

LATEST SPORTING EVENTS OF THE DAY

A PAPER BRANCH OF INDOOR SPORT

Speculating on Effect of War on Games—Sport is Safety Valve.

Fans of various degrees and classifications are speculating a lot these days as to what effect warfare between the United States and Germany would have on the numerous branches of indoor and outdoor sport in this country. In fact, this sort of speculating is forming one of the most popular branches of indoor sport at this time, writes Ben McCutcheon.

Men who are familiar with conditions during the civil war and the war with Spain are of the opinion that the general run of sports would not experience insupportable conditions unless the nation demanded that her armies be sent out of the country. They say that sport is a great thing in war times. In that it serves as a sort of safety valve, preserving the mental balance of the people and more or less directly stimulating the fighting ability of the fighters. Developments in Europe have proved that the athletes have been better able to bear the burden of war than the men who have not followed muscle building and mind tempering athletics.

Baseball, especially in major league circles, would not suffer greatly from the effects of war upon it, although if the call for men took away the stars the game would lose a lot of interest in the fans. There is no doubt, however, that even with the lineup strong and the races close and exciting, there would be no stage of the proceedings be an over-rosy harvest for the managers. The game went through the short period of waning interest in the American fray without wobbling, but the conditions had the effect of keeping down attendance all along the line.

Depend Upon Policies.

Of course, say the fan-students, the effect of war upon sport in general would depend largely upon the policies pursued by the national government. The mobilization of great armies would not hurt sport materially, as it would reduce the field to draw from just in proportion to the size of the withdrawal of soldier material. But, the mobilization of the United States should be confined to the navy largely, baseball and other sports would not suffer greatly.

"It is said that Lincoln, even in the darkest and most discouraging times of the civil war," said an old time fan today, "relieved the mental pressure by reading the jokes in papers and magazines. It is evident that sport affords a sort of safety valve for the wretched nerves and emotions. Two or three hours in a ball park is the biggest kind of a sedative to the man under nervous strain, and in war times this sort of outlet would serve to keep the pulse pretty much at normal beat."

SOME BILLIARD GOSSIP

Charles McCourt's achievement in overthrowing George Moore is still a favorite topic of the cue fans. Few there were who thought McCourt, in view of his mediocre performance in the Interstate league this season, had a chance to wrest the Brunswick trophy, emblematic of the world's angle championship, from Moore, but the Clevelander not only accomplished the feat, but did it easily to the tune of 150 to 122 and that after being 11 points behind at the end of the first block of play. You have got to give it to a billiardist who can win two world's and one interstate championships, all within a year. Such is the triumph of McCourt who has forced the skeptics to admit his class.

George Moore is nothing if not persistent. McCourt had scarcely counted the last point in their recent match than the little ex-champion pouted his forefinger, again challenging for the title. He has held it twice and will be served in his third attempt to lift it after the challenges of Horace B. (Jesse) Lean, Robert E. Cannessa, Alfredo De Oro and John Daily have been satisfied, in the order named. Lean, first in line, is practicing daily with Charlie Morin and other good players at Chicago. It is possible that Jesse and Otto might have a shot at a night match at Harry Davis' room in Pittsburg the week before the McCourt-Lean match for the championship, which will be played 40 days in the finish of the recent McCourt-Moore engagement, the dates to be announced officially later.

Minnesota is making a strong bid for the coming world's championship pocket match involving Fred Tierski, holder of the Brunswick emblem, and Louis Kruter of New York, the challenger. The latter though only 19 years old is said to be a wonder of the Ralph Green-type. The four cities, which is the billiard and bowling center of the great northwest, stands an excellent chance of securing the plum, it is said.

Having failed to inveigle Willie Hoppe into another match for the world's billiard championship in the near future G. Butler Sutton has matched himself to play Welker Cochran 3,000 points at 152, the match opening tomorrow night at Mussay's room in Chicago. It will be a five-point affair played in blocks of 400 points.

WEINERT IS EASY PICKING FOR THE MINNESOTA GIANT

New York, Feb. 13.—Fred Fulton, the heavyweight fighter from Rockport, Minn., had no trouble in defeating Charlie Weinert of Newark, N. J., here last night. The bout was scheduled for 10 rounds but the referee stopped the bout in the second round, when Weinert was knocked out. Fulton weighed 232 pounds and Weinert 182. Fulton also had an advantage in height and did not seem to extend himself.

In the first round he sent over many left jabs, occasionally using a right to the jaw. Weinert, however, continued to bore in, landing solid blows to the body, but at the bell showed the effects of the punishment received. Fulton then took the aggressive in the second and with well-placed left hooks and a few hard rights soon had his opponent staggering.

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TWELVE RINKS READY FOR ANNUAL CONTESTS

Goodale and Leys Trophies to Be Played for Here Next Week.

According to draws made last night 12 rinks will contest for the Goodale trophy and the Leys trophy on the local curling rink. The games will start next week and is planned to conclude them on Washington's birthday, which being a holiday will afford an entire afternoon and evening of curling.

The following are the draws of the rink: D. McMillan against F. K. March, Dr. Witherspoon against A. W. Charles, J. A. McMillan against N. B. Braly, E. J. Barker against W. E. Maddock, Arthur Ferham against Dr. McGregor, S. G. Tonkin against E. M. Norris.

The ice is in splendid condition and without hoping for a spell of cold weather for the other people of the city the curling fans there will be no danger of the schedule of games being interrupted as the rink is so well sheltered that several days of warm weather would be required to affect the ice at all. On the closing day of the Goodale and Leys trophy matches, an annual feature for the past ten years, a big reception will be held on Feb. 23 when provision will be made for 150 visitors and the wives and families of the members. Games will be played that day at 2, 5 and 8 o'clock and luncheon will be served from 6 to 7 o'clock.

100,000 GAMES OF SOLITAIRE BY 1918

Charles Conklin, Wabash passenger conductor of Decatur, Ill., is on the last lap of his self-imposed task of playing 100,000 games of solitaire.

Conklin has about 7,000 games to play and believes he will finish before the end of the year. He began playing in 1897, 19 years ago.

On these games Conklin has met practically every possible combination of cards and will compile a book on solitaire.

When Lady Langer ruffled the waters of Honolulu harbor last September, in setting a 1,000-yard record, he established himself as the greatest of all competitors in that event. C. M. Daniels was acknowledged as a wonder man in the water, but there is no argument as to Langer being the 1,000-yard champ.

When it comes to boxers the situation is different. There's no way to accurately figure that Jim Jeffries in his prime would not have defeated John L. Sullivan. And yet some will argue a lot as to who was the better man.

Naturally experts who set their opinions down are in the situation of being disagreed with. It should be remembered that they are obliged to figure from a general standpoint, despite the keen knowledge they possess as a result of their close observation.

Following are expert opinions on "The Greatest Fighter":

Eddie Hanlon, former great boxer, when asked whom he regarded as foremost man of the ring said Joe Gans, in my opinion, was the greatest all around fighter and boxer. I think as a simple pure fighter Jack Langue was the toughest man ever in the ring.

Joe Gans had a lot more brains than most fighters and it not only helped him in his fights, but made people like him out of the ring. There was a lot of difference between Johnson and Gans.

One time I had a lot of trouble ejecting Johnson from my cafe in San Francisco. He was a half actor when it came to going in places where he wasn't wanted. Gans was different.

I didn't want any of his fighting game and he knew it. But one day he passed my place and saw a friend to know whether he could come in and buy me a drink. He figured that he shouldn't enter without asking first. It was that smartness of Gans which made him the best man in the ring.

Tom Sharkey, noted heavyweight, who fought Jeffries to a standstill, says Bob Fitzsimmons was the best fighter I ever heard of. Jim Corbett, of those fellows worried me like Bob. He wasn't only a boxer, but he was game and had a knockout punch in either hand. Corbett had his good points, so did Jeff and the rest of them, but I don't believe that when Gans actually determined he didn't want to take a blow, anyone could land on him. His judgment of distance was remarkable.

WHO WAS GREATEST OF "THE GREAT FIGHTERS?" EXPERTS DISCUSS PUGILISTS WHO HAVE PASSED

BY E. L. MORIARTY.

Who was the greatest man that ever entered the ring?

The question is one to be answered as a matter of individual opinion.

No doubt exists as to champions over all time when it comes to a matter of speed for a certain distance event.

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ORGANIZE LEAGUE FOR THE CHURCHES

With a Good "Gym" Basketball is Having Great Revival in City.

With a large gymnasium in which to play and with a winning high school team, basketball interest has developed to such an extent that now the local Sunday schools are taking up the sport as they did baseball last summer. A basketball league of four Sunday schools, Mountain View Methodist, First Baptist, People's and the Lowell Avenue Methodist, was organized last night at the instigation of C. V. Munsey, play ground director. Games will be played each Saturday night in the high school gymnasium which they have been given permission to use.

The People's and Lowell Avenue churches have already been playing basketball on the south side. Some practice games will probably be held at the gymnasium of the People's church.

Old basketball fans who have often wondered why basketball has been a latent sport in Butte are pleased that such an added interest has been taken in the game with the completion of the new high school gymnasium. A Y. M. C. team has been organized, several other independent organizations are playing and even the faculty of the high school have limbered up sufficiently to take an occasional throw at a basket. It is hoped that basketball will become a major winter sport in Butte.

To begin active playing in the league a practice game between the People's church and the Mountain View church will take place Wednesday night at the People's gymnasium on the south side. The team on the flat was twice defeated by the Lowell Avenue Methodist squad in a series of three games, but it is still confident that its quintet is of championship caliber.

Basketball games at Billings last night resulted as follows: Billings high, 21; Polytechnic, 19; Billings Independents, 25; state college, Bozeman, 18.

Frank Walker returned to his old stand today as proprietor of "The Mint"—Adv.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE POST

Choiest in the market at the Walker Cafe.—Adv.

BELIEVES GOLF COURSE TOO LONG FOR WOMEN

Woman Champion Tells of Difficulties Over Links Built for the Men.

Miss Alexa Stirling of Atlanta, Ga., woman's national golf champion, is the latest of the great golfers to break into the writing game. Her first dissertation in Golf Illustrated was rightly to do with women's golf and takes issue with those who believe that the way to prepare a course of standard length is simply to move the tee plates to the short tee and call it a woman's course. Miss Stirling claims that every championship golf course in the country is laid out to demand that each shot be well played by a man and that a woman cannot negotiate the long carries which a man, with his greater strength of wrist and arm, finds no difficulty in overcoming. She believes that a step in the right direction has been taken by the Woman's Western Golf Association which has adopted a new set of par figures for its championship play.

"If we consider, for example, any ordinary two-shot hole, properly and well guarded by hazards of some description, a good male golfer will have no difficulty in playing such a hole under ordinary circumstances, because it is built for him." But, says Miss Stirling, "put a woman on the same hole and let her use the same clubs as the man and she will nearly always fall short of the green and not improbably get into a trap. At any rate, she requires a third shot to get to the green."

"When a woman plays from the men's tee it is natural that she should either fall short of the first hazards, be in them or so press her drive that she pulls or slices into the rough to either side. Even if the ball safely passes the traps on the fairway an excessive effort on the second shot will be needed to place the ball in the same position as the man's for the all-important third shot, which is to land the ball on and keep it on the green. The man will use his masher or a niblick, while the woman will be forced to use a club of greater distance and one with which it is harder to stop the ball. A woman is, therefore, continuously pressing in playing a man's distance to carry the hazards."

PREPARING FOR AMATEUR BOUTS

Big Sport Promised for Fans at Meaderville Club Tournament.

There are already 23 entries for the amateur wrestling and boxing tournament to be held under the auspices of the Meaderville Young Men's club at their gymnasium next Monday and Wednesday evenings. The entries are from the Meaderville club, the Young Men's association, the Centerville Young Men's club, Connelly's school of physical culture and Deer Lodge. From the latter city there is only one entry, Schinkel, a welterweight boxer.

The competitions will include wrestling and boxing for the following classes: flyweight, lightweight, welterweight, middleweight, light heavyweight and heavyweight. The contests will be staged under the auspices of the American Amateur Athletic union and only amateurs can take part. This is the second annual tournament and from the activity of the committee of five in charge, Maffel, Jenkin, Hookings, Randono and Nassambell, the fans will have some splendid sport provided for them.

During the past year there has been engendered in the various amateur clubs in this city a spirit of love for clean sport and this will be reflected in the coming tournament. Anything that savors of professional sport will be tabooed. The tournament is being promoted in the interest of clean athletics, to foster a love for clean sport in young men and to help build up a sturdy young generation. The entries will be completed within the next couple of days.

LOCAL PUCK CHASERS WILL HOLD PRACTICE FOR BATTLE SUNDAY

After a brief rest the Avoca hockey team will meet at the lake for practice this afternoon at 2 o'clock. The game next Sunday with the crack Anacanda team. The battle Sunday will be for the championship of the state as well as for local honors and as the rivalry between the two aggressive teams when the game promises to be the fastest ever seen here. The Anacandans won second place at the Carnival tournament at Roseland, B. C., and they are confident that they will smother the Harvard team when they meet. All local players are urged to be on hand promptly. Manager Clarke announces that the ice is in fine shape and practice will be held each evening this week.

TIGERS TO TAKE ON FOUR NEW GRID TEAMS

Princeton, N. J., Feb. 13.—There are several changes in the Tiger 1917 football schedule of nine games as announced. Four new teams have been listed for contests—Susquehanna university, Maryland State, Fordham and the Carlisle Indians.

Although Harvard offered to give the Tigers two weeks between their game and the Yale contest the offer was refused with thanks. Holy Cross has been moved up from first game last year to Nov. 3, which comes between the Dartmouth and the Harvard games this year.

Preliminary practice for the Tigers will begin about the second week in September, giving Coach Rush plenty of time to sift his material. The schedule follows:

Sept. 22, Susquehanna university at Princeton.

Sept. 29, Maryland State at Princeton.

Oct. 6, Fordham at Princeton.

Oct. 13, Lafayette at Princeton.

Oct. 20, Carlisle at Princeton.

Oct. 27, Dartmouth at Princeton.

Nov. 3, Holy Cross at Princeton.

Nov. 10, Harvard at Princeton.

Nov. 17, Yale at New Haven.

MAGNETS GATHERING FOR ANNUAL CONCLAVE

New York, Feb. 13.—Major baseball magnets are gathering here today for what is expected to be one of the most momentous series of conferences in the history of the national game. The National league will set the ball rolling with its reconvened annual meeting and schedule meeting this afternoon, which will be followed by the meeting of the national commission.

On Thursday the American League club owners will gather to pass on the schedule and to consider matters previous to the opening of the pennant season.

During these meetings there will be a number of general conferences at which there will be discussion of the trouble with the players' franchise, changes in the rules, governing the financial arrangements of the world's series, proposed reduction in the size of the playing squads, conduct of baseball in case of war and other matters of interest to the usual efforts to trade or purchase players.

SPORT GOSSIP

The University of Minnesota basketball team defeated Ohio State last night at Columbus by the score of 19 to 16.

Pete Herman, bantamweight championship claimant, outpointed Sammy Sandow in their 16-round bout at Cincinnati last night. Both boys weighed 118 pounds.

Joe Stecher is up to his old tricks at the wrestling game and last night pinned the shoulders of Bill Hokur to the mat Cedar Rapids, Ia., and Stecher won with the use of his famous body scissors. The first fall was secured with a bar arm scissors in 9 minutes and 43 seconds, and the second with a head lock and forward hammer lock in 4 minutes and 53 seconds.

The Noms, Alaska, dog race of 260 miles, which was to have been held yesterday, was postponed until tomorrow because of the bad condition of the trail. Six teams are entered and the prize is a big silver cup and \$1,000 offered by John Borden, the millionaire sportsman of Chicago.

Rowdy Elliott has signed his contract with the Chicago Cubs. Unlike most players he was offered an increase over what he received for his last season's work. Elliott is a catcher and joined the Cubs last season when Tinker's backstop department was all shot to pieces, going to Chicago from the Oakland club in the Coast league.

An Iowa man who wears No. 21 shoes wants to play football. The trouble is



Two of five ring heroes named by experts as "the greatest fighter."

CLEVELAND WILL TRY OUT SOCCER

Every year new stunts are added at baseball training camps but it was up to Lee Fohl of the Cleveland Indians to think up a novelty which besides furnishing amusement for the players will give them the kind of exercise which will take all of the kinks out of sore muscles.

Fohl has purchased a couple of soccer footballs and will set his triple kicking ball around when training season opens at New Orleans.

There is always a lot of idle time around a training camp when players are waiting for something to do while they should be out getting themselves in shape. Fohl says. During this spare time I soccer games will be in progress for those who are not warming up on the diamond.

STRAIN OF GIRLS TELLS ON ARM OF STANFORD TWIRLER

Stanford University, Feb. 12.—Gus Hoover, Stanford's giant twirler, is against the presence of women at Stanford, against dances and all such affairs. The combined force of these is indicative of the weakening of his pitching arm, says Hoover.

This became known in campus baseball circles when Gus reported a sore arm to Trainer Fritz Roth. He said he was in no condition to pitch, and when asked how came about his arm, Gus explained thusly:

"You see, we had a dance last night, and I had to support all those heavy girls on my right arm, and the strain was too great."

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the other players might want to line up on his feet.

Speaking of sports writers, Connecticut is considering a measure to license journalists, the eastern word for newspaper men. Thus putting the baseball writer in the same class with a bulldog, as it were. Why not make him wear a brass collar with a chain for the authorities to pull if they don't fancy what he writes?

With hostilities with Germany in sight, President Herrmann of the Reds and chairman of the national commission says the club owners probably would welcome the players' strike. He says if war takes place it will be necessary for the teams to reduce their roster to probably sixteen or eighteen men.

Coach Ott Romney's Billings high school basketball team is quickly overcoming the slump it had on its Salt Lake trip. Last night it defeated Billings Polytechnic and a few days ago it won from Miles City. Romney is now anxious to get at the state champions and to play Butte once more.

An Iowa man who wears No. 21 shoes wants to play football. The trouble is

President Weeghman from continuing his plans for the trip to California. He says that 100 people will be on the train, including the players.

DID A COMEBACK STUNT AFTER THIRTEEN YEARS

Jack McFetridge, who died the day after his Philadelphia home, had lately the strangest major league career or careers—in the annals of the game. He wore the spangles of the big league in two campaigns—and these campaigns were no less than 13 years apart. He was unquestionably a record for retirement between seasons. In 1903, McFetridge, only a youngster, was chosen the best semi-pro in the game. He was the Philadelphia National, and then quit baseball pitching, and then quit baseball. He had kept in practice among semi-pros, again joined the Philadelphia club, and pitched very fair ball. He was 38 years old, however, and his arm was so stricken, so he retired after making this strange record.