SPORTING TALK OF INTEREST

TOMMY BURNS MAY BRING HOME $50,000 IN COLD CASH.

His Fight With Jack Palmer in London To-day Part of a Scheme to Get All the British Gold in Sight—Origin of the "Spit Ball"—Big Betters to Get the Gate.

"Tommy Burns ought to knock Palmer out in less than five rounds," said a noted sporting man yesterday, commenting on to-day's twenty round battle between Burns and Palmer in London. "The dope shows that Palmer was neither a match for Jack (Twin) Sullivan nor for Gunner Moir. Burns could probably lick Sullivan easily, while he let Moir stay ten rounds with him, whereas, if it hadn't been for the pictures that were taken of the mill, Burns would probably have scored a clean knockout in two or three rounds, if not in one. Burns is a slugger and also a good boxer. He is an adept at the American style of boxing, while Palmer, though undoubtedly game, is slow and methodical and is no more than a third rater as to ring science. If Burns cuts loose, as he did when he put Bill Squires to sleep with a few hard wallops, Palmer will be wandering around in Queer street. If Palmer succeeds in staying a dozen rounds or more you can bet that Burns is not fit or is under a pull in order to clean up some cinch wagers on the length of the mill.

"A sane man wouldn't bet a dollar on Palmer, for he hasn't got one chance in a million. The English sporting public must be easy to stand for such a onesided contest, but they tell me that the people over in England nowadays will fall for any kind of a sporting bunco. They were actually made to believe that Joe Rogers, who never amounted to a row of pins as a wrestler in this country, really had a chance to beat Hackenschmidt in what turned out to be little more than a swindle. You cannot blame Burns for fighting Palmer, however, for he would be foolish to turn down such a chance to pick up a bunch of easy coin. In bets and purse money Burns will probably gather close to $10,000 out of this easy mill. But if he is wise he will go after a knockout as quickly as possible, thereby showing that he is on the level."

After Burns tackles Jim Roche, the champion of Ireland in Dublin, he says he will go to Paris, where Frenchmen, who have gone crazy over prize fighting, are anxious to have Burns run up against one or two of their countrymen or take on Sam McVey, a burly negro who is a reigning sensation in the gay metropolis just now. Burns says he will accommodate the Frenchmen provided they put up a guarantee of $10,000 cash for him, win, lose or draw. If Burns beats Roche and also tackles the Paris proposition he will return here with nearly $50,000 in cold cash, as a result of his good business judgment. Then he will have to take some real chances with his laurels, for he has agreed to make a match with the negro Jack Johnson, who has repeatedly challenged the French-Canadian. Burns and Johnson will probably fight in San Francisco some time in June or July, according to present indications, unless, of course, one or the other suddenly decides to back out. Meanwhile Stanley Ketchell will probably win or lose the title of middleweight champion in a fight with the winner of the Papke-Kelly mill, which will be decided in Milwaukee in the near future. If Ketchell wins the title he will lose no time in branching out as a heavyweight, in which event he may be expected to meet the winner of the Burns-Johnson fight in about a year from now.

A New Hampshire farmer, for twenty years one of John L. Sullivan's best friends, undertook to visit the big fellow in Boston last week but had much trouble for his pains. He arrived at the Hub with two little pigs which were to be used in satisfying Sullivan's appetite, but before the rural person had walked a city block away from the railroad station he violated a city ordinance by excoriating on the sidewalk and was promptly dragged to the police station, pigs and all. Soon Sullivan learned of his friend's plight and quickly bailed him out, also paying his fine. John made short work of the pigs and then drove the farmer all over modern Athens in a hack, afterward handing over a box at the theatre where the big fellow was appearing with Jake Kilrain.

The origin of the "spit ball," used by nearly all of the star pitchers nowadays, has been a matter of endless discussion. Billy Hart, a veteran boxman, has just thrown some interesting light on the subject in this manner: "I notice they claim Chesbro and Stricklett were the first to discover the spit ball. Well, back in 1896, when I was pitching for St. Louis, I met Catcher Bowerman, who was with the Baltimores that year. Calling me aside in St. Louis one day, he took the ball and requested me to get back of the catcher and watch his curves. I did so and was surprised to see how the ball acted as it neared the catcher. I asked Bowerman what made the ball act so. He explained that he simply spit on the ball, held onto it with his thumb at the seam and let it go loose. The odd part of it was that there was no speed to the ball that Bowerman pitched, whereas to-day they claim that the 'spit ball' can only be delivered with speed. I mastered it after a while, but found that it injured my arm, as it brought into play muscles that were not generally used. I advise any pitcher with good speed and curves to let the 'spit ball' severely alone. It will ruin an arm of steel in due time."

Fielder Jones, the manager of the White Sox, says that he believes his team will be stronger than ever this year and that it will fight it out for the championship with Clark Griffith's New Yorks. Jones, who is conservative and careful in his criticisms, says further that Griffith has succeeded in getting together one of the fastest ball teams in America. The White Sox leader believes that the addition of Glade, Niles, Stahl and Hemphill, together with the acquisition of Pitcher Lake, will just about make Griffith's team invincible, as far as all of the other American League teams, barring Chicago, are concerned. Hugh Jennings, the Detroit manager, also Connie Mack of the Philadelphia Americans and James McGuire of the Boston Americans believe that Griffith has at last secured a sensational combination of talent. A noteworthy feature of the New York team's makeup this year will be harmony among the players. All of them believe in Griffith and his methods, which means that earnest effort and continuous hustling will be displayed by the men from the beginning of the championship race. Experts agree that Griffith has succeeded in bolstering up his pitching department, which will probably be an important factor in the New York team's play.

If McGraw can develop Merkle, his young first baseman, into a competent guardian of the second bag it will be due wholly to the fact that Merkle is a natural ball player. When Lajoie came out of a little team in Fall River to play with the Philadelphias he was a first baseman, but as he was also gifted with the unusual ability to play any position he soon developed into the great second baseman that he is to-day. Perhaps Merkle will prove another Lajoie. "The woods are full of great ball players," was the way Pop Anson put it in the old days. "But you've got to be able to tell one at first sight." McGraw thinks he has discovered the real article in the young man from Michigan.

It is an accepted fact that if the anti-race-track bills are defeated at Albany during the present session of the Legislature operations on the Jockey Club's tracks by so-called plungers will be absolutely cut out. It is said that if certain sensational bettors attempt to do business on the old lines they will "get the gate"; also that the number of bookmakers will be limited and that layers with shoestring bankrolls will not be permitted to go on. Furthermore it is reported that other drastic reforms calculated to curtail speculation will be put into effect. The turf governors intend to make it a difficult matter to wager on the horses both in and outside the racetrack enclosures. As a matter of fact this has been their policy for several years, in spite of agitators' statements to the contrary.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

Anderson Wins Invitation Run of the Mott Haven A. C.

The formidable pack of twenty-six runners gathered at the Mott Haven A. C. yesterday, and despite the biting wind covered a course of seven miles over ice coated roads. The route was along Mott avenue to Gerard and to Jerome avenue as far as Burnside avenue and back to the clubhouse at 138th street. Until the pack turned into Gerard avenue they were pretty well bunched, but the raw wind played havoc with the boys and tied up their muscles, especially those who were without long sleeved Jerseys.

For the greater part of the way there was a spirited tussle for the lead between Anderson and Dick Devlin of the Mott Haven A. C. and Hogan of the Holy Cross Lyceum. In the last mile or so Anderson showed the most strength, and sprinting along the last couple of hundred yards he won by about fifty yards from Devlin. Hogan was nearly 200 yards behind Devlin. All the runners suffered from the cold.

Following was the order at the finish and the individual times of the runners:

	M.	S.
H. Anderson, Mott Haven A. C.	36	25
R. Devlin, Mott Haven A. C.	36	38
T. Hogan, Holy Cross Lyceum	37	08
P. Healy, Mott Haven A. C.	38	46
C. Westcott, Mott Haven A. C.	38	50
J. Jennings, Holy Cross Lyceum	39	19
R. Geis, Holy Cross Lyceum	39	28
J. Devlin, Mott Haven A. C.	39	31
G. Brown, Holy Cross Lyceum	39	37
J. Trocki, Mott Haven A. C.	39	39
C. T. Harris, Star A. C.	40	10
I. Gerschanet, Mott Haven A. C.	40	20
H. J. Flater, Mott Haven A. C.	40	22
B. Pindeville, Holy Cross Lyceum	40	30
H. Rust, Mott Haven A. C.	40	31
H. Zink, Star A. C.	40	15
H. Kohl, Xavier A. A.	41	15
E. Durtnall, Dominican Lyceum	41	30
P. Hill, Mott Haven A. C.	41	32
E. Bailey, Harlem A. C.	41	35
P. McGuire, Jerome A. C.	41	38
W. Smith, Fleetwood A. C.	41	48
T. Hart, Bronx A. C.	41	55
J. Livingston, Jerome A. C.	42	10
R. Wesley, Bronx A. C.	42	78
Jim Corbett, Mott Haven A. C.	43	00

The Mott Havens hold an invitation run every Sunday, and all athletes are welcome and will be provided with accommodations.

England, France and Belgium met in an international cross-country race of eight miles at St. Cloud on the outskirts of Paris, about two weeks ago. The Birchfield Harriers represented England, the Racing Club de France, France, and the Union St. Gilloise, Belgium. The Englishmen were favorites before the start and they upheld the expectations by winning with a score of 32, to 56 for the Frenchmen and 101 for the Belgians. The first man home was J. Keyser of the Racing Club, his time being 49 minutes 12 seconds and the second man was J. Robertson of the Birchfields, two seconds later. After going a mile or so from the start Robertson made a mistake of about fifty yards, and this probably cost him first place. Keyser is only 19 years of age and holds the French national championship. It will be remembered in the match against Cambridge he won the mile in 4 minutes 23 seconds on a soft track in bad weather. He is said to be able to run the quarter in 52 seconds.

QUAKER SWIMMERS WIN.

Pennsylvania Beats College City of New York by 46 Points to 7.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9.—The University of Pennsylvania last night defeated the swimming team from the College of the City of New York by the score of 46 to 7. The 220 yard swim was won by Shyrock of Pennsylvania after one of the most spectacular races ever seen in the Pennsylvania pool. Schmitt of the College of the City of New York took the lead from the start, quickly followed by Shyrock, who was soon on even terms with his opponent. Try as he would Shyrock could not shake off Schmitt, who clung to him like a burr. With three lengths the pair fought stroke for stroke. When the pistol cracked for the last length there was only two inches between the two men. Here Shyrock made a brilliant finish and crossed the line two feet in the lead of the New York man. Summary:

100 feet; Relay Race—Won by Pennsylvania, with Dalrymple, Philler, Graham and Borden. College of the City of New York, second, with Morris, Beecker, Stern and Schmitt. Time, 2 minutes 30 3-5 seconds.

Fancy Diving—Won by Dalrymple, Pennsylvania, 78½ points; Hans, Pennsylvania, second, 150 points; Mullen, C. C. N. Y., 143 points, third.

Fifty Yard Swim—Won by Sylvester, Pennsylvania; Philler, Pennsylvania, second; Morris, C. C. N. Y., third. Time, 28 4-5 seconds.

220 Yard Swim—Won by Shyrock, Pennsylvania; Schmitt, C. C. N. Y., second; Anthony, Pennsylvania, third. Time, 2 minutes 52 seconds.

Plunge for Distance—Won by Hopkinson, Pennsylvania, 62½ points; Chaptman, Pennsylvania, 48 feet, second; Schmitt, C. C. N. Y., 36 feet, third.

100 Yard Swim—Won by Sylvester, Pennsylvania; Dairymple, Pennsylvania, second; Schmitt, C. C. N. Y., third. Time, 1 minute 4 2 5 seconds.

Water Polo—Pennsylvania, 5; College City of New York, 0.

COLLEGE ROWING.

Report That Ellis Ward May Be Replaced at Pennsylvania in 1909.

There is a report from Philadelphia that this season may be Ellis Ward's last as coach of the University of Pennsylvania crews, based chiefly, it is believed, on the opposition to his methods of some of the more recent graduates of the university. The contention has been made that Ward has not encouraged men to come out for the crews and that his methods have not been the best for the success of the oarsmen. The opponents of Coach Ward point out since the victories in varsity eight races in 1898, 1899 and 1900 that Pennsylvania has been less than moderately successful. The crew of 1906, which was second to Cornell, was Pennsylvania's best since 1900.

Some of this talk has been heard before but never before has it been said so openly and clearly that unless Ellis Ward makes good this year his term of usefulness is over. Ward has been at Pennsylvania since 1879, an unusually long term of activity as a coach. It remains to be seen after the regatta next June whether the opponents of Ward make good. In William Innes Forbes and Thomas S. Heath, two of the leading men in Pennsylvania rowing, Ward has his strongest supporters, and it appears to many that he is too strongly intrenched to be removable.

C. B. Dempster, captain of the Syracuse varsity eight in 1905, died on Thursday in Wilmington, Del., of typhoid pneumonia. Dempster was a member of the Syracuse crew which in 1904 defeated Cornell and won the regatta. He was 31 years old and survived the death of his wife, whom he married in August, 1905, by only about three months.

PENNSYLVANIA LEADS.

Quaker Five Apparently Booked to Win Basketball Title.

In the intercollegiate basketball league Pennsylvania, by play the past week, has about made it certain to win the championship. The Red and Blue have a clean score, having won four games. The best feature is that the Quakers in these four games have defeated Yale twice and Columbia once. The worst of the Pennsylvania schedule thus is over, although barring one game with Cornell at Philadelphia, the remaining are out of town.

By beating Columbia at home Yale is in second place. Cornell, improving under the direction of Haggerty, a new coach, has won a game, thus shoving Princeton into last place with a clean score—of defeats.

The tendency in basketball this season plainly has been toward rougher games. In the opinion of many the rules committee would do well to take cognizance of this condition, unless basketball is to fall into the state in which football was before its reform. The standing:

College.	W.	L.	PC.	College.	W.	L.	PC.
Pennsylvania	4	0	1.000	Cornell	1	2	.333
Yale	3	2	.600	Princeton	0	4	.000
Columbia	2	2	.500				

New Orleans Entries for To-day.

First Race—Three furlongs—Eustacian, 100; Claiborne, 103; Intervene, 105; Mellowtone, 105; Warden, 105; McNally, 108; Excelsior, 108; Servilence, 108; Craftsmaga, 109; Puddin, 112; Figgy Miller, 112; Yboy, 112; Al Read, 112; Budd, 112.

Second Race—Five and a half furlongs—Lady Almy, 107; Lady Pink, 107; Silver Ball, 107; Lady Souffle, 112; Deject, 112; Bertie, 112; Maria, 112; Joyful Lady, 112; Cilleni, 112; Mamie Manzie May, 112; Industrious, 112; Pirate Diana, 112; Brunia, 112; Nazimova, 112.

Third Race—Selling; six furlongs—Edith M., 95; Wabash Queen, 95; Elaine, 98; Impertinence, 101; Entrevous, 101; Fire Opal, 101; Theodocia, 103; Virginia Beach, 106; Workmaid, 106; Black Mantilla, 107; Etrena, 107; Pearl Hopkins, 110.

Fourth Race—Handicap; one mile and a sixteenth—St. Ilario, 90; Ismallan, 92; Sam Taylor, 92; Donna, 97; Halbard, 97; Pedro, 97; Angelus, 100; Alma Dufour, 102; Tileing, 103; Yankee Girl, 103; Lad of Langrion, 107; Pasadena, 113.

Fifth Race—Selling; six furlongs—Rose of Pink, 95; Sweet Vera, 101; Anna Scott, 103; Miss Affable, 104; Lady Ethel, 104; Topsy Robinson, 104; Tyrolian, 104; Viperine, 105; Haughty, 110; Ann Hill, 110; Mazonia, 110; Minnehaha, 110.

Sixth Race—Six furlongs—Pedigree, 90; Dew of Dawn, 90; E. T. Shipp, 92; Bitter Sir, 92; Ketchemike, 95; Eldorado, 103; Sir Toddington, 103; Conville, 103; Platoon, 104; Cablegram, 106; King's Daughter, 107; Avauntee, 107; Keator, 109.

Seventh Race—Selling; one mile and an eighth—Sainesaw, 90; Milshora, 98; Donna Elvira, 93; Lord Stanhope, 96; Lady Vincent, 97; Bright Boy, 100; Padre, 100; John McBride, 104; St. Bellane, 105; Louise MacFarlane, 107; Anna Day, 107; Amberjack, 107; Highbear, 108; Paul, 109; Adesso, 109.

HANDICAPPING RACING YACHTS

SYSTEM OF EQUALIZING CONDITIONS SUCCESSFUL.

Last Year's Contests Very Close—Forty Yachts Competed on the Sound and Took Part in Thirty-one Contests—Vessels Now Divided into Four Classes.

The system of handicapping yachts so that all vessels have a fair chance of success that has been in vogue on the Sound now for two seasons has proved to be a very popular one, and it is certain that this season there will be more racers in the class. The system is growing, too, and other associations outside of Long Island Sound are to arrange for classes. The Gravesend Bay Association has a committee now that is to try to bring together boats that are outclassed in the regular racing classes and induce their owners to race where they have fair chances of winning prizes.

There are enrolled in every yacht club boats that make good fast comfortable cruisers, but which have been outbuilt. Their owners would like to take part in some races, but realizing that they have no chance to win they will not take the trouble to fit their yachts out for such contests. With a fair system of handicapping, however, things are different. The handicap is based on the past performances of the yachts, and if is changed after each race so that the winner has to allow more time to the yachts defeated.

On the Sound Theodore Granbery is the official handicapper. It costs each owner $5 a year to belong to the association and the handicapper arranges the allowances before each race and notifies each owner so that when the race starts each yachtsman knows just what he has to do to win.

This of course means lots of work, especially during Larchmont race week, when there is racing every day, but the proof of the success of the system is shown by the number of races sailed last season and the number of starters in each race.

Handicapper Granbery has told in the current issue of the *Rudder* how he does his work and in a very complete table shows what each yacht did during the season.

Until August there were three divisions of yachts, but these had grown to such proportions that it was necessary then to make a fourth. During the season thirty-one races were arranged. Of these only one had to be postponed through lack of wind. Forty yachts took part in these races and the total number of starters was 330. In saying thirty-one races it is meant thirty-one races for all divisions of handicap yachts, but actually there were seventy-six races for the four divisions. This meant seventy-six first prizes, forty-three second prizes, twenty-three third prizes or a total of 142 prizes.

In the first division A. E. Black's Thelema won eight firsts out of twenty starts. She also took two second prizes. The Tanya owned by G. P. Granbery out of twenty-one starts won six firsts, seven seconds. The Busy Bee, owned by R. L. Cuthbert, was the biggest winner in the second division, which was composed of the old racebouts. In the third division the Monsoon, owned by B. B. Stoddard, made the best showing. In the fourth division the Montauk owned by W. Sheldon, won the most prizes. A summary of these races follows:

FIRST DIVISION.

Yacht and Owner.	Starts.	1sts.	2ds.	3ds.	Tot.
Nalad, Dr. J. B. Palmer	12	2	1	1	4
Thelema, A. E. Black	20	8	2	—	10
Mist, H. A. Jackson, Jr.	7	1	1	—	2
Tanya, G. P. Granbery	21	6	7	—	13
Little Pest, W. Rogers	7	1	1	1	3
Marguerite, W. F. Clark	9	3	—	1	4
Alert, J. W. Alker	Did not start				
Trixie, Robert Jacob, Jr.	5	2	1	—	3

SECOND DIVISION.

Howdy, G. Mercer, Jr.	12	3	3	1	7
Scamp, W. Murdock	3	—	—	—	—
Grasshopper, H. C. Pryer	3	—	—	1	1
Marjorie, J. Phillips, Sr.	Did not start				
Jolly Roger, H. L. North	13	5	—	—	5
Rascal, J. J. Dwyer	16	5	4	3	12
Busy Bee, R. L. Cuthbert	18	6	2	3	11
Jolly Tar, H. S. Duell	2	—	—	—	—
Tomboy, D. Y. Pendas	7	1	1	1	3

THIRD DIVISION.

Huntress, L. H. Dyer	13	2	—	1	3
Monsoon, B. B. Stoddard	23	4	5	1	10
Robin Hood, G. Gartland	Did not start				
Kenosha, W. R. Berth	15	4	2	—	6
Kenosha II., C. W. Voltz	10	1	3	1	4
Tamerlane, J. Boocock	11	1	1	—	2
Grace II., J. Lambden	13	2	1	—	3
Mlle. Modiste, T. J. Flint	14	3	2	1	6
Ariel J. P. M. Jack	7	1	—	—	1

FOURTH DIVISION.

Montauk, W. Sheldon	16	6	1	2	9
Answer, D. Abbott	Did not start				
Vivyen, P. D. Saxe	4	—	—	—	—
Arrow, W. R. Manny	14	3	3	1	7
Wink, F. L. Vulte	12	1	1	2	4
Okee, J. A. Mahlstedt	9	1	1	1	3
Firefly, John McCarthy	4	2	—	—	2
Bat, H. A. Jennings	3	2	1	—	3
Miss Modesty, H. Swart	7	—	—	1	1
Totals	330	75	43	23	142

Mr. Granbery says: "As an evidence of how well the members are pleased with the working of the handicap yachtracing class, it is notable that there has been no loss of membership from 1906 to 1907 for any cause other than the sale of boats except in one instance, and that was from lack of time to devote to racing.

"There has been no sulkiness or disgruntlement on the part of any member and the spirit among them has been greatly contributed to by the handicap class giving a special race at the end of the season for the purpose of promoting better acquaintance and good fellowship among the members. For these reasons the boats are constantly raced. The membership is interested because this system of ever varying percentages appeals to yachtsmen as very much more satisfactory than the old rule of inflexibly fixed time allowances which they have all tried and become discouraged by constant defeat. Whereas under the handicap system each defeat encourages them to race, as the coveted prize is more likely to fall to their lot on account of the increased percentage.

Commencing with eight members in 1906 it was merely a pastime to handicap the small number of boats, but when, in 1907, there were thirty-six boats to be handicapped in thirty-one races it became a matter of importance and serious occupation. Not only have these boats to be properly adjusted to their proper percentages, based on past performances, but when there is a long distance race all of the four divisions have to be relatively rated so that they can race as one or two divisions. If any mistake is made be sure it will be discovered and the handicapper will have the unpleasant duty of admitting he was in error. Each member watches the rating of his boat, but the maker of the percentages has the thirty-six to look after.

LIPTON'S NEW RACER.

Shamrock IV. Will Carry More Sail Than Her Rival, White Heather II.

"Great progress is now being made at Fairlie with the building of Sir Thomas Lipton's racer Shamrock IV," says the *Yachting World*. "She is wholly framed up and a considerable proportion of the planking is already in place. As was the case with White Heather II., the whole strength of the vessel will be in the framing. The skeleton is indeed a wonderful structure, strapped and trussed and strengthened in all directions and dependent on the wooden skin only for keeping out the water. Now that a fair idea of the style and proportions of the vessel can be obtained, it becomes more apparent than ever that there has been but little departure from the lines originally laid down for the building of Shamrock IV. as a cup challenger.

"In all the essentials she is a bigger vessel than the second White Heather. She looks to have a little more draught, the lead keel is certainly wider and heavier, and the floor looks flatter than that of last year's champion. It may be taken for granted that she will carry considerably more sail. Among the most interesting features of the design is the shaping of the overhangs fore and aft. One of the objects aimed at in the drafting of the rule to which the vessel was built was the discouragement of excessive overhangs, especially at the forward end. The bow of this vessel could not fairly be called excessive, but it is certainly greater than that of her immediate predecessor. The designer has apparently lost some of his fear of the penalties to be incurred by the long bow, for this vessel is drawn out forward in fairly flat sections to quite an imposing overhang. Aft a very similar liberty has been taken."

Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race Fixed for April 4.

The Oxford-Cambridge boat race has been fixed for April 4 and it will probably be rowed about 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Owing to the late date of the race this year the crews are in no great rush over their practice. Gillian, one of the Oxford men, has been forbidden to row by order of his doctor and he is considered a great loss, and McCulloch has decided not to continue his studies at Oxford any longer. He gave great promise in the trials. Several changes have been made in the Cambridge boat. F. J. Escombe has taken on the duties of coach in place of L. H. K. Bushe Fox.

HOCKEY.

Crescents Lead in Amateur League and Harvard and Yale Are Tied.

Some changes were made last week in the standing of the teams in the two hockey tournaments now in progress. The Crescent Athletic Club team defeated the St. Nicholas team, which won the championship last season, and this victory gave the Crescent A. C. team the lead with the first half of the tournament over. The Crescents have won all four games that they have played, while the St. Nicholas team has won three out of four games. The other game was between the New York A. C. and the Hockey Club, and this was won by the New York A. C. Each team still has four games to play, and a lead of one game is not much and can very easily be lost. A little carelessness or overconfidence and an accident to one of the players on the Crescent team would easily cause that team to lose, and then there would be a hotter fight than ever to win out.

The Crescent players are not taking any chances and will hold their lead if possible, but the St. Nicholas and New York A. C. teams have not given up hopes of winning and point to the record of two years ago, when the Crescents won the championship after they had lost two games.

The St. Nicholas and New York A. C. teams will meet, and if the St. Nicholas team is successful it will settle the chances of the New York A. C. for the championship, but if the New Yorks should win they will still have a slight chance to win. On Friday evening the Crescent A. C. will play against the Wanderers Club. The Wanderers have reconsidered their determination to quit and will play out the schedule. The standing of the teams in the Amateur Hockey League is as follows:

Club.	W.	L.	PC.	Club.	W.	L.	PC.
Crescent A. C.	4	0	1.000	Hockey C. N. Y.	1	3	.250
St. Nicholas S.C.	3	1	.750	Wanderers H.C.	0	4	.000
New York A. C.	2	2	.500				

Only one game is now to be played for the intercollegiate championship, and that will be between Harvard and Yale next Saturday night in the St. Nicholas Skating Rink.

Yale defeated Princeton on Saturday and Harvard defeated Dartmouth, so that Harvard and Yale have each won three games and not suffered a defeat. Princeton won the championship last year but in this tournament was beaten by Dartmouth, Harvard and Yale. Harvard has a strong, heavy team and has had considerable practice at Cambridge. Yale's team is much lighter, but since the cold spell furnished ice they have been able to have lots of practice and are being coached by Tom Howard, who has an idea that they can win next Saturday's game. The Harvard team is most favored by the enthusiasts. The standing of the teams in this tournament follows:

Teams.	W.	L.	PC.	Teams.	W.	L.	PC.
Harvard	3	0	1.000	Dartmouth	1	3	.250
Yale	3	0	1.000	Columbia	1	3	.250
Princeton	1	3	.250				

A game that will serve to show the comparative strength of the two big leagues will be played on Lincoln's Birthday at Washington Park, Brooklyn. Yale will meet the Crescents at 3 o'clock in the afternoon in a contest that should provide good practice for the Elis' engagement with Harvard. In the morning the New York Law School team will meet the Seventh Regiment team.

FATHER BILL CURTIS MEDALS.

Trophies Won by Pioneer of American Athletics on View at New York A. C.

The medals won by the late William B. Curtis, the "Father of American Athletics" and one of the founders of the New York A. C., have been placed on exhibition at the clubhouse, Central Park West, and the members who take pride in the club's history never pass without viewing the curios. They are placed in a glass case on the ground floor and number fifty. Father Bill won a great many more, but about twenty years ago quite a number were stolen, along with a valuable silver cup which he won for rowing.

From an intrinsic standpoint these medals are by no means valuable and probably one of the many individual prizes seen nowadays would be more costly than the whole lot put together, but as a curiosity and a memento of the pioneer of American amateur track and field sports they are of rare worth.

Though not a big collection the trophies show that Curtis was an athlete of various abilities, for he excelled as a weight lifter, sprinter, weight thrower, distance runner, oarsman and at the tug of war. One of the oldest of the collection is a medal for a 120 yard run at the games of the New York A. C. on May 3, 1876. These games were at the Mott Haven grounds, the plot of ground now occupied by the freight yard of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad.

That year the first amateur championship of America was held on the same spot, Father Bill winning the hammer with the now insignificant mark of 78 feet 4 inches. Next year, 1877, he was captain of the New York A. C. tug of war team which won the championship. It was a four man team, the other three being Harry E. Buermeyer, Dr. Austin Flint and A. T. Heyn, better known as Dutch. This medal with the names of the men engraved upon it occupies a prominent position in the showcase.

At the same meet Father Bill was a competitor in the 100 yard run and he qualified for the final, his most speedy opponent being C. C. McIvor. The contest was a good one, Curtis leading for about ninety yards, but McIvor had a little more speed in him for the last few strides and he won by about half a yard in 10½ seconds. Father Bill got a silver medal, which is among the lot. It is about the size of a quarter and it bears the legend "Amateur Athletic Meeting."

There is a gold medal for a three mile run with the image of a runner struck on the face of it in auto relief, but when or where it was won will never be known, for the only inscription on it is "3 mile run" on a bar at the top. One of the most thoroughly emblematic is a miniature 56 pound weight of gold. It is dated 1878, and in those days the throwers used the old square shop weight, of which it is an exact reproduction. Since the death of Father Bill in 1900 the medals have been in the possession of Harry E. Buermeyer, and recently they were cleaned and burnished up by Robert Stoll.

LAWN TENNIS.

Indoor Championships for Men to Begin on Feb. 21 on Seventh Regiment Floor.

The men's singles and doubles for the indoor lawn tennis championships will begin on February 21, to continue several days. For men's singles there is offered the Seventh Regiment cup, put up last year for the first time and won by T. R. Pell. The conditions for the trophy are that the cup shall be the property of the man first winning it three times, the holder playing through.

This is the ninth year of competition for these titles, inaugurated by the Seventh Regiment: L. T. A. The singles have been won as follows: 1900, John A. Allen; 1901, Holcombe Ward; 1902, J. P. Paret; 1903, W. C. Grant; 1904, W. C. Grant; 1905, E. B. Dewhurst; 1906, W. C. Grant; 1907, T. R. Pell. In doubles the record stands: 1900, J. P. Paret and Calhoun Cragin; 1901, O. M. Bostwick and Calhoun Cragin; 1902, 1903 and 1904, W. C. Grant and Robert Le Roy; 1905, T. R. Pell and H. F. Allen; 1906 and 1907, F. B. Alexander and H. H. Hackett.

The women's indoor tournament goes on to-day on the Seventh Regiment floor.

Two More Cornell Athletes Dropped.

ITHACA, Feb. 9.—F. B. Townsend, captain of the Cornell track team and a crack half-miler, and J. V. Colpitts, captain of the cross-country team, have been dropped because of deficiency in their studies. There is little prospect of either being able to continue in the university or to run for Cornell this year.

With the loss of White, the shot putter, and Lemon, the distance runner, who have joined the faculty, and the "busting" of Thompson, the football guard, five star men are removed at one time from the athletic ranks, the biggest loss in the history of Cornell sports.

Baseball Notes.

Hank O'Day is opposed to the raised pitcher's box, pointing out that a six foot twirler on a six inch mound of dirt has an immense advantage. The matter might be adjusted by allowing only short twirlers to use a mound.

"Jack Chesbro will continue to use the spit ball this year," says a report. "Jack Chesbro to cut out the spit ball this year," says a report. Wonder what Chesbro says.

It is predicted that Rube Waddell will do everything but pitch his arm off for the Browns the first time he faces the Athletics.

Nicknames of players on the Pennsylvania State college baseball team include Gumbo and Stony and Pinky and Paddy and Bull and Shreds and Bolo. It would be awful if they should be beaten by a team of Percys and Claudes and Algernons.

Carpenter is the changing umpire. He was in the National League before being in the Southern, and now he is to be in the Southern after being in the National.

Should Bresnahan, McGlanity, Lynch, Doyle, Shannon, Donlin, Devlin and associates beat out Schulte, Slagle, Sheckard, Steinfeldt, Hofman, Pfeister and Co. this season the spud will supplant sauerkraut as the national dish.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 9.—The Blue Grass Baseball League was organized to-day at Versailles, consisting of Versailles, Frankfort, Lexington, Shelbyville, Lawrenceburg and Richmond.

No Extra Charge for It.

Advertisements for THE SUN and THE EVENING SUN may be left at any American District Messenger office in the city.

AMONG THE AUTOMOBILISTS

PHILADELPHIANS ARE WARNED AGAINST RECKLESS DRIVING.

Retiring President Swain of Quaker City Motor Club Asks Associates to Help Curb the Tendency to Excessive Speed—A. A. A. Board of Directors Named.

Charles J. Swain, president of the Quaker City Motor Club of Philadelphia for the last year, voiced a warning to all automobilists regarding reckless driving at the annual meeting of the organization last week. Owing to pressure of business Mr. Swain declined reelection and his address as retiring president was in part as follows:

"We are enjoying unquestionable rights and privileges at the present time that automobilists have longed and fought for ever since the sport became popular—liberal views in regard to speed. We all know that the present laws if rigidly enforced would become a very great hardship to us. At the present time, although the laws are the same, the public at large and the officials of our city as well are becoming daily more accustomed to a liberal limit of speed, and to-day you rarely hear of a man being arrested for breaking the speed law except it be at some furious rate, which should by all means be punished. The drivers of cars are apparently beginning to feel this liberality, inasmuch as you observe cars going much faster to-day than they ever did, and it has come to such a point that even a brush can be seen in the suburbs, between two cars.

"Up to the present time no serious accidents have occurred, but when the spring arrives and the increase of speed grows as it has been doing during the last month, a series of accidents caused by excessive speed may occur. Then the public will arise and protest against the automobile and all automobilists and the powers that be will have to take some recognition of the public's just cause for complaint. If motorists will use their influence outside of their clubs in helping to restrict over-indulgent drivers I feel sure that we will continue as we have been—blessed with a fair and just interpretation of the rights of automobilists."

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, P. D. Folwell; first vice-president, A. T. James; second vice-president, L. D. Berger; treasurer, A. T. Stewart; secretary, H. C. Harbach. Board of governors: Charles J. Swain, J. R. Overpeck, G. Hilton Gautert, Edwin Lewis, G. Douglass Bartlett, Dr. W. T. Donnelly, Frank Hardart, L. E. Brigham and Richard Sellers.

Several new directors were elected at the meeting of the executive committee of the board of directors of the American Automobile Association at its meeting in this city last Thursday. The complete list of directors for 1908 is as follows: William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., Jefferson De Mont Thompson and S. M. Butler, Automobile Club of America; Ira M. Cobb, Sidney S. Gorham and L. R. Myers, Chicago Automobile Club; Charles P. Root, Chicago Motor Club; George P. Dennison, Automobile Club of Hawaii; Frank B. Hower and W. H. Hotchkiss, Automobile Club of Buffalo; Elliot C. Lee and L. R. Speare, Bay State Automobile Association; Charles Jerome Edwards, Long Island Automobile Club; Isaac Starr, Automobile Club of Philadelphia; Robert P. Hooper, Automobile Club of Germantown; Edward Kneeland and Paul C. Wolff, Automobile Club of Pittsburg; Fred A. Godcharles, Automobile Club of Central Pennsylvania; Peter A. Maxwell, Wilkesbarre Automobile Club; J. B. Weeks, Automobile Club of Delaware County, Pa.; George E. Farrington, Automobile Club of New Jersey; J. H. Edwards, Automobile Club of Hudson County; George A. Post, North Jersey Automobile Club; K. O. Roebling and Harry T. White, Mercer County Automobile Club; Joseph H. Wood, New Jersey Automobile and Motor Club; Giles H. Stilwell, Automobile Club of Syracuse; C. D. Hakes and Oliver A. Quayle, Albany Automobile Club; H. S. Woodworth, Rochester Automobile Club; C. H. Benedict, Automobile Club of Schenectady; Otis W. Sherman, Hudson Valley Automobile Club, Poughkeepsie.

Windsor T. White and F. T. Sholes, Cleveland Automobile Club; Val Dittenhofer, Jr., Automobile Club of Cincinnati; George H. Wilson, Louisville Automobile Club; Edwin S. George, Automobile Club of Detroit; D. Emmett Welsh, Grand Rapids Automobile Club; Elliott Flint, Rhode Island Automobile Club; James T. Drought, Milwaukee Automobile Club; Neal Brown, Wisconsin State Automobile Association; Charles I. Velliott and H. M. Rowe, Automobile Club of Maryland; Stanford L. Haynes, Automobile Club of Springfield