

and left handed, the one with a knot on the end of the curve and the one that hadn't quite the right curve; worthy predecessors of the spick-and-span hockey stick of to-day.

To play the grand old game of shinny it wasn't by any means necessary to have a rink. It was like a mouth-organ. You could play it anywhere you liked; on a small patch of ice, in the snow or on the bare ground. You could play with skates, or without, you could play in your bare feet if you wanted to. There wasn't much style to shinny or any conventionalities. Nobody was ever sent to the sides for violating rules and referees were as scarce as hen's teeth. However, playing off-sides was not allowed, except perhaps in the case of a left-handed player. The penalty was to "shin" a man for off-side play: after a man was shinned his identity as a left-handed player was always established.

Shinny was in many respects a rough game; it was not sand-papared and glossed off so nicely as hockey, and if rude boys got into the game they would slash and the result sometimes would be that somebody would have to retire from the game in order to extract the "block" from their face. This was very seldom, however, and the casualty list of shinny would feel ashamed of itself if it were around today to see how hockey has outclassed it in this line of work.

Shin pads and skates! Well p'raps skates, if there was ice. Shin pads? No sir! You couldn't induce even a football player to don this article some years ago. There hasn't been a game invented yet to take real shinny's place. Hockey is nice sometimes and often exciting—but it is sometimes liable to put on frills.

Say fellers, 'member the old game of shinny, when the count used to be about 33 to 28, with 35 more games to play! When I think of these old games I can again hear the exquisite music of the empty fruit can as it went clankety-clank over and over, and over and over and over the frozen clumps of ground. If the old shinny epidemic should ever break out again we'll never be too proud to play it, no sir. Hockey is lively and dashing, but it's a counterfeit after all. Hand us over some shinny, boys.