

## Criketers Look Forward To Fine Season 1914

Averages of Players Last Year Are Announced—Local Devotees of the Game Are Getting Lined Up.

With the coming of the robin, the local cricketers are getting busy for the coming cricket season. A general meeting of the club will be held shortly when officers will be elected and the city league schedule drawn up for the Roberts and Van-Lane trophy. This trophy has now been won two years in succession by the Paris team, and unless one of the Brantford teams can get it from them this year, it will become their property for all time. Last year, the St. George's club gave them a hard battle, the result being at the end of the season a tie, but in the play-off game the Paris team was successful, thus retaining the trophy for another year. Several new cricketers have drifted into Brantford during the winter, and the locals are confident of having one of the strongest teams they have had for many years, this season. The following is a complete analysis of the city league bowling

and batting averages for the Brantford players during 1913, from which it will be seen that Mr. F. W. Stewart wins the bat presented by Mr. K. H. Reville for the best batting average, and Mr. H. S. Leach the prize presented by the club for the best bowling average.

Batters Name	Games Played	Most in one innings	Total Runs	Times Not Out	Average
Stewart	6	20	70	1	14
Bland	6	25	55	1	11
Wineyard	6	30	62	10	10.3
Vickers	3	31	10	3	10.3
C. Smith	5	32	46	9	9.2
Rawley	6	21	52	10	10.4
Taylor	3	26	8	7	8.7
Leach	4	42	8	2	8.7
Darch	4	25	1	6	6.2
West	5	13	27	1	6.2
Walsh	3	31	6	3	6.2
Derbyshire	6	25	4	2	4.2
Richardson	5	21	4	2	4.2
Bryden	3	7	1	3	3.5
Whitwill	4	13	3	2	3.2
Usher	4	13	3	2	3.2
Foott	3	8	2	2	2.7
Hutchins	3	9	3	2	2.7

Bowling Averages	Games Played	Overs Bowled	Runs Scored	Wickets Taken	Average
Leach	4	22.5	42	21	2.75
G. Johnson	1	7	11	4	2.75
Hutchins	3	17	41	9	4.55
Bruton	3	6	21	6	3.5
J. Usher	1	4	11	3	3.67
Stewart	5	35.1	97	18	5.4
A. Elliott	1	14	28	1	2.6
Stewart	5	35.1	97	18	5.4
Frost	3	43	141	20	7.05

**Choice of May Queen**  
Miss Doris Pemberton, age thirteen, daughter of Mr. George Henry Pemberton, master builder, was on Tuesday chosen as queen for the Knutsford May Festival. There was keen competition for the post. Miss Pemberton has taken a prominent part in the festival for several years.

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## Old Country Soccer News

THE CUP FINAL

Should it be Played at Crystal Palace By W. V. P.

I have no hesitation in saying that in my opinion the proper place for the cup final to be played is in the Capital.

I have not always thought so. Fifteen years ago I felt that it was wrong to always have the game in the same city and I was charged, and perhaps justly, with holding narrow views.

My reason was that at that time practically the whole football world was outside London, and in the provinces—"big" football, I mean—it seemed to me that provincial clubs and their supporters were being put to unnecessary inconvenience and expense by having to take long journeys to the Metropolis.

### The Capital of Football

Since then, of course, the game has grown considerably in popularity, and London itself is now represented by many big football clubs.

That fact in itself is sufficient to account for a change of attitude, but it is not my chief reason. Now that association football has become truly the national game, and every club in the country is interested in the destination of the cup, it seems to me absolutely the right thing that the final should be played at the national centre, and in the greatest city in the country.

### The Neutral Mass

The advantages of London over any city in the provinces are many. London is so cosmopolitan that it cannot provide a great crowd of neutral spectators who repress, or at least dilute, the partisanship of the followers of the clubs engaged, and thus offer a fair field and little favor to any side.

This could not happen in the provinces, because there is no city which can find this great neutral mass of spectators for a game in which town had no immediate interest; and if the crowd could be found there is no ground in England to-day capable of taking them in and giving them all a view of the game.

It is difficult also to find a ground in the provinces which would not to some extent favor one of the competing clubs or the other, unless the game was taken to a place so distant from both as to ruin the "gate" by making it almost impossible for the supporters of the rival teams to attend.

### A National Festival

One never hears nowadays any grumbling at having to go to London for the final. People all over England have got used to the idea, and final day is a synonym in the Midlands and the North at least—for an enjoyable week-end in London. It is a national festival, and thousands of people put by their shillings throughout the winter in order to enjoy it.

Manchester and Liverpool, Birmingham and Sheffield are big cities, and big football centres, but they have nothing like the appeal which London holds to all sorts and conditions of men to make holiday on the culminating day of the football year. Even if London were not so attractive in "side lines," so to speak, it is the only possible place for the tie, because no ground outside it could be made suitable. If by any chance a London club and a popular provincial team got into the final, the enthusiasm about the game is so great that we can hardly estimate the possible attendance. We might easily have 150,000 people wishing to attend, but there is no ground either in London or outside that will hold 100,000 or even 80,000 and give them a view of the game.

We read extraordinary figures about the holding capacity of certain grounds, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating. There is, I repeat, no ground, except the Crystal Palace, that will hold 80,000 people, and even there the present accommodation is totally inadequate for anything like that number to see with comfort.

### "Over the Border and Awa"

We should have to go over the border to Glasgow to find an enclosure to take in 120,000 people. Trafalgar Park is probably the next best ground in England, with Stamford Bridge running it close, but neither of these nor Goodison Park will find room for more than 60,000—and that is a poor gate as finals go.

Only two finals have been played in the provinces since Kennington oval was abandoned, and neither at Fallowfield nor Goodison Park was the event a great success.

Replays have taken place at Manchester and Liverpool which have been very satisfactory as replays, and have given provincials opportunities to see a final of which they have availed themselves.

But there is no place to compete with London as the natural centre for such great games, simply because there is no place so neutral, so free from partisanship, there is none that can house a big crowd, and there is none to offer the extraneous attractions and conveniences to football lovers rich and poor.

### Charge of Meticide

Shaking in every limb and staring vacantly, Emily Elton, age forty, was remanded at Buxton on Saturday on a charge of murdering Harriet Elton, age eighty-five, her mother. The prisoner cried hysterically.

## In All The Big Leagues

CHICAGO, March 19.—The Chicago Federal League team will make an effort to get the services of Pitcher Seaton, who recently was awarded to the Brooklyn Federals, according to an announcement to-day by Charles Weeghman, president of the Chicago club. Seaton has expressed a desire to play on the same team with Ad. Brennan, the pitcher who was awarded to Manager Tinker's club. Weeghman said he would confer regarding the matter with Geo. S. Ward, president of the Brooklyn Club, who is in Chicago on a business trip.

James A. Gilmore, president of the Federal League, announced to-day that the Chicago Club will open its home season on April 25 with Kansas City.

### Wood Is Better.

BOSTON, March 19.—Joe Wood, crack pitcher of the Boston Americans, who was operated on for appendicitis at his home in Pennsylvania recently will join the Red Sox in spring training at Hot Springs, Ark., next Wednesday, according to a despatch received from there. It was said that while he would be able to pitch the opening game of the season, he would not be called upon probably before May 1.

### Umpire Has Operation.

NEW YORK, March 19.—William Klem, the National League umpire, who went around the world with the Giants and White Sox was successfully operated on yesterday for an injury he received in being struck in the chest by a foul ball as he was beginning the world tour. The injury did not trouble him much until the team reached Europe, but after his arrival home he underwent an examination which showed that he was suffering

from a shattered shoulder blade, fractured breast plate and several fractured ribs. An operation was decided upon and after it was performed yesterday in this city, the attending surgeons announced that it had been entirely successful and that Klem would be about again in a few days.

### House Cleaned at Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 19.—Charles H. Thomas, formerly secretary of the Chicago National League club, today took up his duties as president of the club. Thomas was appointed president of the Cubs yesterday after C. P. Taft announced he would retain his controlling interest for at least a year.

Charles W. Murphy, who sold his holdings to Mr. Taft and who thereby relinquished the presidency announced that he would go on a fishing trip, but otherwise would not make known his plans. Charles Schmallsis, who was appointed club secretary, will maintain his headquarters in Cincinnati for a time, it was announced.

Mr. Taft decided to retain his interest in the Cubs after negotiations with several Chicago syndicates failed to result in a sale. He returned to Cincinnati last night after looking over the Cubs' ball park.

### Bridal Party's Right-of-Way

In order to establish a public right-of-way over a new road at Horsham (Surrey) a bridal party on Saturday walked through it. In olden times it was customary when making such a claim to carry a dead body through the road.

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## Saint Thomas' Indian Player The Only Vegetarian In Game

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., March 20.—Garland "Chief" Nevitt, the Delaware Indian catcher who has just been sold to St. Thomas, in the Canadian League, promises to be a very active contender for a regular place on the team. He has been in constant athletic training throughout the winter in a physical education school operated in connection with the Battle Creek Sanatorium. In this way he is enabled to begin the playing season in excellent physical fitness.

Nevitt is 23 years old, is a full-blooded Delaware Indian, born in Oklahoma, and educated at the Haskell Indian school where he was a close friend of Jim Thorpe, the renowned athlete. He is a good batsman at all times.

The Indian's chief claim to distinction is that he is the only vegetarian ball player under contract. Not only does he abstain from meats, but he also forgoes tobacco in all its forms.

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### Canadian

The Ottawa club has not a training camp, South H. accommodate the Ser Shaughnessy is now see quarters in Indiana. The have had two or three of dates cancelled also. Pre

Dave Inker, the St. Thomas is a hold-out. If his dema the Saints would only hav on the ball park and an

left. Inker will likely when the warm zephyrs b

The Senators are Wright of the Erie club, sold to Buffalo, but sent b for further seasoning. T are anxious to purchase hi er O'Neill says nix.

The Erie club needs a c pitchers, Stark and Dorb only two moundmen t have although Osborne, Peterboro slabman, will Manager Smith will have twirlers in line when the s though.

The Hamilton club has cated a ball park. At a m terday between the owner nia Park and the Hamilto agreement was reached. park people will only give lease. The club wants te winner.

According to reports t offered Jack Shaeffer, the League's leading hitter. Se up for a year. Shaeffer has Erie. He turned down the and latest reports say they their back as a result. Gilbert Fergie, who wa

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