II. United Kingdom


During World War I, women assumed traditional male roles and continued to form a gender-exclusive support system for their families and communities. Lancashire women formed football teams during the war, and in 1921 staged matches to raise funds for needy families and provide entertainment for idle men during the coal miners’ lock-out. By the time of the 1926 strike, women were discouraged from seeking more freedom, and there was no recurrence of women’s football. Based on primary and secondary sources; 164 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE

Spring 2000
Since the mid-1800s, many county cricketers were rewarded after years of service, receiving the profit (or sustaining the loss!) of a testimonial match. Average testimonial profits increased during the period of 1946 through 1985, although inflation lowered their value. Considerable variation in testimonials existed among counties, and between largest and smallest awards. After 1985 data became very incomplete due to secrecy associated with negotiation of contracts, some of which specify testimonials. Based on primary and secondary sources; 59 notes.

RICHARD V. McGEHEE

W.K. Gibson was a highly rated footballer for Belfast's Cliftonville club and for Ireland, and held office in the Irish Football Association. His election as Councillor for Clifton in 1909 was aided by his sport reputation, indicating the popularity of football in Belfast. He retired from the City Council in 1920, but continued active involvement in Irish football. Based on primary and secondary sources, 46 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE

The spas of sixteenth and seventeenth century England were patronized by nobility, and others, for purposes of health and recreation. Bathing and drinking mineral waters in a rural environment, especially in summer, was considered a healthful alternative to city life. With time, leisure became more important than medical benefits at spas. Bowling, tennis, music and dancing, socializing, and sexual opportunities were some of the spas' attractions. Based on primary and secondary sources; 90 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE