
HEADING THE LIST

By Grantland Rice.

(“Who are the five greatest living Americans? Among those mentioned are Roosevelt, Bryan Taft, Edison, Mitchell and Morgan. What is your opinion?”—American Magazine.)

Ask us something hard next time—give our brain a chance to work;
Simple queries of this ilk leave us yawning like a Turk;
Why should any magazine, with the cost of paper so
Much increased, give vent to dope any jay you meet should know?

On the level, it's a shame, money of this kind to take—
Why not ask us on the side how much two and two will make?
Why not ask if J. T. Graves or T. Watson has a show
To hang out the next four years in the Big Stick Bungalow?

Only tell me this, old sport—where does Roosevelt come in here?
What league is he pitching in, giving him a title clear;
Taft and Bryan? Did these guys ever cop a Marathon?
Did they ever capture a fifteen hundred meter run?

I have seen some crazy dope in my day, I must admit,
But this tip passed out above wins out as the Dippy Hit;
Roosevelt, Bryan, Morgan, Taft—I have spent a week or more
On the sporting page to find out where they ever tied the score.

Take a look at these, old scout—Melvin Sheppard—Johnny Hayes—
Martin Sheridan—there's three worthy of the spotlight's rays;
Picking up another pair just to finish up the job,
Get down with a bet on these—Honus Wagner—Tyrus Cobb.

Ask us something hard next time—give our brain a chance to work;
Simple queries of this ilk leave us yawning like a Turk;
You may scoff at our choice—dubbing us a brainstorm pote,
But I'd like to place a bet they would cop the nation's vote.
