

Walter Johnson, the Wonder Pitcher of Baseball

When Cleveland played the last game of this season in Washington, Walter Johnson was called upon to prove his mettle as few pitchers would care to be.

In the ninth inning, with Washington leading by two runs, the first two Cleveland batters singled, bringing to the firing line the three most



WALTER JOHNSON AND HIS FAMOUS PITCHING FAN.

dangerous emergency batters in the American League. A harder trio than Joe Jackson, Lajoie and Griggs, in a pinch, would be hard to find, but Johnson never faltered. He proved his calibre then and there.

Johnson, a curvy ball to right; Lajoie lifted another fly and Griggs flew out to Gandell—the game was ended and Johnson had won 15 straight—an American League record. Later he made it 16.

Unassuming and quiet, Johnson is hailed as the greatest pitcher the game has ever seen. He has the

speed of a bullet and a slow ball that ought to be plucked for loitering, curves that break like a whip lash and just enough control to instill fear in the heart of batters.

As he walked to the bench after retiring Cleveland, Johnson was the least excited of the Washington players; he paid no attention to the cheering multitude; he had performed the work for which the Washington club pays him \$7,500 a year.

Johnson has won 32 and lost 12 games to date. He is pitching better ball than ever, although his individual superiority does not stand out as in the past, for the reason that Washington is playing better ball than any Washington club has ever played. It is probable the "Big Swede" will finish with the best pitching performance since the National and American Leagues became the "big leagues."

Johnson joined Washington in mid-season of 1907, after Cliff Blankenship, scouting for Washington, while recovering from an injury, wired Joe "Antlion" from Boise, Idaho, "Grab this guy while the grabbing is good."

Johnson's trial big league debut was against that hard fighting aggregation, Detroit, and the appearance of the tank six-footer meant nothing to the jungle cats—until he recovered his speed and lack of control. Before the first inning ended the batters were backing away from the country, knowing Con'lion had picked

This was followed in your next issue by Mr. Jinx, who is evidently not a rugby authority or an enthusiast, and appears to think because the game is played with a "big skin" it necessarily follows it was played in a corn field, possibly imagining it was part of the game to allow the "big skin" to fill up on corn.

We are only a small town, but can be pardoned for our audacity in playing against the tremendous odds of city clubs, which we have done, and gained the O. R. F. U. championship of Ontario and Canada, a rather creditable performance.

Rugby is not a game of ping pong. It is a strenuous game, and demands that the players be in good physical condition. It is capable of great scientific development; there is scope for both brain and muscle.

I am much pleased that London has so fine a team and is making so creditable a showing. The Petrolea boys are glad to meet on

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The Advertiser assures Dr. Fairbank that his remarks were made in the utmost good-nature, and without a thought of disparaging the Petrolea Club in any way. The Petrolea Club is composed of good sportsmen. It has done much to advance the game of Rugby in this section of the Province, and we were as glad as anybody to see the Canadian Junior championship go to the Oil Town best ball. If Petrolea wins this district this season, we shall take the greatest pleasure in seeing the town once more grasp the championship honors.

ASKIN STREET HAS BIG LIST OF ENTRIES

Forty-five Contestants From That Church Enter Events in Methodist Games.

The Methodist Athletic Association held a meeting in the Y. M. C. A. last evening to complete the final arrangements in connection with the athletic meet at Queen's Park on Thanksgiving Day.

The officials who are placed in charge of the different events were appointed at the meeting, the following being chosen: Referee and starter, Mr. A. T. Taylor, Y. M. C. A.; clerk, Mr. Henderson; timekeepers, Messrs. J. Brooks, Halliday and Treblecock; judges, Messrs. Benson, Chapman and Fitzgerald; Scores, Messrs. L. Jolliffe and W. H. Rhodes; Announcer, J. H. Fowler.

The entry list is a large one, contestants being entered from nearly every Methodist Church in the city. Askin Street has the largest number of entries, with 45 athletes entered. Wellington Street has 31, Dundas Central 23, First Methodist 11, and Hill Street 7. The meet is sanctioned by the C. A. A. U. and is run under the rules of that organization.

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up a great pitcher. Within a year American League newspapers were announcing, "The Walter Johnson's are coming for a series, tomorrow."

Johnson's record in the American League follows:

Year.	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
1908	14	14	.500
1909	13	25	.342
1910	25	17	.595
1911	23	15	.605
1912	32	12	.794

Joe Wood is the only pitcher who really leads Johnson this year, and Wood is with a team that has won consistently from the start, while Johnson has been handicapped as Washington did not hit its stride until well along in May. Any American League batter will say he prefers to face Wood to Johnson.

One of the most popular players in the game, Johnson is called for by Washington fans from President Taft to the top and peanut boy when the score is close in the closing innings, and his ability as a lifesaver is shown by the box scores every week.

The Johnson of today is not the Johnson who broke into the American League from Idaho. Then he was an awkward, over-grown boy, with terrible speed and little else. Today he is the finished article. Tall, well-built, graceful, he is tremendously powerful and pitches with a frictionless ease which impels the query, "Where does his speed come from?"

He pitches to win and wastes no time. He gets his signals from the catcher while returning to his place and is ready to deliver the ball when he steps upon the slab. His games are notably short.

Walter Johnson prefers to submerge himself rather than seek the limelight so pleasant to many players. He regarded himself as a workman, employed to win ball games and he sees nothing strange in the fact that he wins them. That is what he is paid for.

Critics unite in declaring him the greatest pitcher of all time, and surely no one could wear high honors with less self-consciousness than this clear-eyed pitcher who is pitching Washington almost close to a pennant.

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WHERE IS SIR JAMES ON LIQUOR QUESTION ASKS LEADER ROWELL

And What Has Become of the "Anti-Treating" Proposal Conceived in a Moment of Dire Emergency?

SCATHING EXPOSE OF REGIME BY FORMER LICENSE OFFICIAL

Mr. James A. Smyth Says Political Influence in Essex Made His Position Unbearable—Lambeth Gives Large Audience.

[By Our Own Man.]

Lambeth, Oct. 23.—Indictments of the present Government of Ontario are not hard to seek, and one of the most scathing ever pronounced in this district was that delivered by Mr. James A. Smyth, a student at the Normal School, London, and former license inspector for South Essex, under the temperance regime of Mr. W. Rowell, K.C., M. P., the Liberal leader, made a strong speech, one of the best of his career, in favor of his policy to "banish the Bar." Mr. Smyth added zest to the gathering by enforcing his experience in endeavoring to reform the license law in Essex. Political influence, however, made his position unbearable, and finally he was dismissed for enforcing the license law there. His speech was straightforward and frank, and had a great effect on the audience.

Posers for Whitney. Mr. Rowell amplified his temperance policy, and in addition provided a series of questions for Sir James Whitney, who is to address a meeting in the riding on Thursday evening. He wanted to know if Sir James Whitney was prepared to put his temperance principles to the test, and if the Conservative leader would come out straight for the abolition of the bar, he would find the Liberal party lined up behind him, ready to support that issue.

Pertinent Questions. Mr. Rowell also showed curiosity regarding the policy advocated at the last session of the Legislature, namely the abolition of the treating system. Through some mistake or otherwise, this favorite child of Sir James was not mentioned in the East Middlesex campaign, and the Liberal leader wanted to know what had become of that. Several other pertinent questions were asked Sir James, who hoped that the Conservative leader would answer them on Thursday evening at Thorndale.

Mr. Sutherland's Address. Dr. G. A. Routledge, ex-M. P., Lambeth, presided. He was delighted at seeing so large an audience.

Independent candidate. Mr. Sutherland, who was the first to speak and took but a few minutes. He was not prepared to make a long speech, but he was prepared to reserve the time at his disposal for the speakers, whom the audience had come to hear. He was prepared to back Mr. Rowell in his policy of the abolition of the bar. He had been promised in other matters, and he intended to do what he considered best for the interests of the Province. He hoped that the electors would support him on Thursday.

Evils of the Traffic. Mr. Thomas Baty, one of the best-known temperance workers in Westminster Township, followed with a brief but powerful speech on the evils of the liquor traffic. He was prepared to support any candidate who would promise to abolish the bar, and he announced that he would give his undivided support to Mr. William Sutherland, who port to Mr. William Sutherland, who pledged to support this policy.

The Liberal party, by reason of this new policy, was taking on new life and hope, and it was certain to win was based on the host principles and would know no defeat.

Explodes a Bomb. Mr. James A. Smyth exploded a bomb when he exposed the policy of the Conservatives in the liquor traffic. He was prepared to support any candidate who would promise to abolish the bar, and he announced that he would give his undivided support to Mr. William Sutherland, who port to Mr. William Sutherland, who pledged to support this policy.

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"I was no good to the party in South Essex because I tried to enforce the law," said Mr. Smyth. "I was threatened with removal at Leamington because I was after the men who sold liquor after hours. I was told to give a certain Jack Smith some lessons, and in many other ways interfered with. I took the position on the urgency of the Conservative party, but when I took it I made it my duty to the best of my ability. I endeavored to carry out the first instructions received from Mr. Hanna, but it could not be done. Why, it came to such a pass that I could not give a bartender's license without the say-so of the member for South Essex. The whole thing is a farce. There is no attempt made to enforce the law. They do not want an independent, rigid enforcement of the license laws. I have more that I could tell you. All I want to say now is that the eyes of the world are upon East Middlesex. Do your duty."

Mr. W. Proudfoot, M. P., for Centre Huron, was the next speaker. He expressed his regret at the death of the late member, Mr. Robert Sutherland, a man of integrity and worth. He had been a consistent advocate of Mr. Rowell's policy, and had lived would undoubtedly have done much to present it to the electors of the Province. The Conservative politicians were showing great anxiety over this election. Speakers and organizers by the score had been thrown into the riding. The Government's majority was already very unwieldy. It was not that they needed another member, but they were afraid of the moral effect of a victory for the candidate advocating Mr. Rowell's policy, and for that reason had thrown into East Middlesex every available man.

Mr. Proudfoot was a pioneer in temperance legislation, and had compelled the Government to vote repeatedly on the question. At no time could he remember when the Conservatives were so enthusiastic in favor of the open bar in this province. Surely the Prime Minister of this province could by no public act of his render a greater or more lasting public service than to speak in this riding tomorrow evening. I trust that he will tell the electors of this constituency whether he will accept our invitation or not, whether he will join in suppressing the bar, or whether he intends to stand on the position taken in the House, namely, to maintain the licensed bar under the existing law, and submit to the deal with some of its evils by his proposed legislation to abolish treating. Surely the electors of this constituency are entitled to a clear, straight answer, and not a vague promise to consider the question in the future. The electors of this riding are entitled to an answer to this question.

Enforcement of Law. Sir James told us in the House, and his supporters have been telling, that the riding, that the policy of his Government is the strict enforcement of the law, freed from partisan considerations. If so, I ask him what answer he has to the question of the resignation of the board of license commissioners of the city of Toronto, members of his own party. That is a question of vital public interest, the development of the liquor traffic, the development of the people should retain control of public expenditures? "Second, can he give us any precedent for such unconstitutional action in the legislation of the Government of Great Britain since 1838, in the legislation of the Dominion of Canada or of the Province of Ontario, except the partial precedent of the British North Borneo Company, when it placed at the disposal of the executive a sum of £1,500,000 to aid the building of railways?"

After Sir James Whitney has answered these questions, he continued the Liberal leader, "and made clear his position on the temperance issue, then, some other matters upon which I am sure the electors desire light."

"First, why did the Government withdraw from the Liberal party, and the expenditure of \$5,000,000 borrowed for the development of the liquor traffic, the development of the people should retain control of public expenditures? "Second, can he give us any precedent for such unconstitutional action in the legislation of the Government of Great Britain since 1838, in the legislation of the Dominion of Canada or of the Province of Ontario, except the partial precedent of the British North Borneo Company, when it placed at the disposal of the executive a sum of £1,500,000 to aid the building of railways?"

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