

Doings In The Sporting World

UHLAN'S RAPID RISE IN THE TROTTING WORLD

Horse That Made Record of 1:58 1/2 Recently Was Eligible to 3:00 Class In 1908

WHEN Uhlán stepped a mile at Cleveland recently without a wind shield in 1:58 1/2, he became in reality the two minute trotter which the harness world has been anticipating for the past decade. This performance, within a quarter second of the mark set by Lou Dillon with the artificial aid, eclipses in quality her mark of 1:58 1/2, which has stood since 1903. Critics who were present at North Randall say the handsome black gelding has not reached the limit of his speed and predict a lowering in actual time of the record of the trotting queen and that without the windbreak. Uhlán's recent feat of reeling off a mile to wagon in 2:01, also without wind shield, gives to Mr. Billings' trotter the two most coveted honors of the trotting turf. That the New York sportsman, formerly a Chicagoan, drove Uhlán in the first of his record breaking performances, is an honor merited by his devotion to the sport which has prompted him to spend the money necessary to secure performers which possessed the ability of Lou Dillon and Uhlán. That Mr. Billings personally will take another tilt at "time" behind the new champion is the prediction of those who know his love of the sport. It is worthy of note in considering the future of Uhlán that Mr. Billings does not campaign his valuable string for profit. Therefore, if the great gelding possesses any greater possibilities for time annihilation they will receive every consideration unhampered by contemplation of what the earning capacity of the horse might be for exhibition purposes.

Uhlán's rise to fame has been rapid. Less than two years ago he started in his first race in the 2:30 class at Boston and a little more than a month later gained a record of 2:07 1/2 at Columbus. He trotted four races in this first campaign, winning them all. In his first race last season at the Cleveland grand circuit meeting his record dropped to 2:03 1/2, and two weeks later he was finishing heads apart with Hamburg Belle in 2:01 1/2 after having trotted a long mile on the outside of the mare from start to finish, with a little the worse of the start. When the two matchless trotters met again a fortnight afterward in Boston, Uhlán defeated Hamburg Belle decisively on a slow track in 2:04 1/2 and 2:03 1/2. He could outscore her, outfinish her and outfoot her at every spot and place, and Mr. Billings after seeing this performance paid \$35,000 for the horse. Starting to beat his record at Columbus shortly after this race, Uhlán trotted in 2:02 1/2. This was his last appearance in public until Mr. Billings drove him a mile in 2:01 to wagon at Cleveland.

Charles Sanders, a Boston merchant, who bought the horse from his breeder, A. H. Parker of Bedford, Mass., developed his speed in amateur races over the Readville track. He was trained and driven in his public races last year and in 1908 by Robert Proctor, a Boston trainer. When Mr. Billings bought Uhlán he passed into the hands of Charles Tanner, a pupil of John Splan, who has long had charge of Mr. Billings' matinee and speedway trotters and who is known as one of the best conditioners and caretakers in the country.

Uhlán's sire, Bligen, 2:06 1/4, is a son of May King, 2:20, by Electioneer. Blonde, the dam of Uhlán, was by Sir Walter, Jr., 2:18 1/4, a grandson of Aberdeen, formerly owned by Major S. T. Dickinson of New York, who by a singular coincidence also owned the dam of Hamburg Belle. The granddam of Uhlán was a Kentucky saddle mare by Black Eagle, a Morgan bred horse. The best time ever made by any other trotting horse without the aid of a wind shield was the 2:01 of Lou Dillon at Memphis on Nov. 11, 1904. Her best record with the aid of a wind shield was 1:58 1/2. Performances made in this way are no longer recognized by the National Trotting association.

More Crack Infields Than Outgardens In Big Leagues



Photos by American Press Association.

Stars of the Two Greatest Infields In the Game Today

Did you ever notice that there are more crack infields than there are outfields? If you have time look over the makeup of the big league teams and you will see that it is so. It seems to be easier to find infielders who as a group measure up to the standard than to find three such outfielders on one club, although it takes four men to make an infield and only three to make an outfield. True, the men in the inner circle have more chance to show what they can do, but the fine work in the outer garden, such as cutting off long hits and throwing, doesn't appear even relatively as often as fancy infield work.

There are only three outfielders in the country today which for covering

ground, throwing and speed in getting after long hits are up to the A1 grade. They are the Detroit in the American and the Chicago Cubs and the Pittsburgh Pirates in the National league. Notwithstanding that the Pirates bump the bumps this season, Leach, Clarke and Wilson are three grand outer gardeners. In Schulte, Hofman and Sheekard the Cubs have a trio that are hard to improve on. Detroit has the best of the lot. Cobb, Crawford and McIntyre are all pippins. Davy Jones is also a good one to fill Crawford's or McIntyre's shoes. The Boston Red Sox have a corking good outfield in Speaker, Hooper and Lewis and one that is improving all the time. Now take the infields. The Philadelphia Americans have a dandy in

Davis, Collins, Barry and Baker, and so have the Cubs in Chance, Evers, Tinker and Steinfeldt. The two infields can hit, run bases and have a defense that is near to being air tight. After looking over the two infields carefully one finds that the Cubs have a shade over the Athletics. Take it at first base. Chance lays it over Davis like shoes over plates. The latter is getting old and slow, but is still a good hitter. Chance will hold him even as a hitter and beat him to a frazzle at every other angle. Collins and Evers at second are two of the greatest in the game. Collins is batting harder than Evers this season, but the Trojan is there with everything. He is the smartest player in the game. Outside of batting Evers has it in every way

on Collins. At shortstop Tinker is better than Barry in every department. Baker, the Athletics' third sacker, is a young man and a better player than Steinfeldt. Taken as a whole the Cubs play better together than does the Athletic quartet, so we will have to hand it to the Cubs as the greatest infield in the game today. It is probably the most famous that ever appeared on the diamond. Merkle, Doyle, Bridwell and Devlin of the New Yorks are a combination not as evenly balanced in ground covering ability as could be wished, the greater ability being on the left side. Cincinnati's infield is well balanced, and so is that of the Phillies. Pittsburgh's always has lacked flash at first base, but is a hummer otherwise.

Brooklyn's is fast individually, lacks stability as a whole, but is likely to improve. The New York Americans' infield is also out of balance, having a preponderance of ability on the right side. Cleveland is stronger in the middle than on the extremities. The St. Louis Browns' main strength is on the left. The Chicago White Sox have a good infield. The addition of McConnell and Lord, recently secured from Boston, has braced it up wonderfully. Stahl, Gardner, Wagner and Engle are powerful and a fast four, but without the class of the Cubs or Athletics. Were there one twelve club league nowadays it is probable that more high class infields could be put together than were found fifteen years ago.

DISCARDS HIT WELL IN SMALLER LEAGUES

But Batters Are Players Who Have Outlived Usefulness In the Fast Set

Give us more batting and find more heavy hitters, cry the baseball fans. But where will the willing to please major league find them? He cannot get other big league teams to part with their stars unless he greatly weakens his own club by giving away a few of his shining lights. Leaving the two big leagues out of the question, the managers would naturally turn to the Class A circuits for heavy hitters to strengthen their clubs.

What would be the result? The 300 hitters in the Eastern league are Third Baseman Corcoran of Buffalo, Outfielder Kelly of Newark, Third Baseman Helne Batch of Rochester and Catcher Slattery of Toronto. Slattery was tried by three American league clubs and found wanting. Batch is a veteran who played about seven years in the minors before landing a berth with Brooklyn. Corcoran is far from being a youngster.

The American association 300 hitters are more numerous, including Jimmy Barrett, Murray of St. Paul, Cravath, Jimmy Williams, Charley Hickman, Tom Raftery and Charley Carr. Barrett is out of the question on account of his age and propensity to have his legs go back on him. Hickman, Williams and Carr are not to be considered either. That leaves Raftery, Cravath and Murray. The first two have been tried before and found lacking, but they have improved a lot since being turned back to the American association. Murray, who is batting .362, seems to be the best hitting outfielder in the American association, but for some reason or other no clubs seem to be offering any fancy bids for him. Others close to the 300 mark in the American association are Otis Clymer, Jack Hayden and Dave Altizer. Hayden might be worth considering, but no one would ever think of buying either of the others.

They have a big collection of 300 hitters in the Western league. Fenlon, with Louisville last season, leads with an average of .352, having made 129 hits in eighty-seven games. It seems as if he should be in demand. Others hitting far above .300 are Cole and Beal, turned back by Comiskey; Third Baseman Reilly, Catchers Towne and Miller, Lee Quillin, once an infielder with the White Sox; Paul Cobb, Ty's brother, and Al Jones, formerly of Youngstown and the Browns. Quillin and Fenlon are the real hitters of the circuit, and they have some pitchers in that circuit, for Omaha released Shotten, who led the O. and P. last season, because he couldn't hit. Lincoln "canned" Lefty Davis, formerly of the Yankees and Columbus, for the same reason.

In the Southern league Joe Jackson, formerly tried by Connie Mack, and Messenger, given a trial by Chicago last season, are the best—that is, outside of the gigantic Meek, who would do in any major league. Jackson has already been purchased, while Messenger may receive another trial.

Swedish Skater After Honors. Having won all the laurels Europe has to offer in the line of skating, Moje Ohlm, champion skater of Sweden for five successive years and holder of the European championship in 1907 and 1908, has come to America to seek new honors. Ohlm has secured employment in Moline, Ill., until winter comes and the skating season begins. He has received invitations from both the Chicago Athletic and Illinois clubs, but has not decided with which organization he will affiliate. Another question which is undecided in Ohlm's mind is whether to enter the professional field or remain in the amateur class. It was his purpose in coming to America to make capital of the fame he has achieved in Europe, but the thought that he would be barred from future contests in Europe should he give exhibitions in this country as a professional makes him hesitate to pursue this plan.

HORSE, NOT MAN, CAN "COME BACK"

If a horse after being off the turf for four or five years can come back and give as good a performance as he did before he retired temporarily, why can't a man do likewise? This question was discussed pro and con by several experts in the sporting line some days ago and the decision reached that he could, provided the man didn't dissipate any more than the horse.

The discussion of this rather unique problem was brought out by the assertion of a prominent sporting authority

who was at the ringside at Reno on the Fourth of July that after the second round of the fight Jeffries simply melted away—that there was nothing left of the man Jeffries of five or six years ago but the name and the hairy chest. "It shows," remarked the expert, "that a man who gets out of athletics for a few years can't come back."

"Why should a man be different from a horse, provided he behaves himself as well as a horse?" inquired one of the party. "I have been watching the harness race reports for some time,

and I notice that the old campaigner Country Jay is winning his share of purses. That old boy had been off the turf for four or five years, but the lay-off didn't seem to affect him in the least. And if Jeff had behaved as well as Country Jay during the time he was away from his sporting work I believe he might have made that fight interesting for Johnson and the spectators. But Jeffries is not a horse—more's the pity—so far as remaining in condition is concerned."

And that settled the argument.

HOW QUICK CRICKET, NOW POPULAR ABROAD, IS PLAYED



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Many people have claimed that cricket was too slow for Americans, but in the new English game of quick cricket is found all the action that can be desired, along with the advantages and fine points of the cricket game. Quick cricket is a combination of tennis and cricket. The double wicket is used, and four or more players are on a side. But instead of the old method of bowling the drives are made with a tennis racket. The game is adapted to outdoor use or for a passenger deck on a large steamer, a covered court, large rooms and hotels as well as for home lawns and spaces where ordinary tennis is played. The length of the creases varies from fifteen yards upward and the width from five yards upward.

DREYFUSS HAD TO PAY HIS WAY INTO BALL PARK.

Barney Dreyfuss, owner of the Pittsburgh National league club, had to pay to see his world's champions play the Brooklyn team, recently at Washington park. Barney walked up to the press gate and started to push through the turnstile. "Where is your ticket?" shouted the ticket taker. "I am Barney Dreyfuss, who owns the Pittsburgh club," declared the magnate. "I don't care who you are. Give me a ticket or show me a pass or you don't get in," replied the ticket taker. Barney then searched his clothes, and, not being able to find his pass or a ticket, he walked up to one of the windows and, shoving in a dollar bill, said to the ticket seller: "Will you please sell me a ticket to the grand stand?" After the game Dreyfuss went to Charley Ebbets and said: "Charley, I had to pay my 75 cents to see my team play, but it was worth the money to see them beat your second division club."

BASEBALL'S RICHEST MAN.

Honors Said to Belong to Charley Comiskey, Owner of White Sox.

A penny saved is a penny earned, in the parlance of the wise man, and baseball affords one road to riches for the thrifty, industrious diamond star. Some have laid away fortunes of colossal proportions during years of success in the big and little leagues, and many, acting at the instance of warm friends in daily touch with the doings of the financial world, have doubled and trebled their savings. Others, taking a lone whirl at some good thing, have struck it rich. Chances for accumulating great wealth are better now than in the palmy days of Goldsmith, Spalding, Brouthers, Anson, Bennett and Flint, for the king pins now adorning the championship clubs are drawing princely salaries in comparison with the earnings of the former greats, says one baseball authority. Wise men of the baseball firmament are unanimous in the selection of Charles A. Comiskey, owner of the Chicago White Sox as the richest man now identified with the game who acquired his start in life while wearing the spikes. But nobody ventures even a hint as to the banking account of the "Old Roman." He's quoted among the millionaires, however, and the man behind one of the biggest baseball plants known to the pastime. Comiskey salted away his dimes and quarters at regular intervals and seized every opportunity to turn a safe investment. Just now he is at the top of the financial kings among the players.

LITTLE MEN PREDOMINATE IN BASEBALL.

"It seems that big men haven't a show in baseball any more," said Hughie Jennings lately while discussing the new men who have broken into the major league ranks in the last two years. "The new men all seem to be small in stature. There is not a demand for big men or the big men have ceased to excel at the game. The little fellows are crowding the big ones out. I remember when little men did not have much of a show in the game, when a prejudice seemed to exist against them. I can easily recall the time when to be a first baseman a man had to be tall. If he wasn't 'good night.' You find many men of medium height playing the initial sack today. Everybody gets a show now, and they don't ask how tall he is, just so he delivers a good article of ball."

Largest Score 209 to 0. The largest score on record was made in Buffalo in the sixties. Niagara, 209; Columbia, 10.

NAT CARTMELL, CRACK SPRINTER.



Nat Cartmell, the former sprinter of the University of Pennsylvania, who turned professional last spring, has been showing his heels to England's crack runners for the past few months. In fact, Cartmell appears to be in better form now than ever. Recently he defeated C. E. Holway, the former champion, in a special 220 yard event in London. Cartmell went the distance in 22 4-5 seconds. He has been abroad since last May, but intends to return to America shortly.

Long Golf Drives.

Edward Blackwell has perhaps the majority of long drives to his credit. In 1892, playing with a "ruttle" ball, he drove 366 yards from the seventh tee at St. Andrews. That same year he reached the fifth hole at St. Andrews, distance 520 yards, and on the way back, the fourteenth hole, distance 516 yards, in two strokes. Although no authentic records are available, it is generally reckoned that these four shots are in the opposite direction, so that the wind could not affect the total distance of the four shots—viz., 1,036 yards.

Can Manager Sit on Bench?

The Southern league has now got into a wrangle as to whether or not a manager may sit on the players' bench. Manager Frank of the New Orleans team refused to leave the bench when ordered to do so by the umpire. Player and salary limitation is back of it all.