

HIGH SALARIES TO BASE BALL PROFESSIONALS—DO THEY PAY?

Discussing this subject—one of some interest at the moment, owing to the collapse of the famous Maple Leafs—the Chicago Tribune of a recent date says:

"It is about time that a few words concerning high salaries were said from the only practical point of view, that of experience. As a matter of opinion, no one can doubt that ball-players are paid too much; but so long as that remains a matter of opinion only the matter can be decided, and association will keep on busting up all around because they pay players more than the public pay them. The expenses of clubs outside of salary list—that is, their travelling expenses, ground rent, advertising and equipment—do not vary greatly, at least, not so widely as the money paid to players; and, curiously enough, the salaries paid do not, as they should, bear a proper ratio to service rendered. If there be any excuse for enormous salaries, it is the "gold ring" or especially valuable service that is the "best priced" word could be the most effective, or it has no business to be the highest priced. But what are the facts? Plainly they are that a new generation of ball-players have arrived on the scene, and that they are not only playing actually better ball than the high-priced players, but they are playing it for living, reasonable, fair salaries, which enable the associations that employ them to get through the season without a doubt. No better illustration of this can be found than the Allegheny Club, of Pittsburg, which is unquestionably as strong as any club it has met—that is, it averages as well, and it certainly plays a sharp, fine game. During the season thus far it has won one from Louisville and lost none; won one from St. Louis and lost none; won three from Chicago and lost one; won one from Hartford and lost two; won one from Boston and lost three. The total of all games with League clubs is, therefore, seven won and six lost, a better record than that made by the average of League clubs themselves, all things considered. This Allegheny Club has also won two and lost four with the Stars; won two and lost one with the Tecumsehs. This is a good deal better record than the Chicago have made. The Club is composed of ten men—Galvin, Dolan, Goodman, Fulmer, Williamson, Nelson, Cramer, McKelvey, Holbert, and Ryan. They are all, but two young chaps, utterly unknown to the average friend of the professional game, and yet they have shown this year that they could beat the veterans more than half of the time. Now, on the theory that a club should be paid for what it does, and that the better club should be paid more than the poorer, the ten men named should get high salaries. The facts are that two of the team get \$1,200 each, three get \$800 each, and the other five \$700 each, making the entire salary list \$8,000. This ought to dispel the long cherished illusion that it is necessary to pay big salaries to get good players. There is no association in the League (except, it may be, the one that does not pay as much to four men as the Alleghenys do to ten; and yet the latter get as good service, or better, as good play, or better, and as much gentlemanly conduct, as the others. The sooner people begin to understand that \$22,750 (the sum paid by a single League club for salaries alone) will not necessarily get any better men than \$8,000, the sooner will the national game get down to the only honest basis—that of paying for itself."

Quitting.

THE TORONTO TOURNAMENT.

The grand quitting tournament commenced on the 18th inst., at 318 Front street west. The following are the names of the competitors who entered, the championship of Canada, gold medal, and \$20 being the first premium:—

James Rennie, Toronto; Robert Russell, Lambroke; John Taggart, Kleinburg; Jno Bippou, Toronto; John Brown, Galt; Simon Kennedy, Milliken; Bob't McCowan, Scabore; George Sheppard, L'Amaronx; Walter Glendenning, Gillesmere; David

Fur, Fin and Feather.

SHOOTING AT MONTREAL.

A couple of matches were shot at Lepine Park, Montreal, on the 19th. The first was between Montreal and Laprairie, three men aside, for \$100, 10 birds each, 21 yards rise, 80 yards boundary. It resulted in favor of Montreal by one bird, as the following summary shows:—

MONTREAL.	
Bayard	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1—10
Pepin	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1—10
Dubé	1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1—9
	29
LAPRAIRIE.	
Desautels	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1—10
Barrette	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1—10
Senecal	1 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1—8
	28

After which there was a single handed match between Mr. Pepin, of Montreal, and Mr. Desautels, of Laprairie, for \$100, 20 birds each, 21 yards rise, 80 yards boundary. Messrs. Wm. Armstrong, Geo. Abern, and J. R. Boyer acted as judges. As the summary shows, the match resulted in a tie, all the birds being killed. It was arranged to shoot the match over on Wednesday of this week.

Mr. Pepin	1111111111111111—20
Mr. Desautels	1111111111111111—20

POPPING AT BAMBERGER'S.

A sweepstake shooting match of \$50 each took place at Bamberger's, halfway between Dundas and Hamilton, on the 19th, between Mr. Knox, American Consul, at Hamilton, Mr. Rankin, Windsor; and Mr. Hathaway, contractor for the Dundas and Hamilton Street Railway. The conditions were to shoot at 10 birds each, 20 yards rise. The match resulted in a tie between Knox and Rankin, but in shooting it off at 25 yards, Rankin was successful:

	20 Yds.	25 Yds.	26 Yds.
Rankin	1111101101—8	1—1	
Knox	0111011111—8	0—0	
Hathaway	1010111011—7		

It is said the Marquis of Lorne will visit Nova Scotia next month to hunt Moose.

Ducks at Long Point and on the St. Clair Flats promise this season to be plentiful, and sportsmen anticipate heavy bags.

A MISSISSIPPI COON.—Mr. Moore, of Madisonville, Miss., recently killed a raccoon, which when skinned and dressed and without the head weighed forty five pounds.

What would you think of a restauranter who mingled damaged shot with the dressing of barnyards, to make believe they were wild ones?

LAKEFIELD.—On Saturday last Mr. Jos. A. Sabler and five other gentlemen returned from the upper lakes, where they had been enjoying a week's hunt. As they succeeded in securing thirteen deer, it seems almost unnecessary to say that they were well pleased with the result of their trip.

The Barrie Gazette says:—"Mr. Edward Staley, of Plos, captured a large yearling bear in a steel trap by one of the fore-paws. The trap was fastened to a piece of wood, which the bear managed to drag about twenty-five rods, not dragging it by the paw fastened in the trap, but by the one at liberty. The bear was in the habit of visiting at night a patch of corn where he was ultimately caught. Mr. Staley brought the carcass to Barrie and climbed up to a photograph gallery, where he had the photograph of himself and bruin, while he was, as it were, en-counting the animal and killing it while in the trap. The crop of bears it is said is very abundant in Plos this year."

Good SHOOTING.—Mr. G. B. Patten, of Ottawa, at the Military Rifle Match, held at Almonte, during the past week, took the first prize in the small bore competition at 800 yards. He made ten bulls eyes in succession. Fifty points out of a possible fifty.

CANADIANS AT CREEDMOOR.

COMPLAINT OF A CANADIAN RIFLEMAN.

To the Editor of the New York Herald:—

Fair play and no favour are all that Canadians who come to shoot at Creedmoor expect, but I am obliged to say from experience that they have not received that from the executive of the National Rifle Association of New York in at least two instances, one of which occurred on Tuesday, and the previous one would never have been mentioned were it not for the latter. In 1875, when shooting the long range match, the Canadians were squadded with two more competitors than the Irishmen and three more than the prominent American squad. After finishing at the 800 and 900 yards one of the Canadians was among the leading men and on coming back to 1,000 yards one of the Irish squad, whose score was low, was taken off and put on the Canadian squad, equalizing the Americans and Irishmen, but making the Canadian squad four more than either of the other two. It was getting dark before the latter got through, and of course the former were driven into the dark and forced to shoot or run the risk of not been allowed to shoot next day, so the consequence was that the high man shot in the dark, and of course did not make the score which he otherwise would most likely have made. I think only one inference can be drawn from this small act. The case of Tuesday was something similar, although done in a different way. One of the Canadians, who was among the high scores at 800 and 900 yards, on coming to the 1,000 yards, and after firing a few shots successfully, was subjected to a great deal of annoyance by an official who came to him with a spring balance, which I doubt very much the correctness of, for the reason that I weighed the gentleman's rifle as it was shot, after coming into the city, and found it correct. May I ask why he was singled out? Nearly all the gentlemen in the competition used pads on their rifles. Why were they not subjected to the scrutiny? Of course the tendency was to excite one of the most honourable riflemen that ever shot a rifle, and the consequence was that he broke down at that range. I ask any American were they ever subjected to such treatment on a Canadian rifle range? Rifle shooting in Great Britain, Ireland and Canada has always been conducted in a strictly honourable and fairer way than any other sport, and I hope it will continue to be conducted in an equally fair and upright manner on the continent of America.

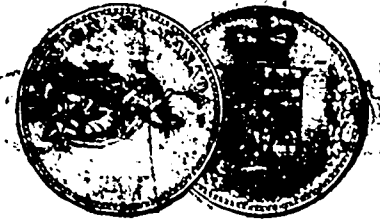
CANADIAN RIFLEMAN.

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J. L. RAWBONE, Esq., TORONTO, ONT. BOSTON SEPTEMBER 14th, 1876

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