Jai Alai, Called Death Dodging Sport, Gets Hold In America

New York is getting acquainted with an exciting game that has been giving thrills around the world for years. A combination of hand ball, lacrosse, and tennis, the old Basque sport of pelota (jai alai as it is known in Cuba and elsewhere) was recently presented to an audience that cheered and jeered as balls speeding at the rate of a hundred miles per hour smacked points or fouls against the wall.

Jai alai, pronounced 'Hy-Lie' has been called the world's fastest indoor game, points out a bulletin from headquarters of the National Geographical Society. As played today by sturdy, hard-hitting professionals, it is both spectacular and simple, requirig only space, three high walls, a ball, and curved basket-like scoop lashed to the arm of each player.

Served from the basket, or cesta, the ball—slightly softer than a rock and about the size of a tennis ball—is first driven against the front wall, to be scooped up before its second bounce, and returned by a member of the opposing side. Teams range from one to four on a side. Some times a handicap is given, when two more expert players are matched against three less trained.

Technique, as in tennis, lies in slamming the ball to a spot from which it is hard for the opponent to return it. Unlike other fast-moving indoor games, however, jai alai is a sport of magnificent distances. Flashing 150 or 200 feet from one wall to the other, the curving arc of its traveling white globe dwarfs the players, and gives spectators an added thrill.

Occasionally, when a ball is missed, there is an accident, for the hurtling sphere is no soft cushion. About five years ago, at Miami, a jai alaier was killed in such an accident as the ball zooming off the front wall struck him squarely in the forehead.

To the audience, safely behind wire netting that guards against wild shots, one of the most dramatic points of the game is the rebote, or rebound stroke, whereby a player scoops the ball on its rear-wall bounce, and sends it flying through the air in a sweeping motion that often pulls him off his feet.

Though the game may look easy when played by experts smoothly returning each serve, it is one that requires considerable skill, as well as endurance and strength both from players and from the arena itself. A jai alaier's heart takes terrific punishment, while muscles in his overdeveloped playing arm become steely hard. So heavy is the strain of constant bombardment against the arena that the walls of one jai alai court in Havana, Cuba weakened, and had to be rebuilt of granite and reinforced brick.

Played three centuries ago in the Basque country of northern Spain, this dashing sport of pelota, which means small ball, evolved from a simple village pastime of ball-tossing against church walls. Spreading to other countries, it is now a super-specialty whose fans number thousands, from the Pyrenees to the Andes, as well as in such centers as Madrid, and Mexico, D. F., and as far away as Shanghai.

The baseball of South America, it is played with magnificent facilities in such cities as Buenos Aires, or on the single adobe wall of a remote country inn. Courts are even found on the great pampa ranches.

In Cuba, under an alias, it is the national sport. Called jai alai (or 'merry festival,' was the Havana building where early games were held) it is a regular feature of tourist and local night life in the Cuban capital. It is because of this association that the name jai alai has now generally replaced pelota, although in Mexico, and in a few other places, it is also known as fronton, or court.

"Whatever the name for it pelota, after 300 years, is still going strong. In the land of its birth, on both French and Spanish sides of the shadowing Pyrenees, few villages are too poor to afford at least a crude wall court. Occasionally, where other means are lacking, players return to the old way of pounding the ball against church walls, their only restriction by authority being the request, please not to play during divine service.

Today as the Spanish conflict rages, bombings, not ball games, occupy headlines. Yet there was a war, according to stories told in the northern villages, in which French-Basque soldiers took time out. to go home, play a long-scheduled match against their Spanish rivals, and return to the army to take part in the battle of Austerlitz in 1805 between Napoleon's forces and those of Austria and Russia.

Such international contests long played an important role in Basque life. Handed down through generations is the tale of the great match at Irun, nearly a hundred years ago, when peasants for miles around wagered their oxen, crops, and even their homes on their favorite side. Aftere the game, the story goes, the French players who won had to flee across the border without time to remove the bats attached to their arms.

The Queen Anne's County Social Register

GRASONVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Armstrong of Rome, N. Y., were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. James K. Hunter.

Mr. and Mrs Harold Norman, of Middleton, N. Y., spent Sunday with Mr. Norman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Horney.

Mrs. William E. Bosley spent a few days last week in Baltimore with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ireland visited Mr. and Mrs. Omer Brown in Cambridge last Thursday.

Mrs. Joseph W. Collier is spending some time in Baltimore with her sister, Miss Mamie Lettan.

Mrs. Nellie Seymour, of Baltimore, was the week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs Ralph Ireland and her father, Mr. Jacob B. Baker, sr.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Stonebrook and little daughter, of Catonsville, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Parks this week.

Mrs. Carey Saddler and daughter Jeannette, spent a few days last week in Baltimore, with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Saddler.

Mr. Neavitt King, of Baltimore, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver C. King last Thursday.

Mrs. Rose Hurley, of Baltimore visited friends in town a few days last week.

Mrs. William Rada spent a few days last week with relatives and friends in Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Hersey Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Walls Johnson and daughter, of Baltimore, spent the week-end with their father, Mr. Harry Johnson.

Miss Muriel O'Donnell, a nurse at Emergency Hospital, Easton, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harryy O'Donnell on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hiltz and son Harold, of Baltimore, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Horney and family.

Mrs. Charles Smith has returned home after spending some time in Baltimore with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Horney and son Mervin, visited relatives in Baltimore over the week-end. Mrs. Horney remained for a few days.

Miss Carolyn Coursey of Strayer's Business College of Baltimore, was home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Coursey for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Howard and son Walter, were week-end guests of relatives and friends in Wilmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clevenger and son Winifred, spent Sunday in Salisbury with Mr. and Mrs. William K. Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Pierson spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schlegal in Denton.

Mr. Leon Burns visited his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Collier in Baltimore over the week-end. Mr. Burns was the lucky winner of fifty dollars last Monday evening at the Queen Theatre.

Mrs. Omer O'Donnell was a Sunday guest of her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Lewis at Chester.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Thompson and family had as their guests a few days last week, Mrs. Otis Councill and sons Bobby and Kenneth, of Baltimore; also Mr and Mrs. Clyde Collier and sons, Gene and Francis of Easton on Saturday.

STEVENSVILLE

Mr. Daniel Hopkins met with a very painful accident on Saturday. He had climbed to the roof of his dwelling to fix the chimney, and slipped, falling to the ground. He is now confined to the bed, with a sprained ankle, and back. His many friends hope that he will soon be out again.

Miss June Snyder spent the week-end in Baltimore with her sister, Miss Mary Snyder.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Derrickson, of Milford, Del., week-ended with Miss Genevieve Long.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Clark and daughter Nancy, spent Sunday in Philadelphia.

Mr. William E. Denney, jr., and Mr. John Walter Gibson attended a buffet supper at the Wicomico Hotel in Salisbury, last Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Harry P. Breeding and sons, Norman and Ted were in Baltimore on Saturday.

Mrs. Charles M. Bright, Mrs. Lee Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Kirwan and Miss Mary Cockey motored to Delmar, Del., on Sunday to visit with their former pastor and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph C. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hardesty and son Bobby and Mrs Eugene Hardesty, all of Wilmington, were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Harper. Mrs. Harper accompanied them home for a visit.

Miss Beatrice Roe, of Dominion was a guest Sunday of Miss Ruth Kolata.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wilkins spent the week-end with his parents at Willards.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill McCully were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cockey.

Mr. and Mrs. James Downes and sons David and Carvel, and Mrs. Moffett, of Randalltown, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Denney Downes.

Mr. Gordon Warren and Miss Laura Fritzz, of Reading, Pa., Mr. Francis Price, of near Centreville, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Price and daughter Peggy, were guests at the home of Mr. Walter

Miss Julia Norman spent the week-end in Baltimore with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. John White.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Sudler Cockey, jr., entertained the following guests over the week-end: Dr. and Mrs. F. J. Novak; Mr. C. D. Cann, and Mr and Mrs Ralph Hoyt, of Baltimore; Mr and Mrs. N. V. Wright, of Washington, D. C., and Mr. James Poynter, of Pittsburg, Pa.

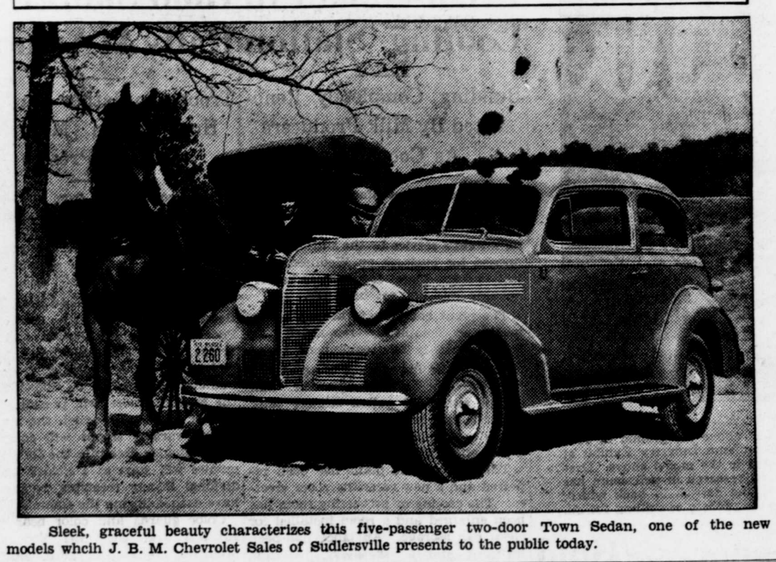
Mrs. Russum Legg, Mrs. Harris Legg and Mrs.. Gordon Benton, motored to Wilmington, on Friday. Mrs. Legg remained for the week-end with relatives.

Mr. Edward Hopkins and Mr. James Ross, of Baltimore, were week-end guests of Mr. Daniel Hopkins.

Mr. and Mrs J. Harry Tolson, Mr. John Henry Towson and Mr. Will Tolson, motored to Baltimore Sunday to visit with Mrs. James Kelley who recently undewent a major operation at the Wo'man's Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Simms, of Washington, D. C., Mr. Herbert Edenfield, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Collier, Mr. Howard Walters and daughter Virginia Lee, Misses Alva and Betty Collier, Messrs. Percy and Joseph Collier, Mr. and Mrs. James L. Greaves and Miss Louise Greaves spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lucas.

Chevrolet Master 85 Town Sedan



Sleek, graceful beauty characterizes this five-passenger two-door Town Sedan, one of the new models whcih J. B. M. Chevrolet Sales of Sudlersville presents to the public today.

QUEEN ANNE

Miss Madeline Ashbe and Miss Eleanor Flowers, of Washington, D. C., spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. James Briscoe, of Salisbury, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Briscoe.

The Woman's Home Missionary Society of Hillsboro M. E. Church met on Wednesday afternoon of last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Sylvester, near town.

Mrs. Marion Covey and Mr. Thurman Covey were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Bennington, of Ridgely. Mrs. Bennington is a niece of Mrs. Covey.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Barto, of Takoma Park, Washington, D. C., were rceent guests of Mrs. Barto's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgan.

Mrs. M. E. Diggans and Mrs. James Mullikin have returned from a fortnight's visit with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jarman, of Berlin. Mr. and Mrs. Jarman and Mrs. Wyatt accompanied them home and were overnight guests of Mrs. Diggan's and her sister, Mrs. Mullikin, on Wednesday of last week.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Hillsboro held their annual public supper on Tuesday evening in the church house adjoining the church. A delicious menu was offered, and evidently enjoyed by those present.

Members of the Hillsboro-Queen Anne Boy Scout troop who attended the Court of Honor at Centreville on Wednesday evening of last week were: Scotumaster Lolyd Fleming, Rawley Sparks, Billy Messix, Bernard Sparks, jr., Harry Gibson, jr., Billy Moore, Vaughn Pepper, Charles Cannon Barton, Billy Murphy, Neil Chaires, George P. Murphy, Tommy Lynch, Billy Watts, Irvin Staats, Emmett Sylvester.

Earle Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Morgan, celebrated his birthday last Friday evening by entertaining a number of his young friends at a party at his home.

To The Taxpayers of Queen Anne's County:

Do you realize that you will pay the bill, if you elect the Politicians to office, who spend Thousands of dollars for vote buying, bribery and corruption?

The Politicians do not spend Thousands of dollars to be elected to an office that pays only a few hundred dollars.

The Politicians know that if they are elected they will get their money back. This money comes from the Taxpayer's pocket.

Do not be deceived by the Politicians smooth talk and fine excuses.

All Government money that the Politicians are so free and generous with, be it National, State or County, comes from the pockets of the Taxpayers.

It is time for the Taxpayers to stop this political corruption.

Teach the Politicians a lesson in the coming November election.

Vote the Republican Ticket, for clean and honest Government.

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

1. We condemn the practice of buying votes and will do all in our power to eliminate this evil.
2. Enforcement of all laws and more enforcement officers.
3. Economy and honesty in government.
4. Pay as you go. No increase in Taxes or Bond Issues.
5. Gasoline Tax to be earma[illegible]nd used only for the roads.
6. Repeal the Tax on Intangible Personal Property.

Published by Authority of Republican State Central Comittee.

REPUBLICAN TICKET

STATE SENATE
E. W. STERLING

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
CLINTON B. BAKER
PHILIP W. REEVES

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HARRY T. BARTON
ELMER GOLT
M. C. SHERMAN

COUNTY TREASURER
HOWARD B. PYLE

SHERIFF
RAYMOND T. COURSEY

REGISTER OF WILLS
CHARLES M. WEBSTER

ORPHANS' COURT
JONATHAN CHANCE
GUY T. HARMON
GEORGE LANE