SPORTS OF THE WEEK.

News of the Cycling and Other Athletic Worlds.

The Newark Coursing Park will be opened to-morrow by the Interstate Coursing Club and if the weather permits, a good day's sport should result.

The Olympic Club's tennis players will hold a tournament at the club's outdoor grounds Sunday afternoon.

In cycling there is nothing of any particular importance going on, but the wheelmen will take their customary spins in the country to-morrow, nevertheless.

Rowing is rapidly gaining ground, and with the assistance of the ladies who have taken to boating as a health-giving exercise, the sport should become very popular.

The rifle shooters will be strongly represented at the Shell Mound and San Rafael parks to-morrow.

The latest news in all lines of sporting is appended.

THE WHEELMEN.

What Is Being Done in Cycling Circles the End of the Year.

Another cycling year has passed, the greatest yet known in the history of the sport. And while the predictions are that in 1896 it will experience even a greater boom, I am inclined to think that it has reached its height for the present at least.

We have much to look back upon with pleasure, and a great deal to anticipate from the new year. In racing circles records have got down so low it would seem the limit had about been reached. This is also very true of the weight of machines, which have been made almost too light to withstand the wear and tear required of them, and the tendency shown by next year's models is to an increase of several pounds, and the average road wheel will weigh from twenty-three to twenty-five pounds. Tires are also heavier and more substantial than formerly, and while it is an open question whether the single or inner tube style is the best, most riders lean to the former, or "hosepipe," as it is called.

The coming to this coast of the great racing cracks this fall gave a fresh impetus to the sport, and though they have returned to their homes for the holidays they will come here again in the spring to train. About that time Arthur Zimmerman, the world's greatest bicyclist, may also be expected from Australia, where he has been defeating all comers with ease, and the popular "Zimmy" will surely be accorded a glorious reception, which he has received all over the world, and none will gainsay that he deserves the title of "America's greatest sportsman."

It has been clearly demonstrated that California riders are the equals of the Easterners as to speed, though they still lack knowledge of many of the little tricks which help to win races. But we may always feel safe with our honors upheld by such men as Ziegler, Wells, the Terrills and others. Their success has encouraged others to try their fortune on the National racing circuit, and who knows but what the mighty Foster has inclinations that way? E. C. Bald says that Terrill and Wells must train more than they do to get their best speed, and he surely ought to know.

A great factor in cycling on the Pacific Coast is the California Associated Cycling Clubs, an organization made up of all the prominent clubs in this part of the State. Its principal object is the promotion of interclub road-racing, and there are now three great annual events held under its auspices—the 100-mile relay race around the bay in April, the 10-mile handicap road race in October from Fruitvale to Haywards and the 25-mile handicap road race around the San Leandro-San Lorenzo-Haywards triangle in February.

These events are always hotly contested by large fields of riders and are the principal road events of the year on the coast. They can only be competed in by riders belonging to clubs that are members of the association. Valuable prizes and trophies are always offered for time and place in the races, and for the relay there is a silver cup, which goes to the club which puts forth the winning team. There is talk of instituting a twenty-mile team race for another cup next year.

The association is the coast authority on all road records and trials against time. The secretary must first be notified when trials are to be made and necessary proofs filed with him if a record is lowered. This he forwards to the Century Road Club of America for confirmation. The association also furnishes to clubs that belong to it a board of five timers for all road events, who are thoroughly efficient, and thus if a record is made the rider is not cheated out of it through inaccurate timing.

Harlow H. White of the Olympic Club Wheelmen is the president of the Associated Clubs for this year, and Jules F. Hancock of the Bay City Wheelmen is secretary-treasurer. Besides these officers the association is controlled by a board of governors composed of three delegates from each club belonging to it, from whom the various committeemen are chosen. Financially the organization is upon a sound basis. The dues are $10 per year, and this with receipts from other various sources is sufficient to more than pay expenses. Meetings are held bimonthly at the rooms of the various clubs, each one vying with the other for the honor of acting as host, and as there are about thirty clubs enrolled and only six meetings each year, it is not often that one club has the pleasure twice. The meetings are always largely attended and the proceedings are of interest. The most peculiar rule the association has is that no person expelled from one club for non-payment of dues can join another if it is in the association, without having first liquidated his indebtedness to the club he was expelled from. To enforce this a blacklist is kept by the secretary-treasurer of every man expelled from a club, which is circulated among all the clubs. The effect is wholesome and expulsions are very infrequent.

To Henry F. Wynne of the California Cycling Club must be attributed a great deal of the honor due for the strong position the California Associated Cycling Clubs have attained in cycling on this coast. He has always taken a great deal of personal interest in its welfare, and recently declined the offer of a third nomination to the presidency, only because his increasing business interests forbade his further neglecting them. Mr. Hancock is serving his second term as secretary-treasurer and is a very efficient officer.

The subject of indoor racing in this City next February interests wheelmen to a great extent. San Francisco is entirely without a bicycle track, and this was never more keenly felt than when the Eastern cracks came to the coast in October last, and the lovers of the sport in this vicinity did not see them compete because of the want of a track. If the project to build an eight-lap board track in the Mechanics' Pavilion is put through it will be of inestimable benefit to the racing men and the sport itself, for while no very fast time can be made the races will be as interesting and as heartily contested as though upon the famous three-lap cement oval at San Jose.

It is probable there will be some movement toward the construction of a track here next year, though after the unfortunate experience financially of the Bay City Wheelmen in that regard, the other clubs are very wary of the proposition, and it will doubtless have to be fostered by the trade, the Associated Clubs, or a stock company. The trouble is to secure an available site. Land is too valuable in this City to be put to such a use, and unless a track outside the City limits was easily accessible, the gate receipts might show a loss. The Southern Pacific Company built and are conducting one of the finest bicycle tracks in the world, as to size, surface and appointments, at Santa Monica, which has proved a great success financially and in every other way, and it is said they are willing to do the same here if a good location can be picked out.

The local wheeling clubs are nearly all doing well. The Bay City Wheelmen still maintains its position as the leading strictly bicycle club of the coast. There has been a division at the Olympic Club, and it has two wheeling adjuncts, and while the feeling is strong between them this rivalry has had a good effect and both are flourishing. The San Francisco Road Club has come to the fore with astonishing success, having a large and steadily increasing membership and a handsomely furnished clubhouse. The Imperial Cycling Club maintains its own and is comfortably located on Van Ness avenue. The Outing Road Club went out of existence in the middle of the year and the Royal Club has not been doing very well. The Crescent Road Club and the Pacific Cycling Club, two organizations with closed membership lists, are strong financially and numerically. Out in the Mission district the California Cycling Club and the Liberty Cycling Club are competing with each other as to which shall offer the most advantages. Both have ladies' annexes—the Californias being known as the Alpha Cycling Club—which are composed of a very select class of the fair devotees of the sport, and they may often be seen in the park or upon country roads, enjoying themselves thoroughly.

In these two instances the ladies' annex has been found a success, but none of the other prominent clubs have seen fit to adopt the idea. Nevertheless, their members are frequently seen riding with ladies, which disproves the suggestion that they do not favor the sport as a means of recreation for their or some one else's sisters.

The San Francisco Road Club is making great preparations for its ladies' night New Year's night, January 1, 1896. Dancing and music will be the principal features.

The Golden Gate Cycling Club has issued invitations for its first anniversary ball, to be held at Mission Parlor Hall on Tuesday evening next, New Year's eve. The affair will be well attended and very enjoyable. Admission is by invitation only, of which a large number have been issued.

A fortnight ago I published the following in THE CALL as a matter of considerable interest:

The degree of hardness to which tires should be inflated is largely a matter of personal preference. They should never be left soft enough to flatten out much beyond the edges of the rim when supporting the weight of the rider, and most cyclists prefer them as hard as they can be made. Riding through sand or over wet places experience has proven that a soft tire is preferable.

Regarding this article I received a note from San Jose on the subject which is quite valuable. It says:

Dear Sir: I read the inclosed clipping with much interest. I would like to add that the remark about a soft tire not being so slippery as a hard one should be applied to the front tire only. Pump the rear tire as hard as possible or it will soon leak on the sides.

Telling others of my practice of running on a soft front tire has saved them from many a tumble, for a hard front tire will slip in dust, sand or mud.

This writer speaks advisedly and we can all appreciate from actual experience the value of his remarks. THE CALL will always be pleased to print in its cycling columns items of this sort which tend to increase the safety and pleasure of the sport.

Harry F. Terrill, the Bay City's crack class A rider, has been heard of once more. He is now at Big Rapids, Mich., and in a newsy letter to me from that point, dated the 16th inst., he says in part:

Yours of the 10th inst. reached me to-day, also copies of THE CALL. I want to thank you for your kindness in sending me these papers. I like to hear all the news from home and particularly the bicycle news, and we all know THE CALL has the best of that too. Regarding the "roast" of F. Ed Spooner, those are my sentiments exactly and of every other cyclist whom I have shown it to here. They know him by reputation in the East. "Roast" him again for me.

What with skating, dancing, sleighing and socials of all sorts, I am having a glorious time here. Saturday nights we get up a sleighing party and drive thirty miles to Detroit. We get a four-horse team and a big box sleigh filled with straw, buffalo robes, blankets, hot soapstones and—girls, and have a jolly ride. I have been going skating every day. One day a young fellow came down to the pond who is considered an exceptionally fast skater. He came by me on the fly, so I tacked on and let him set pace for about a quarter of a mile; then we back-peddled. He finally turned around and started back, intent on leaving me standing still, but I was still with him and stayed on behind. He finally asked me to go him a quarter and I did and beat him. Then he asked who I was and I told him my name was Johnny Johnson and that I didn't want to be known here, as the people would expect me to race, and I was out for a vacation. He told me to lay low and he would pick out some snaps for me and we could make some money. He can skate a mile in 2:32, and yet I left him fifty yards in a quarter. I weigh 188 pounds now. I guess this cold weather agrees with us Californians. Write soon and tell the boys to write, addressing to Big Rapids, Mich. Yours sincerely, HARRY F. TERRILL.

The Liberty Cycling Club will hold its annual election of officers Tuesday, January 7. To-morrow the club will go to the park if the weather is fair. The club's smoker last Saturday night was a jolly affair and well attended. A dance and entertainment are proposed for some evening during January.

It has been estimated that the total output of the bicycle factories during the season of 1896 will aggregate 1,000,000 wheels. This may seem considerable, but new concerns are entering the field all the while. Still there is room for them, for the ground has never been thoroughly canvassed for the sale of bicycles, and will not be for a couple of years. Many outlying districts look with awe upon the cyclist, and there are said to be towns in this country which cannot boast of the possession of a wheel. The manufacturers are continually increasing in number, and there will come a time when competition for trade will be even more bitter than it is now. Prices may drop then, but not while the cost of production is as high as it is. Constantly changing models and the high price of material and parts are the largest factors in the cost of manufacture, and until these are much less the price of a high-grade wheel must necessarily remain where it is now—at $100. There will be no reduction during 1896, I feel assured.

It is strange that so many people should seem to think that bicycling develops only the muscles of the leg. Criticisms of this kind, however, are usually heard from those who have not tried this most fascinating means of recreation and exercise. Experience has proved that bicycling brings into play and develops all the important muscles which help to build up the physical structure. Of course the legs receive the greatest amount of exercise, but the use of the arms, back and chest is very important. When a steep incline is encountered the legs alone would be unable to supply sufficient propulsive power. The handle-bars must be firmly grasped, and the strain on them is very great; in fact they might be broken if at all defective, which gives a faint idea of the great strength that must be put forth by the arms and back. SPALDING.

QUAIL AND DUCK.

Sportsmen Who Have Had Good Shooting—Nitro-Powder.

The sportsmen who are fortunate in owning good hunting dogs have been enjoying excellent quail-shooting recently.

The past few weeks of fine weather has greatly improved the sport. The birds, which up to recently were found in or near the heavy undergrowth, are now enjoying the warmth of the sun's rays in the open lands, where sportsmen can conveniently bag them with the assistance of a well-trained dog.

As considerable farm land has been closed to hunters owing to the reckless system of shooting employed by some people, it would be advisable for sportsmen who are strangers to farmers on whose grounds they intend to shoot to ask permission of the land-owner before entering upon his property.

The duck-hunters have been doing fairly well of late. Some very good bags of birds have been made by sportsmen who have shot on the Sonoma marshes. The shooting on the Alviso and Alvarado marshes has also shown signs of improvement, but the largest bags of game have been made on the Suisun marshes. Spoonbills and teal are very plentiful this year, but the widgeon, which in past years were so numerous, are surprisingly scarce this season.

The members of the Mallard Club have been summoned to appear before Judge Beatty of the United States Circuit Court to show cause why an injunction should not be issued restraining and enjoining them from, in any way, interfering with the exclusive pleasure and enjoyment of the Ibis Gun Club, which claims title to certain swamp and overflowed land, situated in the Suisun marshes.

Louis Rondeau and Alfonso Smith succeeded in bagging about three dozen quail near Tocaloma last Sunday. Mr. Smith states that the birds were very wild and snap shooting was the order.

Some of the sportsmen who shoot in the Suisun marshes adopt an old system of bagging birds which, although injurious to the pocket, saves considerable hard work and physical energy. The antiquated method of sportsmanship which is always certain of landing game is known to many people as the silver-shot scheme, which is practiced even in these enlightened times by some of the fraternity who take pride in showing up big bags on the homeward march. It is said that some local sportsmen have been very successful with the silver bait, and that a gentleman named Alden is considered a most accomplished duck shot by the market hunters of Suisun, who are always pleased to see him in that vicinity.

Frank Dolliver and a friend bagged something like 200 wild ducks and one black swan near Tubbs Island on the Sonoma marshes last Saturday. A black swan is rarely seen on this coast; and naturally Mr. Dolliver feels proud in having bagged one of three birds that passed within range of his high priced gun.

A pigeon tournament will be held at Davisville on January 1, and, as many handsome prizes will be given the winners, some of the leading trap-shooters of this City have signified their intention of entering the race.

Donald MacRae bagged 110 ducks, nine white swans and five geese near Espinosa station last Saturday and Sunday. MacRae and a friend had sculled up Espinosa slough from Bells ark at an early hour on Sunday morning to a point within a few hundred yards of "Cap" Chittenden's yacht White Wings, which craft has been leased by the Cordelia Shooting Club. As the hunters were leaving their boat for a pond over which they intended shooting, one of them noticed a keeper on board the Cordelia yacht who was watching their movements through a field glass, but they gave the matter little thought, as the recent decision of Judge Buckles gave every sportsman a right to shoot on any of the ponds in the marshes.

The indignation of the hunters may be imagined, however, when they discovered on their return to the boat that their rubber coats and gun-cases had been stolen by some unknown thief or thieves, who, if ever discovered, will be taught a lesson they will not very soon forget. It is exactly this kind of meanness that kindles the fire of enmity between the so-called preserve clubs and the sportsmen at large.

It will be remembered that several valuable guns exploded this year in the hands of sportsmen whose cartridges were loaded with nitro powder. On this subject the well-known sportsman and experienced judge of guns, Harvey McMurchy, recently expressed himself on the question of nitro powder and where the blame could be laid for burst gun barrels, says the Sporting Life. Mr. McMurchy is as well posted on the performance of shotguns as any man living, having devoted considerable time and study to this end. He gave as his opinion that the gunmakers were not protected as they should be against violent and unsafe nitro powders being used in their guns, and when any trouble occurred the blame was at once placed on the maker of the gun, and not on the powder, where it should be placed. He also stated that the time was not far distant when the Government of the United States would adopt a system of testing the various makes of nitro powder now offered for use in the shotguns, the testing to be done at the company's factory under the direction of competent men. This is certainly a matter of utmost importance, as every year—in fact, every few months—brings a new nitro powder upon the market.

All of these powders are carefully tested before being placed on the market, the makers claiming that they have the best article yet produced, and immediately it is tested in guns which have stood years of shooting, perhaps bursting with the new compound. Now, where can the blame be placed? Why, on the powder, of course, but in almost every case the owner of the injured gun will write to makers and demand a new one for it. In this case Mr. McMurchy thinks that as the governor regulates the number of revolutions that an engine makes, so should the United States Government regulate the strength of the nitro powders before they can be placed on the market. Sufficient tests of the properties and bursting force of each powder could easily be determined by an inspector.

The gunmakers of this as well as other countries have been working to make a gun that would stand the test and strain of nitro powder, but no sooner is this completed than out comes a new explosive, of greater bursting strain, and away goes another fine gun, to the injury of the firm producing it. This may even be done with powder of long introduction, as it is well known that the explosive force varies at different periods of age, sometimes increasing in strength or perhaps decreasing, as the case may be.

The Christmas number of Shooting and Fishing of New York should be seen by all lovers of shooting to be appreciated. The illustrations of hunting and fishing scenes and the articles which accompany them are truly excellent. Some of the pictures will instantly recall to mind many pleasant hours spent among the wild ducks of the marshes, or the more thrilling adventures of grizzly-bear shooting in the mountains. The paper reflects much credit on the publishers.

ROD AND REEL.

Angling Is Still Good in Russian River—Latest News.

Latest intelligence from Duncans Mills speaks very favorably of the fishing in Russian River for steelheads. The past week of fine weather has been a means of decreasing the supply of water in the river with the result that the fish have congregated in the deep pools where they will remain until the next freshet. Judge Evans has had very good success. He landed some "whoppers" yesterday that gave him all the fight he desired.

Trolling has given better satisfaction than any other system of angling. The Wilson spoon and red fly are the tempters which have landed many splendid game fish on terra firma. To guarantee success in steelhead fishing on the Russian River, the angler must go prepared with a tolerably stiff rod and at least eighty yards of the best silk line. Al Wilson killed a 16-pound fish one day last week which ran off with ninety yards of line three times before it acknowledged defeat by turning on its back. Wilson and other anglers, who have fished for years, state that the steelhead of Russian River is the gamest of Pacific Coast fishes. Anglers who propose having a day's outing on the Russian River should not delay the time of going, as the next heavy storm will terminate the sport for this season. Mr. Morgan of Duncans Mills will accommodate visiting anglers with boats free of charge.

Anglers by the dozen strolled along the banks of Paper-mill Creek last Sunday. They cast lines in the deep pools between the bridge which spans the creek and a place known as the sand spit, near the mouth of the river. One or two of the bait fishermen had fairly good success so far as the capture of small trout is concerned, but no large fish were hooked. The river is yet too low, and expert anglers contend that there will not be a run of large fish up Paper-mill Creek until the next freshet.

A few fish were taken at Shellville last Sunday, but the best reports near at hand are from Pescadero, where several good catches of steelheads ranging in weight from a half to three pounds have been made.

Anglers have not as yet been disturbed in the State to any extent by clubs of people banded together for the purpose of leasing fishing waters; but it is safe to say that in the near future the anglers will have to defend their rights in the same manner as the sportsmen are now compelled to do. Consequently every lover of angling should be a member of the Sportsmen's Protective Association of this City, the members of which will meet at K. of R. B. Hall, Mason and O'Farrell streets, on Tuesday evening next.

Regarding angling the following decision of Judge Bundy of Madison, Wis., in a famous fish-trespass case of the Willow River Club against people who persisted in fishing in the club's leased waters will be read with interest by local anglers. The Judge said:

In my judgment the plaintiffs cannot recover, because fish in their wild state in all the streams and waters of the State belong to the State, and are held in trust for the use of the people at large. Are plaintiffs entitled to damages for the defendant's entering upon the land in question? It is not claimed that any actual damages were done, but if the entry was wrongful as against these plaintiffs, of course they are intitled to nominal damages, but in the view I take of this case I must hold that the plaintiffs cannot recover at all. The stream in question has, during the last ten years, been stocked with trout spawn furnished by the State of Wisconsin. Some of this spawn has been placed in the river upon the very land upon which, it is alleged, the trespass took place. It has been placed there with the plaintiff Burkhart's consent, and in some instances at least with his active assistance. This spawn furnished by the State was paid for by the taxes of the whole people, collected from the rich and poor alike, and the expenditure of money thus raised can only be justified upon the theory that it is a public use to which it is appropriated. It would be utterly indefensible for the State to exercise its taxing power to enrich the person who happened to own the land upon which a stream of water is running, or to enhance the pleasure of a club of gentlemen who are fortunate enough to be able to acquire riparian rights along the banks of the stream for the purpose of excluding the general public from any participation in the benefits to be derived from such expenditure, and I cannot think the State of Wisconsin has levied taxes to be expended for any such purpose. I think the use of that river for propagating trout was a public use and should be so regarded.

The necessity for careful revision of all State fish and game laws is aptly illustrated by a recent decision of Justice Geisler of Portland, Or., who discharged from custody a fish-dealer of that city who had been arrested upon the charge of having mountain trout on sale during the close season. There was no question about the fact that the fish were mountain trout or that they were bought during the close season. But the defendant produced an affidavit by a man who swore he caught the trout in salt water, with hook and line, and as the Solons who framed the law had inserted therein the words "caught from any fresh water," the Judge discharged the defendant. To say this state of affairs created a storm of indignation among the sportsmen of Portland but faintly expresses the case, for they see no chance of any protection for trout if facts can be so perverted that mountain trout take up a residence in salt water.

THE OARSMEN.

The Ladies' Crew of the Pioneer Rowing Club—Notes of Interest.

The ladies' four-oared crew of the Pioneer Rowing Club, which was recently organized is rapidly becoming famous. Crowds gather on Sundays to see the fair ones paddle their own canoe.

Mrs. Alice Rix, the reporter, was given a boat ride in the whitehall by the girls last Sunday and was quite surprised at the clever manner in which the oarswomen handled their boat. The lady enthusiasts of the South End and Alameda clubs are not going to be outdone by the ladies of the Pioneer Club and will soon be seen enjoying the pleasures of a four-oared barge.

The ladies of the Alameda Club have been for some time trying to organize a crew, but not until lately have they succeeded.

The meeting-rooms of the South End Rowing Club at the City Hall, Alameda, were crowded last Tuesday evening.

The object of the meeting was to elect officers for the ensuing year, and as two tickets had been placed in the field great interest and enthusiasm were manifested. For many months the question of organing a ladies' annex to the club has been discussed, and it is needless to say that the advocates of the bloomer have been quite numerous.

It was owing to this proposition that two tickets had been placed in the field. The regular ticket favored the ladies' annex and was headed by John A. Lenahan for president.

The opposition ticket was supported by members who do not believe in the new woman, bloomers, etc., and was led by Edward Tobin for president.

After a spirited contest which brought forth many eloquent speeches, from Edward P. Shortall, William F. Humphrey and Daniel Connolly on the part of the annex, and James Foley and Thomas F. Barry on the part of the opposition, it was found that the admirers of the bloomer were victorious, and Mr. Lenahan and the entire regular ticket was elected as follows: President, John A. Lenahan; vice-president, Edward Scully; financial secretary, Edward P. Shortall; corresponding secretary, John J. Mahoney; treasurer, A. H. Melletz; sergeant-at-arms, James F. Grennan; captain, William Thomas; lieutenant-captain, Frank Duplissea; board of trustees—chairman, William F. Humphrey; Thomas J. Barry, T. I. Fitzpatrick, Henry Bode and Joseph P. O'Dea; delegate to board of managers of P. A. A. (unexpired term), Edward P. Shortall; delegates to P. A. A., William F. Humphrey, John A. Lenahan and Thomas F. Barry.

A. J. Fritz, the outgoing president, reported $200 in the treasury.

At the next meeting the club intends to give orders for two outrigged skiffs and a four-oared barge.

The installation will take place on January 14. George G. Fox was elected, and G. J. McCormick, J. G. Haggerty and Lawrence B. Alberti were proposed for membership to the club.

The four-oared-shell crew which left the South End boathouse last Sunday for a row along the front was almost swamped by the swells of the ferry steamer. The oarsmen will practice in Mission Bay hereafter. The crew were: Frank Duplissea, bow; Jim Fickett, No. 2; Ed Slattery, No. 3; Al Fritz, stroke.

A new crew now in training is composed of George Bates, H. Smith, Dave Cambell and Tom Barry.

The following crew will represent the club in the next junior race: George G. Fox, J. Barry, Frank Tobin and William Humphrey (coach).

Charles Cutter of the Olympic Club has applied for membership in the South End Club.

A high jinks at the South End boathouse will be held immediately after the installation of officers in honor of Charles A. Lenahan, the newly elected president.

The Ariel Club intends to have built one of the fastest gasoline launches on the bay. It will be 35 feet long, 7 feet beam, and will be used as a pleasure boat.

A crew from the club inspected the Philadelphia last Sunday and were courteously received.

The club was elected to the Pacific Athletic Association at the last meeting, and now all of the boat clubs are members of this organization, which has formulated a set of rules governing a regatta.

The Pioneers' senior crew, consisting of the following: Fred Orr, bow; Coney Ochs, No. 2; George Collopy, No. 3, and John Clifford, stroke, were out in the Pioneers' four-oared paper shell, the fastest on the coast, last Sunday.

The South Ends have five racing boats, the Ariels four, the Pioneers four, the Dolphins three and the Columbias, Alamedas and Tritons each have three or four.

The recent rains have caused the embankment adjoining the Triton Boat Club to slide and settle under the boathouse floor, and at low tide for a distance of twenty feet out it is entirely bare, rendering boat-launching impossible.

The new Dolphin boathouse is not entirely complete, but it is rapidly nearing a state of completion, and a house-warming will soon be given. The house was open for inspection last Sunday. A good course has been laid out for the races, to be held on the opening day. It is from the boathouse to Powell-street wharf and return, a little over a mile and a half.

The election of officers of the club for the ensuing term resulted as follows: President, T. J. Sullivan; vice-president, James B. Keenan; recording secretary, H. C. Vanderwater; financial secretary, F. C. Staib; treasurer, Adam Schuppert; sergeant-at-arms, Peter Von Hadeln; captain, W. O. Patch; vice-captain, C. J. Mogan; executive committee—E. P. Sullivan, James J. Cronin; board of trustees—D. T. Ewart, W. J. Schumacher, George C. Alfritz; delegates to P. A. A.—A. N. Rothkopf, James B. Keenan, W. O. Patch.

The Alameda Boating and Swimming Club will soon have enrolled as members the whole police force of Alameda.

COURSING.

John Dugan's Experience With a Pot-Hunter in the Old Preserve.

There will be two coursing meetings to-morrow. The Interstate Club will open its new park at Newark, and at Ocean View Kerrigan and Cronin will give an open meeting, for which valuable prizes are offered.

John Dugan, an old and popular coursing man, who resides at Newark, relates a good story concerning the Newark Park, when it was in its prime some years ago, as follows:

"I had just received a large consignment of hares from Trapper Browning of Merced," said Dugan, "and was after giving them the liberty of the big field when I heard several shots in the vicinity of the breeding paddock.

"I was at the time of the shooting engaged in arranging some of the escapes at the lower end of the field, but you can gamble it took me only a very short time to reach the place where the cannonading was going on. Well, you can imagine how I felt when I saw a hunter behind one of the trees in the breeding park pumping lead as fast as he could shoot at the breeding hares. I ran toward him with the vowed intention of giving him as good a thumping as he had ever received, and, as I got to within a hundred yards or so of where the fellow was kneeling, the fellow jumped up and shouted angrily at me to keep back.

"I quickened my footsteps, and as I got within talking distance of him he again shouted at me: 'Keep back, keep back, you fool, or you'll scare them all away; the woods are full of them.'

"The idiot actually thought that he had happened upon an impromptu gathering of hares and had settled down to a great afternoon's sport; but when I had my say and collected $2 for every hare he had bagged, the hunter concluded that the sport was hardly worth the expense. Yes, I have had many hard runs after hunters who would bowl a hare over and then make their escape for town. I expect that some hare-shooting will result again, now that the park is opened, unless precautions are taken to keep the hunters a good distance from the breeding grounds."

The following dogs will compete at Kerrigan & Cronin's Coursing Park, Ocean View, to-morrow:

Villa kennel's Maud G vs. J. Ford's Pride of the West, M. O'Connor's Foxhall vs. J. Tracy's Forest King, Falcon kennel's White Rose vs. S. Riordan's Chicopee, F. Brown's Kitty Pease vs. J. McBride's Flashlight, M. O'Connor's Marguerite vs. F. C. Randolph's Trix, T. Moore's Monitor vs. J. Gibson's Corte Madera, P. Olmo's Blackthorn vs. J. Kerrigan's Dashaway, T. O'Brien's Lamplighter vs. T. Ford's Maggie, P. McKane's Flambo vs. J. Kerrigan's White Cloud, C. Evans' Mission Star vs. J. O'Shea's Tullamore, C. Anderson's Lilly W vs. T. Flynn's Empire, W. Kelter's Freestone vs. Bay Farm kennel's Regent, Bay Farm kennel's Mission Boy vs. Sunrise kennel's Butcher Boy, D. Tweedie's White Rustic vs. Potrero kennel's Georgie Dixon, Falcon kennel's Red Rose vs. J. Tracy's J O C.

Ed Canavan will judge and John Cranston will slip.

The following is the drawing for the coursing stake which will be run at Newark to-morrow:

D. Dillon's Lady Fitzgerald vs. J. H. Perigo's Wee Lassie, W. Cicott's Stamboul Queen vs. W. C. Peyton's Charming May, Garden City kennel's Advertiser vs. West Side kennel's Westside, Alameda kennel's Emin Pasha vs. J. McCormick's Rapid, P. Ryan's Magpie vs. J. F. Grace's Rollalong, M. Culligan's Left Bower vs. T. Hall's Annie Laurie, T. Hall's Holy Terror vs. T. J. Cronin's Reliance, J. Cooney's Grannaile vs. J. H. Perigo's Santa Bella, J. Sullivan's Kilkenny Girl vs. J. R. Dickson's Rosa B, J. F. Grace's Nelly Conroy vs. P. J. Riley's Fleetfoot, F. None's Daisy Blue vs. D. Tweedie's Dublin Stout, P. Tiernan's Long John vs. T. McDonald's Lissak, J. J. Edmonds' Valley Queen vs. T. J. Cronin's Dottie Dimple, W. C. Peyton's Banker vs. T. Cox's Sam, T. Cox's Tipperary vs. James Dean's Ivy, John Egan's Trilby vs. P. Tiernan's Tom Hayes, T. McDonald's Three Cheers vs. J. G. Thompson's Anything, J. Sullivan's Little Tom vs. Alameda kennel's Wayfarer, T. J. Cronin's Best Trump vs. J. J. Edmunds' Vida Shaw, M. Traynor's Valley Maid vs. West Side kennel's Ruby, T. Neenan's Yreka vs. John Egan's Sly Boy.

The prizes are: $75, $45, $30 and three of $20.

Field officers: Judge, John Grace; slipper, J. F. Grace; slip steward, J. R. Dickson; flag steward, Joseph Reed; field stewards—James Byrnes, J. H. Rosseter, H. G. Layng, John Eagan and M. Healy.

BASEBALL.

The Olympics and Pacifics Will Meet Again To-Morrow.

The Olympic and Pacific baseball nines will meet again on Sunday at Central Park and owing to the closeness of the last game it is presumed that a large crowd will witness to-morrow's contest. The make-up is as follows:

Olympics.	Position.	Pacifics.
O'Kane	Catcher	Stanley
Cooney	Pitcher	Iburg
Powers	First base	Tredway
Beckett	Second base	Delmas
Krug	Third base	Peguigney
Monahan	Shortstop	Johnson
Cosgrove	Left field	Walters
Nealon	Center field	Gorman
Mertes	Right field	Wilds

UNDERWRITERS CAN'T AGREE.

Insurance Men Meet Again, but Fail to Decide on Compact Rules.

There was a meeting of the San Francisco Underwriters in the old compact rooms at Battery and California streets yesterday, the object being to further discuss a plan upon which the proposed union might be effected.

The one point taken up for consideration was compensation of agents, which so far has proved to be a stumbling block in the way of forming an absolute compact to maintain fire insurance rates.

Some resolutions were submitted as amendments to the constitution offered by the committee on laws and discussed. No conclusion could be reached, however, and the meeting adjourned.

Marcus & Co. have severed their connection as city agents with the Transatlantic Fire Company and taken a city agency for the Commercial Union Company.

A CHRISTMAS WEDDING.

David Stark and Miss Bertha Wagner the Contracting Parties.

David Stark, chief inspector for the steam-boiler insurance department of the Pacific Surety Company, and Dr. Bertha M. E. Wagner were married in this City on Christmas day and are now enjoying their honeymoon by a visit to the orange groves of Southern California. The wedding ceremony was conducted by Rev. Dr. William Pond at the Bethany Congregational Church, only a few of the most intimate friends of the bride and groom being present. Upon their return to the City Mr. and Mrs. Stark will make their residence at the corner of Valencia and Twenty-first streets. Both are prominent in society circles in California and Nevada. Their many friends will join in best wishes for their happiness and prosperity.

COUNTY HOSPITAL NEEDS.

The Board of Health Will Make Much Desired Improvements.

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE.

Japanese Mails May Now Come Into Port Without Fumigation—Nuisance Abated.

The matter of repairing or rebuilding the City and County Hospital was thoroughly discussed at yesterday's meeting of the Board of Health, and the members were unapimous in the belief that something must be done at once to place the institution in a habitable condition. Mayor Sutro and Drs. Hart and Morse vied with one another in speaking in uncomplimentary terms of the present condition of the hospital, declaring that it would be an outrage to expect persons of sound health to live in the place, much less those whose illness had placed them in a condition where proper housing free from cold and draughts might militate against their chances of recovery.

It was finally decided not to begin operations until the place had been thoroughly inspected to ascertain what alterations are actually necessary, and to that end a committee consisting of Drs. Hart, Fitzgibbons and Williamson was appointed to look into the matter at once and report to the board at its next meeting.

Postmaster McCoppin addressed the board in a letter on the subject of the mails from Japanese ports, which were declared infected during the cholera scare, and asked whether the quarantine regulations established by the board were still in force. The board decided to officially raise the embargo, and instructed Secretary Godchaux to notify the postmater that in future Japanese mails will not be subject to any greater precautions than those from other sections of the globe.

Health Officer Lovelace's report recommending the condemning of the hog ranch of Frank Mex at Ninth avenue and G street as a public nuisance was adopted, and the officer instructed to see that the nuisance is abated forthwith.

Superintendent Daggett of the Mint, in reply to the communication of the board in relation to the fumes of acids arising from the Federa, institution, which were complained of by residents of the neighborhood, said that the state of affairs complained of had existed for twenty years without protest.

He further stated that as it was absolutely necessary to use the acids he was unable to suggest any remedy for the matter, but would be perfectly willing to act on any feasible suggestion from the board. He requested that Health Officer Lovelace be instructed to confer with him in relation to the subject.

A communication was received from the Board of Supervisors inclosing a resolution recently adopted appointing William Mooser Jr. as architect to draw up plans and specifications for a home for inebriates and dipsomaniacs under the direction of the Board of Health. Attached was a communication from the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Dipsomania and Inebriety indorsing Dr. William J. Gavigan as supervising physician to assist Architect Mooser. The matter was placed on file without discussion.

Professor W. B. Rising, the State analyst, sent in a communication acknowledging the receipt of the samples of water recently taken by the board from the reservoirs of the Spring Valley Company and asking further information as to the nature of the analysis desired and also further time to pursue his investigations.

It was reported to the board that the Alpers Fertilizing Works at Butchertown, declared a nuisance and ordered abated some time ago, are still running full blast. The secretary was instructed to communicate with the attorney of the board and ascertain whether the health officials have the right to force the establishment to close.

Attention was called to the large number of cases of typhoid fever recently reported, and Dr. Hart suggested that householders should again be warned to keep their water-tanks clean as a measure of precaution against the disease.

Dr. Hart called attention to the condition of the inmates of the Pesthouse, many of whom, he declared, to be without clothing sufficient to keep them warm. The Hospital Committee was instructed to look into the matter and purchase clothing for the unfortunates if it was found necessary.

MRS. FAY SUES ALPERS.

An Undesirable Tenant Asks Damages of Her Landlord for an Alleged Assault.

Margaret Fay began a suit in the Justice's Court yesterday against Louis Alpers for $299 damages for a malicious assault which she alleges was committed on her by the defendant on the 11th inst. The complaint states that he kicked, beat her and otherwise maltreated her and that she has since that time suffered greatly in mind and body over the affair.

The difficulty grew out of Alpers' strange method of driving Mrs. Fay, who was his unwelcome tenant, out of a small house on Twenty-second and Potrero avenue.

Mrs. Fay failed to pay rent and Alpers ordered her out. When she failed to obey he did not take the ordinary measure of beginning a suit in ejectment, but resorted to the means of tearing out all of the windows and doors of the house, letting the wind and rain in to roam about the house at will. Still Mrs. Fay failed to move, saying that she at least had the roof over her head and that she did not know where to find the same protection elsewhere. It was during one of Alpers' periodical visits to the house to insist on her vacating that the assault alleged in the complaint took place.

The Police Board of Jersey City is retiring patrolmen because they are getting "too fat."

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