

THE ASSOCIATION CUP FINAL.

The final of the English Association football cup was played on Saturday at the Crystal Palace before an enormous crowd of spectators.

Seventy special trains fully loaded reached London termini during the morning, and two hours before the appointed time for the kick-off thousands of enthusiasts had taken their places. A flukey wind blew from goal to goal. Charming weather always favours Cup finals, and brilliant sunshine lit up the scene. From an early hour the Palace and the beautiful grounds were besieged with spectators, and by two o'clock there was every promise of a record crowd. The trees surrounding the arena made cheap grand stands for many venturesome youths.

The rivals on this occasion were Sheffield Wednesday and Everton, and while the former team took the field as advertised, Everton made one change in the forward line.

Everton won the toss, and decided to start at the low level end, with the wind and sun behind them. Punctually at 3.30 Wilson kicked off for Sheffield. Chapman centred from a short pass by Bradshaw, but the ball was sent out of play. A combined rush by Stewart, Wilson, Bradshaw, and Chapman looked dangerous, but Scott relieved, and the Everton territory was the scene of play for a few minutes. The attack of Sheffield Wednesday proved to be of very short duration, and from some trampling play Young and Bolton got away, getting well into their opponents' half, but unfortunately Settle, when in a good position, headed the ball wide. After this Sharp had an opportunity, being particularly well placed, but he unfortunately shot too high. Sheffield Wednesday then cleared their lines and began to force matters. Lyall sent the ball well up the field to Wilson, who put in a hot shot, which went just wide of the net. Everton then became the aggressors, and settled down to a fine combined game. Sharp, Bolton, and Young were continually prominent. Lyall saved a long shot by Young in the easiest possible manner, and a minute later Layton missed the ball altogether, and had Lyall not come out, the chances are that Everton would have scored. A few minutes later Bolton executed a smart run, but Lyall easily saved the soft shot from the Everton inside right. From some scrambling play among the opposing forwards the ball was taken well down near the Everton goal, and Stewart, obtaining possession, got a splendid goal after the game had been in progress just 20 minutes.

Soon afterwards there was a delay of a minute owing to one of the Everton half-backs coming into collision with another player. On resuming Everton were awarded a free kick, but no material result accrued. For a foul against Wilson the Lancastrians were awarded a free kick, and the Sheffielders were forced to act on the defensive for some time.

Ten minutes before the interval, Everton played for all they were worth, and the Sheffield defence had plenty to do. The Everton forwards, among whom Sharp and Settle were conspicuous, were repeatedly dangerous, but their work in front of goal was very weak. Wilson, the Sheffield centre-forward, was playing a great game, and frequently beat the opposing halves only to be brought up by the brothers Balmer. Settle, getting away, looked to have the goal at his mercy, but mis-kicked. Abbot, however, came to his relief, and coming right round, centred splendidly, but Young failed to seize the opportunity. A second later, from some fine forward play, Sharp obtained possession, and making no mistake sent the ball into the net well out of the reach of Lyall, equalising the score amid loud cheers. A little later Everton forced a corner, but the Sheffielders, packing their goal in fine style, cleared, and half-time arrived with the score:

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY . . . 1 goal.
EVERTON 1 "

On changing ends Everton attacked, and for a brief spell play took place in their opponents' territory. Bradshaw sent in a shot, but there was little sting behind it, and Scott easily saved. Sheffield then attacked, and from some fine forward play Wilson put in a very hot shot, which almost caught Scott napping, but the latter fell forward, and when on his knees turned the ball away. Everton continued to have somewhat the better of the play, and were much cooler than their opponents when it came to close play.

Towards the close, however, Sheffield became more aggressive, but failed to score from a corner. Scott frequently cleared magnificently. Everton obtained a free kick, but nothing was scored. At last, four minutes from the finish Stewart scored for Sheffield, and the match ended with the score:

SHEFFIELD W. 2, EVERTON 1.

THAT ANCHOR STROKE AGAIN!

At the beginning of last week a billiard match was advertised to be played between Dawson and Lovejoy. As a matter of fact it ceased to be a match after the first day. Lovejoy was obviously out of practice towards the end of the week, but he had not been near the table since Monday.

Dawson got the balls "cradled" on that evening and at the close of play on Saturday evening had compiled a mammoth and monotonous break of over 23,000, thus completely wiping out Hugo Kerkau's record of 14,000 odd. Lovejoy is stated to have left the hall, sadly humming "The anchor's weighed".

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RANDOM NOTES.

Turning a man out of a theatre neck and crop because he disapproved of the entertainment provided on the boards and ventured to signify the same in the usual manner, viz. by hissing, seems a somewhat summary proceeding, and it is hardly a matter of surprise that the gentleman, who was thus treated at the Ealing Hippodrome recently, brought an action for assault against the over-strenuous employé who had thus hustled him. He won his case, for the magistrate held that if one may show his approval by clapping there is nothing to prevent one expressing disapproval by hissing. The show which so irritated the visitor was a series of cinematograph pictures of the hunt of a hippopotamus, the hunters proceeding to skin their quarry when they had caught it. It was the skinning, which lasted 30 seconds—smart work at that—that roused the gall of this particular onlooker, and in spite of the fact that the management urged that dukes and bishops had seen and approved of this same exhibition, he failed to see why he should not express his disapproval of this revolting spectacle. The magistrate may have taken a sound view of the legal aspect of the question but it seems hard that a whole audience should be annoyed by one of its number expressing his feelings of disgust so audibly and that too, at a show which had received the episcopal blessing.

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Talking of cinematographs, we have often wondered where the wonderful adventures we see at these exhibitions are arranged. That they are fakes is obvious enough, but we have never come across the meek-looking individuals in the act of enacting the rôles of ferocious burglars &c. How the whole thing is done was shown a day or so ago on a Southern line near London, where one of these faked adventures came to rather an inglorious conclusion. An inventive mind had conjured up a series of pictures to be entitled "The sagacious hound". Three men appeared and placed a sleeper on the line, seized the signalman, conveniently loitering near, tied him hand and foot and then returned to watch the result of their labours when the next train came along. The signalman's dog came along and, finding his master in this captive condition, at once turned round and went to fetch the man's wife. All went smoothly up to this point, but then the train coming up a trifle too soon, charged the sleeper and hurled it full on to the body of the prostrate signalman, cutting his head and breaking four of his ribs. He has decided to refrain for the future from taking part in cinematograph exhibitions, no matter how sagacious the hound may be.

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The news of the very latest invention, of which a public demonstration was given at the Cannon Street Hotel in London on Friday, will come as a boon and a blessing to many a man who, rising late and being anxious to catch his usual train, has emerged from his chamber looking as if he had been in a dog fight, so horribly has a blunt razor marred his visage. These cuts and scratches which so disfigure him will be things of the past when the new "Razorless shaving powder" is put on the market. It is claimed that this marvellous preparation will remove all hair from the face without causing any irritation or ill effects to the skin. At the public demonstration six or seven men, all with a good growth of beard took their seats in view of an interested audience, the magic powder was applied to their faces and the shavers using such divers articles as a matchbox, a comb, a bone paper-knife, a wooden spoon and a post-

card, within five minutes turned them out with faces smooth as the back of one's hand.

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Tailor. Max Grosske, Bismarck Platz 12

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There seems to be a perfect epidemic of strikes going on in Paris just now, and the latest body to throw up their work in disgust are those who know how necessary they are to the comfort of their fellow citizens. The life of a Parisian is so bound up with his favourite café that a general strike of waiters betokens a very serious general inconvenience. The reasons alleged by the waiters for throwing up work are cogent enough. They are it is true dissatisfied with the necessity which exists of having to hand over 60 per cent of their tips, to pay for subordinates who they claim should be paid by the proprietor himself, they are tired of the incessant charges for breakages, which they have never incurred, weary of having to pay for matches, tooth picks, newspapers, &c. which one may certainly agree with them should be provided by funds obtained elsewhere than from the tips. But these trifles, harassing and vexatious though they be, are as nothing as compared with more solid grievances. They demand a weekly day of rest and the right to wear a moustache. In Paris, of all places, evidently a man who is a man, must be allowed to wear hair on his face, otherwise, he might be mistaken for a priest, and in these days of separation, that were indeed a parlous idea. One can sympathise with the hairless waiter, whose sweetheart, after duty is over, reproaches him that in his clean shaven state he looks like a priest or, worse, still an actor!

By the way: are waiters ever off duty? Rise early in the morning, drop into your favorite café, and there surely enough is your particular attendant soft-voiced, flat-footed, ready to fulfil your slightest wish. Hear the description of a Paris waiter by the French correspondent of a contemporary. Is it not redolent of the Boulevards? "The Paris waiter is a personage. He is always seen in a white shirt front, white stockings, and a tie which would excite the envy of a dandy. But for his vest, which indemnifies itself for not being a vest by the fineness of its tissue, he might be mistaken for an ambassador or a tenor. His hair, cut in the latest fashion, exhales sweet odours, and his lips express a perpetual smile of complaisance. The lady at the counter, it should be added, shows him delicate attentions. The true Paris waiter, like the true poet, is born, not made. He has hereditary waiter's blood coursing through his veins. His father was a garçon before him, and from childhood he has been instructed in the family art, learning celerity and grace of movement, with that patience, politeness, and amiability by which he is distinguished. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule, and good waiters have sometimes been made out of men who have failed in the higher walks of life, of bankrupt merchants or ruined gentlemen. A spendthrift who, having run through his fortune, prefers to wait rather than work, is already in some degree qualified for the post of garçon. His experience will constitute him an authoritative arbiter in disputes over a pretty girl, or a game of billiards, dominoes, or cards. He knows how to please men who love to dine or sup as sumptuously as he once did, and the wine-bibbers excite within him no repulsion, but, on the contrary, strike a chord of sympathy in his soul." Perhaps to this latter type the much cherished moustache is the one relic of his former life, when he too was a *bon viveur*, the one thing that reminds him that for him too there were days when he regarded waiters as soulless automata placed there for his convenience.

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M. JULES CLARETIE.

From time to time during the past twelve months there have been rumours that Paris might expect a severance of the tie that has for so many years connected M. Jules Claretie with the Comédie Française. To effect this change quite a complicated readjustment of elevated positions in other theatres, in the National Library, the Council of State, and even the Senate were forecasted, with a wealth and a definiteness of detail which becomes all the more imposing from the fact, announced by M. Claretie himself, that they are a tissue of fictions from beginning to end. He knows, he says, nothing of any changes, and he has work in hand at the Comédie which will keep him busy for a year or two.

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