# WORRIED ABOUT NEAL & CO.

## *DEPOSITORS, YOU SEE, DON'T LIKE HYPNOTISM IN BANKING.*

**Not Exactly a Run on the What-Dy'e-Call-It Bank, Yesterday, but Some of the Folks With Money in It Wanted to Know, You Know—So Mr. Neal Explains Again**

E. Virgil Neal, senior member of the banking firm of E. Virgil Neal & Co., and a stockholder in the Columbia Scientific Academy, both doing business on the fourth floor of the building at 1931 Broadway, called up THE SUN office on the telephone early yesterday afternoon and said:

"That article printed in this morning's SUN about the Columbia Scientific Academy and the bank has caused the bank some annoyance. Some of our depositors have been around this morning to find out what it all meant. They were uneasy, you see, about the money they had on deposit with us and were inclined at first to withdraw their accounts. I told them it was all a mistake about the bank and I'd like to have THE SUN to do something about it."

A reporter was directed to find out just what Mr. Neal wanted done, and to the reporter the banker explained as follows:

"I didn't care what THE SUN said about the academy and Mr. Robertson, president of the institution, doesn't care what the English editor, Mr. Labouchere says about it, but it was wrong to mix up the bank with the academy. There's no connection between the two."

"THE SUN didn't say there was," said the reporter. "On the contrary, it quoted you as saying that there was no connection between the two."

"I know that," said Mr. Neal, "but you called it a 'hypnotic bank' and that's what caused me a lot of trouble. Some of our depositors, who read the article, got the notion that the bank was teaching hypnotism. Now it isn't a hypnotic bank and it doesn't teach hypnotism and has nothing to do with hypnotism. It has nothing to do with the Columbia Scientific Academy. I happen to be a stockholder in the academy, but Mr. Robertson is not interested in the bank to the extent of a dollar. To be sure, Mr. Robertson was once a banker, and the bank is at the front end of this floor and the academy at the other, but that's just a coincidence you know. I'm a stockholder in the New York Central railroad, but that doesn't indicate that the railroad is interested in either our academy or our bank. Besides, the academy doesn't put out a course in hypnotism. It just throws in some literature on hypnotism, free of charge, with its regular courses."

On Monday, Mr. Neal said he was president of the bank and mentioned the names of other officers and the directors. Yesterday he was particular to speak of the bank as being conducted by the firm of E. Virgil Neal & Co. He said the members of the firm were himself, Anton Masterson (it was J. I. Masterson, Monday), C. W. Robbins and L. M. Wilson. Mr. Robbins, Mr. Neal explained on Monday, has no connection with the Columbia Scientific Academy, except to write glowing letters about the academy's courses.

"Who's L. M. Wilson?" Mr. Neal was asked.

"She's Miss Lila M. Wilson who lives in West 104th street," said the banker-academician. "She used to be a private secretary in the office of Redding, Kidder & Greeley. Then she was my secretary for a while, but she inherited a good deal of money, $20,000 or $30,000 and now she doesn't do anything. She invested about $5,000 in our firm.

"How many stockholders have you?" the banker was asked.

"Upwards of twenty, and our deposits amount to about $35,000. But if you want to know anything about us, here's a report on us made by R. G. Dun & Co., which a friend of mine just happened to send to me this morning. It was made some time ago and is incorrect in some particulars, but it will show you something about us. I make it a point to tell all our depositors to look up our rating before they open accounts with us. You see, they have nothing to secure them, but our individual responsibility."

Mr. Neal read a report from R. G. Dun & Co. to the effect that Neal had told the agency that the capital of the banking firm was $25,000, all paid in. The report stated that the members of the firm, collectively, were undoubtedly worth much more than $25,000. The report also stated that Mr. Neal used to run the National Protective Association of the United States.

"What became of that concern?" asked the reporter.

"I'm under the impression that it's still in existence."

"What is it?"

"Oh, we used to sell insurance policies."

"As a matter of fact, isn't it doing business right here in this building?"

"Come to think of it, I believe it is," replied Mr. Neal. "But I have nothing to do with it now."

"Had any run on your bank to-day?"

"Well, not exactly what you might call a run, but we've had calls from several of our depositors, who thought of drawing out their money after they read THE SUN. But I showed them that statement from Dun & Co., and told them the article was a mistake and that we were all right. Most of them went away satisfied, but some reduced their deposits, one by a little more than 50 per cent. Now, as I said, I don't care about what you said regarding the academy, but I'd like to have it made plain that there's no connection between that and the bank."

It was said at the office of the State Superintendent of Banks yesterday that the State Bank Department has no jurisdiction over such concerns as the "Banking House of E. Virgil Neal & Co." Supt. Kilburn said at Albany last night: "So far as any legal supervision of such concerns goes, there is none. They can run their business like a grocery store."

# *WOUNDED BUFFALO HIT HIM.*

**Man the Indian Rag Puncher Punched Needed Stitches in His Scalp.**

Wounded Buffalo, a long-haired Mohawk Indian, nearly scalped a man on Broadway near Franklin street yesterday afternoon. Wounded Buffalo, who says he's a graduate of Carlisle, '89, is a bag puncher and boxer by profession.

He was walking up Broadway shortly after noon yesterday when two men in overalls bumped against him. Wounded Buffalo turned around and hit one of them. The man fell down and cut his head so badly that an ambulance surgeon put five stitches in his scalp. A policeman came along and took Wounded Buffalo to the station house. The man he knocked down was Frank Rumpen, a plumber of 521 West 126th street, who admitted that he had been drinking. His injuries weren't serious and he appeared in court against Wounded Buffalo.

Wounded Buffalo told the clerk that his name was Louis Simpson and that he lived at 23 Watts street. He explained that he found that name more convenient than Wounded Buffalo in New York. He did not appear to be at all savage and the Magistrate let him go.

**Better Suburban Trolley Service.**

A through trolley service on the Bath Beach and Coney Park lines was begun yesterday morning. The transfer station at Thirty-sixth street was abolished and residents of Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Bay Ridge Park and Fort Hamilton were taken through to Manhattan and to Fulton, South and Hamilton ferries.

**Ridiculous Irish Costumes Barred.**

The combined Irish societies have adopted a ruling that no one who wears a costume tending to ridicule or degrade the Irish race will be permitted to appear at their annual masquerade in Weidler's Assembly Rooms on March 11.

# *VICTIM OF OHIO'S STRANGLER.*

**Body of the Third Wife of Murderer Knapp Found in a River.**

INDIANAPOLIS, March 3.—A body found in the Ohio River at the New Albany wharf was identified this morning as that of Hannah Goddard Knapp, third wife of murderer Alfred Knapp, who recently confessed in Hamilton, Ohio, that he killed the woman. This is the link of evidence necessary to convict him of the crime and bring about his execution.

The identification was made positive by a band around the woman's ankle and a small gold ring on her finger. A scar on the forehead also tallied with her description. The body was thrown into the Miami River by Knapp, according to his confession, on Dec. 22. Knapp has also confessed to the murder of his second wife, Jennie Conner Knapp; Mary Eckart, a Cincinnati woman; a child in Hamilton, Ohio, and Ida Gebhard, a West Indianapolis girl, whom he first assaulted. He strangled all his victims.

# *BUCKLIN PREJUDGED, HE SAYS.*

**Ex-Justice Fursman Says He Can't Be Fairly Tried Here.**

The argument in the motion made by ex-Justice Fursman for a change of venue for the trial of David W. Bucklin, Canfield's manager, was heard yesterday by Supreme Court Justice McCall, and after some impassioned oratory on both sides, the papers were submitted and decision reserved. Justice McCall refused to modify the stay recently obtained by Bucklin's counsel which stopped all proceedings against the alleged gambler. He said he would have to refer that matter to Justice MacLean, who granted the stay.

Justice Fursman said that the newspapers had denounced Bucklin, Canfield and Frank Farrell and their counsel so much that the general public had condemned Bucklin unheard, and it would be impossible for him to get a fair trial in this county. The public had been led to believe that these alleged gamblers were so bad that they had conspired to assassinate the District Attorney.

"One paper," he said, "has actually dared to warn and reprove Gov. Black and myself for taking retainers to defend these people. It is of no consequence that the charges made are not true; the public mind has become so inflamed that the accused have been prejudged felons and criminals. I know of no case where a change of venue was so imperatively needed."

The Assistant District Attorney in charge of the case told Justice McCall that if a change of venue were granted in this case, it would have to be granted on similar grounds in many others, and so the ends of justice would be defeated.

"The other side," he said, "has just bethought itself of this move, after an agreement had been reached for the trial of the case last month. These gambling cases have not had one-twentieth the notoriety that many famous criminal cases have had. Out of our millions of citizens here I warrant we can find plenty who have never heard of Canfield or Bucklin."

# *GIVES CIGARS AWAY.*

**Dealer in Specially Made Ones Jumps Into the Merry War.**

The retail cigar war reached an advanced stage yesterday when Morten & Co. at 44 Beaver street announced that they would give cigars away.

Last week Acker, Merrall & Condit and then the United Cigar Stores Company cut the price of imported Havanas.

Yesterday Morten & Co. published this announcement:

"We're in it too. We will give away cigars to all customers on our books to date."

When asked to explain the advertisement Mr. Morten said:

"The ostensible war between Acker, Merrall & Condit and the United Cigar Stores Company is undoubtedly part of a scheme to drive out of business the unfortunate retail dealer. It is obvious that when the small retail dealer and shopkeeper shall have been ruined and effaced, as he undoubtedly will be, and when his competition shall have ceased, the people who will then have a free field will be able to sell to the public, any cigars, made of any tobacco, at any price they may choose to ask.

"Further than this I do not care to make any statement other than that as the corporation I represent deals only in cigars specially made to order of the finest tobacco and of extra heavy weight, we are not affected by this attempt at extermination. It is true, however, that the threat has been made that my own customers could be taken away from me if it were thought desirable. Of course, I must take my chances."

A humidor as large as a small cottage occupies most of the ground floor at the building of this firm. It is filled with boxes of cigars made to order. Most of them are twice as large as the ordinary perfecto. Some of them have the customers' initials on the paper bands and are $1.25 a piece.

# *PLAGUE IS SPREADING.*

**Case Reported in Lower California Near the United States Border.**

MEXICO CITY, March 3.—The Post Office Department has received a telegram from the postmaster at Ensenada, Lower California, near the United States border, that one case of the plague is reported there. It is believed that the disease was brought from San Francisco.

A servant employed by Dr. Moya at Villa Union, who was supposed to have the plague, plunged into the river to escape the Health Officers, and was immediately seized by an alligator and dragged beneath the water. This was the last seen of him.

Three dead bodies were found in a house on the Cerritos ranch near Mazatlan. It is supposed that their death was due to the plague. Dr. Noris has been sent to investigate.

**Dr. Muller's Forthcoming Operations.**

Numerous inquiries are reaching the downtown headquarters of the Order B'nai B'rith of 106 Forsyth street as to the operations for congenital hip dislocation, clubfoot and kindred ailments to be performed by Dr. Friedric Müller, assistant to Prof. Adolf Lorenz at Beth Israel Hospital from March 11 to March 16. Dr. Isidor Singer, president of Justice lodge, says that many of these inquiries show that the public is wrongly under the impression that Dr. Muller is to limit his labors exclusively to Jewish children of the East Side.

Dr. Muller is a Roman Catholic, and his agreeing to operate, free of charge, upon all poor Jewish cripples who may represent themselves during his sojourn in this city is simply a special favor to Dr. Singer, who is his friend and countryman and a former pupil of his father, late professor of comparative philology at the Vienna University. Neither the Beth Israel Hospital, which is open to all, regardless of color and creed, nor Dr. Muller, nor Dr. Singer has the slightest desire or intention to deprive any one afflicted of the benefits of the Lorenz method.

Applications for treatment, with detailed descriptions of the case (age, sex, congenital or by accident, &c.), may be immediately sent to 106 Forsyth street. The result will be communicated to the applicants.

**Called to Long Branch Church.**

LONG BRANCH, N. J., March 3.—The Rev. Elliott White of Newark, was to-day called to the rectorship of St. James Church, this city, which has been without a permanent rector since Dec. 1 last. It is believed that Mr. White will accept the call. If he does he will enter upon his pastoral duties at Easter time as the successor of the Rev. H. H. P. Roche, now of the Church of the Transfiguration, Philadelphia.

# MAYOR LOW, THAT COLD MAN.

## *WOULDN'T MELT IN JULY, SAYS ALDERMAN M'CALL.*

**Suspected of Operating at Albany to Take Street Openings Out of the Board's Hands—They Will Send a Committee to Try and Checkmate Him.**

"He's so cold that I think he wouldn't melt in the hottest day in July," Alderman McCall said of Mayor Low at yesterday's meeting of the board.

He attacked the Mayor for endeavoring to take away from the Aldermen by legislation some of the power that remains to them, and he called on the Aldermen's Committee on Laws and Legislation to go to Albany and oppose Senator Marshall's bill, which seeks to take from the board authority in opening and closing streets.

Alderman Goodman (Rep.) spoke up for Mr. Low and said he had been a great deal nicer to the Aldermen than his two predecessors, who used to ignore them when there was a social affair or a public reception on hand.

"I don't retract anything I have said about Mayor Low," retorted Mr. McCall. "We are getting tired of the bouquets he throws at us. I never saw, in all my life, a man so cold as that man downstairs."

Alderman Parsons—His personal attack is unseemly. I do not think we ought to sit here quietly and listen to aspersions like these on the Mayor from a member of the board.

Alderman McCall—Why, only a short time ago a committee of this board went down to see the Mayor, and if it hadn't been for my friend, Mr. Parsons, we would never have got in to see him. My friend, Mr. Parsons, has perhaps been invited to some pink teas, but in the district I come from we don't know nothing about pink teas. Our Mayor has shown what respect he has for this board when hardly before we had taken our seats here he raised a cry of bribery and then refused to act on a resolution offered by Alderman Sullivan asking for an investigation. I don't know if I am coming back as an Alderman and I propose to have my say now. I say that it is not a proper thing for the Mayor to go to Albany to ask to have the powers of his own legislative body taken away.

Alderman Parsons said that the Mayor had misunderstood the date upon which the committee that had a hard time getting to him was to call. He saw them almost immediately when he learned that they were waiting. They waited less than ten minutes.

The committee was the committee informally appointed by the Aldermen to ask the Mayor to assent to the proposition to raise the salaries of the Aldermen from $1,000 to $2,000. The Mayor told Mr. McCall and his fellow committeemen that he thought the Aldermen were more than sufficiently paid already for three or four hours' work a week.

The Aldermen voted to send its committee to Albany as proposed by Mr. McCall.

ONE OF THE BOUQUETS.

On the recommendation of Mayor Low the Aldermen adopted a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee of twelve to confer with him to devise means for the proper representation of the city at the St. Louis Exposition. The resolution provided for the inclusion on the committee of the President and Vice-Chairman of the Aldermen and the five Borough Presidents. President Fornes will select the Aldermen to go on the committee.

# *BRONX TROLLEY GRIDIRON.*

**Aldermen Not Agreed About Interborough's Proposed Franchise.**

The franchise asked for by the Interborough Railway Company to gridiron The Bronx with trolley lines was brought up at yesterday's meeting of the Aldermen and was laid over for a week.

The Board of Estimate and the company have agreed upon terms, but the form of contract must have the consent of the Aldermen. In a report signed by the majority of the Committee on Railroads the granting of the Interborough's application is recommended, but a minority report urges several modifications in the routes asked for by the company.

The principal point in the minority report is the apparent effort that is being made to keep the Interborough company from crossing Macomb's Dam bridge. The Union road wants this crossing.

# *BOUGHT COFFIN FOR HIMSELF.*

**Strange Man Said He Would Need It in a Few Hours—Did He?**

A well-dressed young man entered an undertaking establishment in Union Hill, N. J., yesterday morning and asked to see some coffins. After inspecting several he selected one asked the price and paid for it. William Necker, proprietor of the shop, asked where he would send the coffin.

"Keep it here," said the young man. "I want it for my own funeral. You'll probably hear from my friends in a couple of hours."

Necker concluded that the young man contemplated suicide and reported to the police. Up to a late hour last night he hadn't heard from the young man or his friends.

# *M. WARLEY PLATZEK ROBBED.*

**The Tammany Lawyer Appears Against an Apartment House Employee.**

M. Warley Platzek of the Tammany Hall law committee, who has bachelor apartments at 439 Fifth avenue, was in Jefferson Market court yesterday as complainant against Emil Perrine of 343 West Fortieth street.

Some one stole $600 worth of clothing and other stuff from Mr. Platzek a few days ago, and Perrine, who was formerly employed in the apartment house, was arrested along with two other boys, Roscoe Norton of 826 Ninth avenue and Russel Booker of 239 West Twenty-ninth street.

Perrine was held in $500 bonds for trial and the two others were discharged.

# *DE LEON SUED FOR DIVORCE.*

**His Wife Carrie De Leon Ordered to Give Her Present Address.**

Lawyer Benjamin Pattison of Manhattan told Justice Maddox in Brooklyn yesterday that on Feb. 13 his client, Daniel De Leon, had been served with a complaint in an action begun by Carrie De Leon for an absolute divorce and that his client had not as yet put in an answer, as he could not properly do so until he knew in which county the suit was to be tried, and that a knowledge of the address of the plaintiff was absolutely necessary. He moved that the address of the plaintiff be disclosed. Justice Maddox granted the application.

**Fell Trying to Avoid Sing Sing.**

Supreme Court Justice McCall was asked yesterday to grant a certificate of reasonable doubt in the case of George H. Fell, who pleaded guilty to larceny of stock of the International Paper Company and was sentenced to three and a half years in State prison. Fell's lawyer, Michael Jacobs, told the court that his client pleaded guilty on the understanding that sentence would be suspended. Justice McCall reserved decision.

**Roosevelt Will Be at State Fair.**

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 3.—Timothy L. Woodruff returned to-day from a visit to President Roosevelt, who assured him that he would not fail to be present at the New York State Fair on Labor Day.

**$150,000 for Two New Firehouses.**

Resolutions for the expenditure of $150,000 for two new firehouses, and $70,725 to buy the plant of the Westchester Water Company were passed by the Aldermen yesterday.

# *SUBWAY TRENCH FLOODED.*

**Accident Will Delay the Work at the Harlem River Crossing.**

The subway tunnel across the Harlem River at 145th street and Lenox avenue sprang a leak at 2 o'clock yesterday morning and the excavation was flooded with water.

McMullen & McBean are the contractors. The work of excavating is about one-third finished, and the accident yesterday will set them back several weeks.

The approach to the tunnel on the Manhattan side is 1,000 feet long and is dug out nearly half way. Last Monday a slight leak was noticed under the sheeting at the eastern terimnus. That night the water began pouring in and Mr. McBean decided to let the entire trench fill with water. It will then be pumped out and the exact location of the leak found. The excavation is 33 feet wide and 40 feet deep.

There were no workmen in the trench at the time of the accident.

# *AMES REQUISITION BLOCKED.*

**Habeas Corpus Writ Prevents the Return of the Ex-Mayor to Minneapolis.**

HANCOCK, N. H., March 3.—A petition for a writ of habeas corpus on behalf of ex-Mayor Ames of Minneapolis, the requisition for whom has been honored in this State, was granted by Judge Pike of the Superior Court at Manchester this afternoon and made returnable in Manchester on Wednesday, March 11, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. This will mean the beginning of a legal fight to prevent the removal from this State of the fugitive former Mayor for trial for bribery.

The move was expected, and if it does not prevent the doctor's ultimate return it will have the effect of a long delay. Nine different questions are raised by the counsel for Ames, United States District Attorney Hamblett of Nashua among them. The point is made that the State law of New Hampshire, permitting the fixing of a certain day for the delivery of such a prisoner as Ames, rather than on demand, is against the Constitution and laws of the United States. On this point alone it would be possible to make a fight which, if carried to the United States Supreme Court, would make a delay of three years.

This order of Judge Pike prevents the delivery to Sheriff Dreger of Hennepin county, Minn., ordered by the Governor two weeks ago. He cannot now be yielded up to the Western officers until after the hearing on the question raised by him, and not then until all appeals from the decision of the court upon them have been settled.

The application for the writ, which was signed by Dr. Ames in a shaky hand on March 2, was sworn to before John R. Spring, Mr. Hamblett's law partner, acting as Justice of the Peace. It sets forth that the petitioner, Albert A. Ames, is "illegally restrained of his liberty by Nathaniel Doane, Sheriff of Hillsborough county, who claims to hold your petitioner by virtue of an arrest made in pursuance of an Executive warrant on a requisition from the Governor of the State of Minnesota."

# *GERMANS INDORSE LOW.*

**Praise for the Administration at the Meeting of Their League.**

The general committee of the German-American League held its annual meeting at its headquarters, Beethoven Hall, 210 Fifth street, last night, with 130 delegates present. The president, Carl Scheuer, in his opening address said that the league heartily indorsed the present administration and referred to it as the most honest and efficient in the city's history. Ludwig F. Thoma was elected president.

# *WHO PAYS FIREWORKS DAMAGES?*

**City Will Try to Shift Liability for Explosion on to Permit-Holder.**

Four suits for personal damage by the Murray Hill subway explosion and the Madison Square fireworks disaster have been brought against the city. As to the first class of suits the city is advised that Contractor McDonald is responsible. As to the second the Corporation Counsel will endeavor to shift the liability on to the holder of the city's permit for the fireworks show, W. R. Hearst.

**Boy Stabber Identified by His Victim.**

Fourteen-year-old William Pape of 314 Union avenue, Williamsburg, was arrested early yesterday morning at his home and later positively identified as the person who on Monday afternoon stabbed and seriously wounded Stanislaus Wilamowski, a fourteen-year-old Lithuanian of 71 North Sixth street, while he was going into the yard of the public school in North Seventh street near Bedford avenue. Willamowski is in the Eastern District Hospital in a critical condition. He identified Pape as his assailant. In the Lee Avenue police court Magistrate Higginbotham committed him in the care of the Childrens' Society pending a further hearing.

**Girl Who Died in Sunday School Buried.**

The Rev. Roland S. Dawson, pastor of the Ainslie Street Presbyterian Church in Williamsburg, yesterday conducted the funeral service for Emma Rausch, the nine-year-old girl who choked to death on Sunday afternoon in the Sunday school room. Many floral pieces were sent by the various societies of the church. The Rev. Mr. Dawson and Charles Follett, the superintendent of the Sunday school, made addresses. The burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery. The church defrayed the entire expenses of the funeral.

**Noise of Trolley Cars Shortened Life.**

The funeral of Mrs. Sophia Muller, wife of Conrad Muller, an old and prominent resident of Bergen Point, N. J., took place yesterday from her late home, Fifth street and Avenue C. Mrs. Muller was 60 years old. Her family alleges that her death was hastened by the noise made by the trolley cars turning the curve in front of the house, bringing on nervous prostration.

**Countess Sellern Left $1,856,816.**

The appraisal of the estate of Countess Sellern, who was a daughter of Mrs. Anna Woerishoffer and who died in September, 1901, shows that she owned personal property worth $1,856,874. The bulk of it goes to her husband, Count Charles Sellern, a British subject.

**A. J. Marberg Elected President of Pastime A. C.**

The annual election of the Pastime A. C. was held last night at the clubhouse, Sixty-sixth street and East River, and contrary to expectation there was not much excitement. But there was a full gathering of members. It was generally expected there would be a hot contest between "Johnny" Boyle and A. J. Marberg for the presidency, but the Boyle retainers weakened at the crucial moment and their champion had to step down and out. This passing of Boyle is the termination of a fight with the Metropolitan Association of the A. A. U. precipitated about two years ago by Boyle and the late Senator "Jim" Fassler. The new officers of the club elected without opposition are:

President, A. J. Marberg; vice president, D. J. Brennan; treasurer, F. A. Lemple; recording secretary, F. P. Vaughn; financial secretary, H. Kelly; Board of Governors, Robert Spitzer; lieutenant captain, James F. Brown.

For the past couple of months it was expected that the Boyle faction would show fight but the nominating committee, which was friendly to Boyle, failed to comply with the club's constitution and did not post its selection on Feb. 16. Then Secretary Andrews started to gather a lot of proxies, and friends of Marberg thought that at the last moment Boyle would be nominated. Such, however, proved groundless for a circular to the members killed the proxy game.

# TRAVIS ARRAIGNS MATCH PLAY

## *FORMER CHAMPION ON PRESENT AMATEUR PLAYING CONDITIONS.*

**He Would Retain the Qualifying Round, but Have Only Thirty-two Keep On—How the Pairings Should Be Made—Emphatic Talk From the Noted Golfer**

Walter J. Travis, the former National and present Metropolitan Golf Association champion, put himself on record yesterday as to the conditions he favored for the amateur championship. What he said is of especial importance at this time as the executive committee of the United States Golf Association has taken the stand that those who oppose the present way of playing the amateur championship would substitute for it match play without a qualifying round, the plan followed in Great Britain. THE SUN, on last Sunday, showed the fallacy of this point of view, the opposition that developed at the annual meeting having been against the large number to qualify and the system of pairing, not against the qualifying round or the principle it stands for.

The present system, introduced last year, permits sixty-four to qualify at eighteen hole medal play, who keep on at eighteen hole match play, to the semi-final and final, which are at thirty-six holes. Walter J. Travis is not of a very communicative nature, but as his remark at the U. S. G. A. meeting that "any system was better than the present one" has been twisted into an indorsement of straight match play, he was found willing to break the silence he usually maintains on questions of golf policy.

"There is every reason why I should speak freely on the subject, as I did not have an opportunity to express myself at the United States Golf Association meeting regarding the playing conditions of the amateur championship and I have since received a number of inquiries asking my opinions about them," said Mr. Travis. "Frankly, I am not in sympathy with the method of pairing as adopted last year. Theoretically, the object sought was to make it impossible, by the 'luck of the draw,' for a player of comparatively weak caliber to reach the final round. The aim was so to divide the players as to secure half of the strongest in each division; the winner of a match to progressively meet a stronger player each round and so insure the final being played by the two best men.

"We need only look at the practical working of the system on the two occasions on which it has been tried—the Metropolitan and the National championships respectively—to see that it utterly failed of its purpose," continued the noted golfer with considerable emphasis. "The cause is not far to seek. The plan is based on false premises in that the pairings at match play are decided by the players' performances at medal play. Now, the two branches of the game are entirely distinct from each other. One man may be a poor medal player and yet a good match player, and vice versa. Obviously, any attempt to arrive at any definite results, in these circumstances, almost bound to fail. Then again, no proper provision is made for the medal play. The theory, joined to the fact that the difference of each single stroke in the score theoretically determines the allocation of the players in the two divisions, upper and lower, but by reason of ties does not do so practically, leads to complication and invites defeat of the desired aim by having one of the divisions very much stronger than the other. Moreover, the system is wrong in principle in that it confusedly discriminates against the weaker player. After a man has qualified he should not be discriminated against. All should be on the same plane. Whoever devised the system has not disclosed his identity, for which he cannot be blamed.

"One reason why some people favored a change from the old method," said Mr. Travis in reminiscent vein, "was on account of the well-grounded suspicion that the draw was not a legitimate one. It has even been admitted that this has been the case.

"How can a better method be obtained?

"The game now is essentially the same in principle that it was ten or twenty years ago," answered Mr. Travis. "The only modern problem is the handling of a big crowd. The idea of having a preliminary round at medal play grew out of a desire to reduce the field to a workable basis. This was the plan adopted in the U. S. G. A. championships from 1896 to 1901, inclusive, and it is the same plan which now obtains generally throughout the country in open tournaments. Experience has demonstrated that it works well. I thoroughly believe in the retention of the preliminary round. No man should be considered a finished golfer, certainly not a champion, unless he can combine reasonable proficiency at score play with high abilities as a match player. The result of the preliminary round has a certain sentimental value—which is worth a great deal—in that in a way it fixes the ranking of the contestants, something it is entirely lacking in match play pure and simple. Moreover, it is essentially an American idea, and a very good one, and its abandonment now would be a tacit admission that we have seen the error of our ways, which I, for one, am not prepared to admit at all."

"Would straight match play be an advance or a retrogression?

"Undoubtedly a step backward. I fail to see any advantage whatever in discarding the qualifying round and having match play only. Match play is open to the objection that there is a greater chance of a comparatively poor player reaching his way by winning matches to the final in a big field, say of 140, than in a field of thirty-two, if assisted by the 'luck of the draw,' as the thirty-two who have qualified have proved, in a way, their superiority over the remaining 108. The logical proof of this may be found by reducing the number of qualifiers, for instance, to eight.

"Any one of the qualifiers may reasonably be counted on to drive his opponent a far better match than a player who, at score play, would finish in, say, the seventieth place. Moreover, with a field of thirty-two ready for the business in hand, there is bound to be a better exposition of play. It's a case of 'play ball' from the start. The 'luck of the draw' may possibly bring two of the strongest players together the first round, whether the field be composed of thirty-two or 140, but that, like a bad lie, is part of the game and must be borne with. Anyway, only one can win, even in the final.

"I should like to see the field of contestants for the championship confined to men who have won their spurs. This, however, seems impossible, at all events at present. Conditions being as they are, I am in favor of reverting to the old plan of having a preliminary qualifying round at medal play, with but thirty-two to qualify. Extending the number to sixty-four men invites the very thing that the U. S. G. A. has sought to avoid in the past, that is, an overwhelming number of entries. Up to the last year, I believe no man qualifying worse than tenth ever reached the semi-final.

"If possible the qualifying round should be played on Monday and the thirty-two qualifying should play matches at thirty-six holes on each subsequent day. With a big field it becomes physically impossible to complete the round the first day. When such is the case I would have eighteen holes on Monday and eighteen holes on Tuesday, at medal play. The first and second rounds at match play should be at eighteen holes and played on Wednesday, the subsequent rounds each at thirty-six holes, which would round out the week.

"I am also in favor of the names of the thirty-two qualifiers being placed in a hat and drawn, not in secret session, but in plain view of all concerned."

The Garden City Golf Club has fixed on Thursday, April 30; Friday, May 1, and Saturday, May 2, for its second annual invitation tournament. The programme will be the same as last year, a morning qualifying round, with cups for the first three sixteens to qualify and one for the beaten eight in the first round for the first cup, and also an eighteen-hole handicap. Last May Travis won the score medal after a tie with P. H. Jennings at 80. Travis also won the first cup, Paul Murphy the second, J. W. Baker the third and J. L. Taylor the fourth. The handicap was won by Patrick Grant after a tie with Horace Russell and F. O. Reinhart.

The second of the visitors mixed team matches between the Charleston and the Summerville, S. C., clubs was played on Saturday on the Summerville links. The scores follow:

Women—Charleston—Miss Hortbeck, 0; Miss Frost, 0; Miss Chisholm, 0; Mrs. Mayberry, 0; Miss Hacker, 3; Miss Walker, 0. Total, 3.

Summerville—Mrs. Backus, 9; Miss Pauline Ramadell, 15; Miss C. Campbell, 6; Miss Gadsden, 4; Mrs. Hutchinson, 0; Miss E. Campbell, 8. Total, 42.

Men—Charleston—Kollock, 0; Rhett, 0; Dwight, 0; Wilbur, 0; Whaley, 3; Truley, 0; Rodgers, 0; Carey, 0. Total, 3.

Summerville—Moore, 5; Mackey, 4; Jenkins, 1; Miler, 0; Waring, 0; Furman, 8; Carroll, 3; Walker, 0. Total, 21.

PINEHURST, March 3.—The fifth event in the handicap golf fixtures played yesterday for the Tufts cups, offered for the best net and gross scores, drew a large field. I. C. H. Dana, New York city, won the net score cup with 81, 18—73, and W. C. Chick, Boston, the gross score cup with 84, 0—84. A unique tournament, in which putting was done with the driver and driving done with the putter, was won by Miss Carrie Check of East Orange.

PALM BEACH, March 3.—The semi-final and final in the Women's championship was played to-day. Miss Grace Ellis and Mrs. A. C. Work played in the final, Miss Ellis winning by 3 up and 2 to play. The scores:

Championship cup; semi-final—Miss Grace Ellis beat Mrs. T. M. Cook, 4 up, 3 to play; Mrs. A. C. Work beat Miss A. E. Murray, 2 up, 1 to play; final—Miss Grace Ellis beat Mrs. M. C. Work, 3 up 2 to play.

Consolation cup; semi-final—Miss M. F. Page beat Mrs. A. B. Goodrich, 2 up, 1 to play; Miss Stotesbury beat Mrs. W. Baird, 2 up, 1 to play; final—Miss M. F. Page beat Miss Stotesbury, 3 up, 1 to play.

In a four-ball match to-day, A. H. Fenn and C. B. Cory against John Moller, Jr., and A. H. Findlay, A. H. Fenn lowered the professional record of the course one stroke. The scores were: A. H. Fenn, 67; C. B. Cory, 76; John Moller, Jr., 71; A. H. Findlay, 79. Fenn and Cory won by 2 up.

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# *HERMAN'S LIBERAL OFFER.*

**Promoter Ready to Deposit Half Purse for Jeffries to Meet Corbett.**

Jack Herman, matchmaker of the International A. C. of Fort Erie, left for Buffalo last night with $6,000 tucked away in his inside pocket. This money represents forfeits for two battles which the Canadian club failed to secure, namely, the McGovern-Benny Yanger tilt and the Jim Corbett-Jim Jeffries fight. Herman, when in New York, a few weeks ago deposited $5,000 in support of his offer of a $25,000 purse for a scrap between Jeffries and Corbett. He withdrew the amount yesterday, also $1,000 which represented the forfeit for Terry's bout with Yanger, which was to have been decided on March 16. Herman is much disappointed in losing both contests, especially the one between Yanger and McGovern. Herman, however, is still hopeful of securing an important attraction for his club, and has already taken steps to land a mill between Bob Fitzsimmons and Tommy Ryan.

"I am ready to give the men a purse of $10,000," said Herman to THE SUN reporter yesterday. "I have notified Fitzsimmons to this effect, and I think he will accept. Ryan, seemingly, is anxious to box Fitzsimmons, and I really believe that they will eventually come together. I am ready to hold the battle either during the month of May or June. They can meet earlier, if they care to, but a later date would be preferable. I cannot understand why Corbett and Jeffries did not decide to accept my purse of $25,000 and fight at Fort Erie. I am willing to do anything that is reasonable, and if they are satisfied to accept I will place half of the purse in cash with any bank they may name. If we fail to go ahead with our agreement they can make $6,250 each, which is enough, I think, to compensate them for their trouble. I would not do this if I thought there was any chance of the authorities stepping in and stopping it. If Young Corbett and McGovern fail to meet at San Francisco, the International A. C. will bid for the fight."

# *RYAN EVADES FITZ.*

**Names New Conditions for a Battle With the Lanky Cornishman.**

Tommy Ryan now announces that he will fight Bob Fitzsimmons, but names a number of peculiar conditions which may prevent the pair from coming together. Ryan is at present at Hot Springs, Ark., where he is nursing a mild attack of malaria. In a despatch to a friend in this city yesterday Ryan said: "Being the middleweight champion and having won the title by constantly meeting and defeating all comers, I still stand ready to meet Fitzsimmons or any other boxer in the world who will come within the middleweight limit. It was but a month ago that this same Fitzsimmons when asked to fight me said he would do so if he received two weeks to get into condition. This I said I would do, and while he is doing this I will do the same.

"Lanky Bob" does not like the idea of waiting a year for a fight. He is ready to box Ryan next summer. Sporting men are ready to condemn Ryan's latest manifesto, and believe that he is not sincere regarding a fight. They contend that he may have been laboring under the impression that Fitz could not reduce to 158 pounds when he (Ryan) issued his original deft to the Cornishman. Now that Bob says he can do the weight and there are plenty of clubs willing to bid for it, the impression prevails that Ryan should take a match to take place within six months time.

**Hitch in Corbett-Jeffries Mill.**

A hitch has cropped up in the proposed mill between Jim Jeffries and Jim Corbett which was arranged the other day. It is regarding the stipulation agreed upon that the purse offered should not be less than $25,000. It now appears that the club in San Francisco will not give this sum, but will insist on the pugilists having it out for a percentage. A despatch from San Francisco adds that the Bayes Valley A. C. would give 15 per cent of the gross receipts for the encounter, but no more. It is understood that the other clubs in California will follow suit. It is not at all likely that the fighters will agree to the terms in view of the fact that the big fellows do not draw as well in San Francisco as in former years.

Corbett has already drawn up the articles of agreement which, it is expected, will be signed by both managers in Baltimore to-morrow. In the papers Corbett has inserted that the purse must not be less than $25,000. The other clauses are to the effect that the men may wear soft bandages, that bids are to be left open until April 1, the stakes to be forwarded to Harry Corbett in San Francisco and Tom O'Rourke in New York. Both fighters will deposit $1,000 on signing the articles and the club securing the scrap must put up $5,000 as an assurance of good faith. The referee is to be chosen by Sept. 1, before the mill, which is to be held either in June or July next, the winner to receive 75 per cent of the gate receipts and the loser 25 per cent.

**National League Meeting To-day.**

The National League schedule meeting will be held at the Victoria Hotel to-day, and it is expected that the revised schedule will be given out. The ratification of the proceedings in Chicago also is on the programme and the returning Col. Rogers of Philadelphia will introduce his successors to their fellow magnates and perhaps make a valedictory address. Julius Fleischmann of Cincinnati reached town yesterday.


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