and one and a half brothers."

"What?"

"Yes, ma'am. I have two half sisters and three half brothers."—Philadelphia Press.

Boss of a Laundry.

"What is your occupation, Rastus?"

"I'se de manager ob a laundry, sah, an I makes a right comfortable livin'."

"What is the name of your laundry?"

"Hannah Maria Johnson, sah."—Boston Transcript.

GARDEN SEED

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