FLASHING AMATEUR CONTESTS

Hard Punching and Ear-Chewing Last Evening.

McGrath Whipped Sullivan, but the Referee Was Lenient.

The Excelsior Athletic Members Witnessed a Good Entertainment.

ARONSEN, EAR-CHEWER.

The Pugilistic Italian Attempted to Mutilate His Opponent's Organ of Hearing.

The Excelsior Athletic Club of Eighth and Folsom streets gave a very exciting contest last evening at their club rooms between Joe Sullivan of the Imperial Athletic Club and James McGrath, a pupil of Young Mitchell. The men entered the ring weighing 130 pounds, and Jim Kennedy, the president of the club, who was selected to referee the contest, announced that he would declare the man who scored the greater number of points at the end of six rounds to be the winner.

McGrath was seconded by Spider Kelly, Tim McGrath and Solly Smith, while Sullivan was looked after by two or three of his friends from the Imperial Athletic Club. Several dollars were wagered at even money by the members of the club on the result before the men entered the ring.

In the first round McGrath rushed at Sullivan, and, after missing a left-hand swing at the head, he smashed the Imperial man a heavy right in the stomach. Sullivan fell back against the ropes, then ducked away, and as McGrath rushed at him again, Sullivan caught him a left swing on the jaw which partly dazed the recipient. Sullivan then seeing an advantage closed in on McGrath, and punched him a left in the neck. This was followed by infighting, and some rough exchanges resulted. McGrath was sent to his knees from the force of a right cross counter on the jaw. As he regained his pins the bell sounded the end of the first round.

Second Round—Sullivan came to the scratch with blinking eyes, and McGrath lost no time in forcing the argument. Sullivan was punched all round the ring, but returned to the fire, and with a well-directed left-hand swing he closed completely the right eye of McGrath, and was having all the best of the fight until near the finish when McGrath was sent under the ropes in a bleeding and distressed state. Just then the gong sounded and saved McGrath's bacon.

Third Round—McGrath, notwithstanding the punishment he had received, fought like a demon, and punished Sullivan in the stomach with right-handers. Sullivan returned blow for blow, and had McGrath's face smeared with blood when the round closed.

Fourth Round—McGrath toed the scratch anxious for fight. He charged at Sullivan, swinging right and left, but the Imperial man being wary, ducked cleverly from punishment. Near the end of the round McGrath landed three hard smashes on Sullivan's mouth, and the receiver turned tail and ran around the ring. Sullivan was showing the white feather when the round ended.

The fifth and sixth rounds were all in McGrath's favor. Notwithstanding the punishment that he had received in the previous rounds, he proved to be the gamer man by a long shot, and drove Sullivan from corner to corner of the ring in a manner that disgusted the friends of the Imperial Club gladiator. McGrath was having all the best of the fight at the end of the sixth round when time was called. He was thoroughly entitled to the decision on points, according to rule, but the referee decided the contest a draw, so as to give general satisfaction.

The San Francisco Athletic Club had an entertainment also last evening. After several small bouts between members of the club, Nick Aronsen, the champion hungry man from no particular place on earth, was defeated by Young Sharkey in two rounds. Sharkey did not knock Aronsen out, but when the latter found that he was getting the worst of the argument he made a desperate attempt to chew off a piece of the left ear of his opponent. Referee Jerry Flynn thought that Mr. Aronsen should have left his cannibal appetite at home, and immediately awarded the fight to Young Sharkey.

Over 200 members of the Union Athletic Club met in their hall, on Mason street, last evening, and enjoyed an excellent programme of boxing and tumbling. A sparring match between acts seemed to arouse the enthusiasm of the members. The go of the evening between William Pabst of the Union Club and James Ryan of the Home Club was declared a draw by Referee John Casey, a new shining light, who formally challenged the world after watching the friendly go.

SOUGHT POLICE PROTECTION.

Mrs. Thumler Annoyed by the Attentions of a Man.

A middle-aged woman, giving her name as Mrs. Thumler, visited police headquarters last night and asked Chief Lees to protect her against the attentions of a man named Lasker. The woman lives at 108 Minna street. She claims that Lasker is in the habit of hanging around her house, annoying her with his attentions and writing letters to her. She was advised to swear out a warrant for his arrest.

In Behalf of Victory.

A large number of members and friends of the Young Men's Christian Association met in the gymnasium last night to celebrate the recent victory of the athletic team. A programme of song and speech was enjoyed. Miss Caroline Shindler, Robert Sachs and Rev. George Gibson rendered solos. Dr. H. L. Dietz, Dr. George Daniels and J. Grant-Henderson gave addresses. Mr. Louis Titus presented the banner in a happy speech and President W. W. Chase responded, admonishing the winning team to maintain their new honors.

Tenth Anniversary.

The tenth anniversary of the San Francisco Letter Carriers' Mutual Aid Association was held in Odd Fellows' Hall last evening. Following an enjoyable programme a social dance concluded the evening's entertainment.

Ten cents for a bottle of Low's Horehound Cough Syrup. 417 Sansome st. •

A DESPERATE BURGLAR RECAPTURED.

Charles Johnson, one of the desperate burglars who escaped from the Salinas City Jail several weeks ago, was recaptured on Grant avenue early yesterday morning by Detectives Gibson and Wren.

Johnson, according to the police, is one of the most desperate burglars in the country. A short time ago he was released from San Quentin after serving a sentence of four years for burglary committed in Sacramento. He subsequently went to Salinas City, where he and an accomplice were caught in the act of burglarizing a private residence. They were confined in the City Jail, and a strict watch was kept on them, as it was believed that Johnson would make a determined effort to break jail.

On the night that they escaped Johnson called the under sheriff and asked him to get him a sheet of writing paper, as he was anxious to send a letter to his aged mother. In some way the men had provided themselves with a key to the cell in which they were confined, and as the under sheriff went to get the paper they opened the door and quietly entered the corridor.

The writing material of the jail was in a small desk in a room at the end of the corridor, and as the under sheriff entered the desperate men slipped up to the door and turned the key, which had been carelessly left in the lock, making the official a prisoner. They then secured the key to the outer door and made their escape. The under sheriff was compelled to remain in the room until the following morning, when one of the deputies, noticing his predicament, released him.

By this time the escaped prisoners had boarded a freight train and subsequently came to this city. Detectives Gibson and Wren located Johnson's accomplice in the tenderloin district and placed him under arrest. The following day he was returned to Salinas City, where he is now awaiting trial.

Shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday morning the same officers discovered Johnson in a rooming house on Grant avenue. Determined not to take any chances of being shot by him the detectives suddenly burst open the door of his room. As they entered Johnson reached for a loaded revolver which he had concealed under his pillow, but before he could use it they seized him. He was then handcuffed and escorted to the City Prison. To-day he will be taken back to Salinas City.

SOLID NINE AT WORK AGAIN

Director Hammond Provides for His Favorite Niece.

No Significance to Be Attached to the Late Transfer of Principals.

But Directors Head and Barrington Hold Widely Divergent Views on the Subject.

Miss Lida Carroll, who has secured the position of vice-principal in the new Mission High School, has nothing to regret in being the favorite niece of Director Hammond. She was among the first of his appointments one year ago, or shortly after he warmed his seat in the board. Consequently her promotion from the substitute class to that of a teacher and finally to the responsible position of vice-principal of the new Mission High School all within the short period of one year is doing well, to say the least of it. Of course, there are other teachers in the School Department who have been more than one year teaching in the lower grade. Unfortunately for them, they have no uncle in the board as a Director who pulled kindly in the "boss" harness and saw to it that the wishes of Dr. Ragan and his seven compatriots were carried out to the letter, without asking any impertinent questions as to whether the changes in the department were for the good of the pupils and advantageous to the interest of the taxpayers. Probably the other nieces of this thoughtful Director will be remembered later on, provided there be schools enough to accommodate them with vice-principalships in High Schools. Qualifications, of course, do not count in the eternal fitness of things in rewarding Directors' nieces with good paying positions, so long as there are positions to found.

The breach that has existed in the School Board ever since its members were first inducted into office is threatening to become wider and wider all because of the late transfer of several principals and vice-principals. The transfers were in the nature of promotions, for salaries have been increased in every case. However, the lucky ones will not assume their positions until the completion of the new Mission High School, of which Joseph O'Connor was elected principal. That school, according to Director Head, will not be ready for the reception of pupils until the end of the year, and he contends that the board, to say the least, was a little premature in making an appointment which will not go into effect until that time. He claims that the board, or rather the Solid Nine of it, is now paying up some old political debts and this settlement of claims they have been endeavoing to bring about for almost a year past.

As an instance of this political manipulation he points to the assignment of Madison Babcock to the vice-principalship of the Girls' High School, which would appear to be the latter's reward for having, while Superintendent of Schools, nominated Ragan to succeed Director Halstead, who died before he assumed the duties of his office about a year ago, and Babcock's present promotion has all the earmarks of being a stepping stone to the more elevated place of principal of the same school. This could be easily accomplished by the transfer of Professor Brooks to another school. James Simmons pressed O'Connor very closely in the race for the Mission High School principalship, but the latter won out handily and the former was consoled by succeeding O'Connor in the Horace Mann.

It might be interesting to state in this connection that Simmons was Rainey's candidate for Superintendent of Schools on the Democratic ticket against Webster and Babcock at the last election, but was defeated, Webster being the fortunate one of the trio. It would thus appear that these three had some secret understanding to stand by each other, although they were political opponents.

On the other hand, Director Barrington maintains that the appointments have no especial political significance whatever, but were all made in the best interests of educational affairs. As to the charge of undue haste in the matter of O'Connor's appointment, he takes the opposite stand, for he says that the Mission High School will be finished in time for the opening of the school year in August, and if this board is to be accused of being premature, what must be said of the last one, which attempted to elect Charles H. Murphy principal of that school as far back as December, 1896, before the foundation was laid. He failed of election, however, as he never received more than six votes, and it required seven to elect. As to the wholesale transfer of teachers, Barrington says that it was done in the main at their own request, and in some cases at the desire of the principals for the improvement of the various schools under their charge.

SENSATION OF THE SUICIDE SYMPHONY

Tschaikowsky's No. 6 Played by Fritz Scheel at the Tivoli.

The Russian's Work Dwarfed and Darkened the Rest of a Modern Programme.

The much written about "Pathetic," or "Suicide," or Sixth—as you like it—Symphony of Tschaikowsky lured the largest audience of the season to the concert at the Tivoli yesterday afternoon. Advertising has its value, even for the masterpieces of music. The history of this symphony is sensational—it has been made sensational by the music critics of two continents; and many persons who would not have been moved by an ordinary concert announcement were made curious by the innuendo and esoteric significance that have been associated with the work. Their curiosity was not disappointed. The Tschaikowsky was a shock; it dwarfed and cheapened everything else on the programme. The "Im Herbst" overture of Grieg's was played without notable fineness, but it received some attention because it came before the symphony. The Schumann Abendlied and four numbers of Rubinstein's "Bal Costume" came after it, and these were barely tolerated. Scheel grabbed at a few mechanical hand-pats which greeted the "Toreador and Andalusian" picture in the Rubinstein suite, and considered them as an encore. But he did not deceive the most of us, who, so soon as the symphony was over, settled deep in our top coats—the house was as cold as a morgue—and defied him to bring us back.

To say the Pathetic Symphony is sensational does not imply that it is yellow, nor that it is given over to the lascivious pleasings of neuroticism. To me, as well as I can understand it after one hearing, it seems to be the music of the age—problem music. It asks something of the heart; it paints pictures of worldly happiness; it pleads, and in a way it comforts, but in its entirety it celebrates the futility of human hope, the sovereignty of despair. It is too kindly, too radiant with melodic beauty to be called cynical. There is in it none of the massive godliness of Beethoven, none of the sweet dyspepsia of Chopin, none of the colossal exaggeration of Wagner. It is virile, human and plausible, and it is terribly modern in its psychology. I had not seen the score and knew practically nothing of the manner of the work before it was played yesterday, and yet I was not surprised by the grim, relentless ending—an ending that, from its suddenness and absolute decision (as compared with other works), you would expect to be surprised. I can account for this only by the thoroughness with which the sympathy and portent are shadowed from the very first of the first movement. The Pathetic Symphony is a tragedy, with precious moments of light and love and ambition, but with all its forces working toward the inevitable tragic end.

I have no intention of rivaling James Hamilton Howe, who is now the official prose-poet and programme-illuminator of the Symphony Society, but I defy any one of normal imagination to hear this symphony as Scheel played it yesterday and not get from it some meaning and motive beyond the mere sensations of amiable sound. ASHTON STEVENS.

BIG COURSING STAKE.

The Dissension of the Interstate Club Adds to the Entry.

The usual weekly stake to be run off at Ingleside to-morrow and Sunday was drawn at Delta Hall last evening. In the face of the pending dissension between certain members of the Interstate Coursing Club the entry was enormous and the enthusiasm the most pronounced that has marked a coursing draw for several months.

The usual chance of the drawing matched the dogs as follows:

Scott & Glassen's Dr. Norman vs. J. Grace's Lass o' Gowrie; M. Tiernan's Belle of Moscow vs. T. Butler's Susie; H. Spring's Pat Malloy vs. J. Murnane's Valley Maid; J. Sexsmith's Vigilant vs. J. R. Dickson's Premier; J. Byrne's Seminole vs. Ryan & Ryan's Lanky Bob; M. Roger's Sly Boy vs. H. Wyman's Faultless Beauty; R. Hanson's Diamond Dick vs. Larkey & Rock's Myrtle; Kay & Trant's Diana vs. Gibson & Sater's Molly Bawn; J. Quane's Fireman vs. D. Hooper's Beau Brummel; Dillon & Riley's Granuale vs. Scott & Glassen's Garden City; W. E. Thompson's Victor vs. G. Pinto's Hercules; J. Dean's Moondyke vs. D. Shannon's Systematic; J. McCormick's White Lily vs. Kay & Trant's Leonora; M. Michalik's Fireball vs. Kay & Trant's Eclipse; M. Murphy's Tod Sloane vs. J. Farley's Snowbird; J. Perigo's Wayfarer vs. C. Dewlaney's Fleetwood; Ball & Frank's Count of Monte Cristo vs. E. J. Clark's Donald; J. McCormick's Duke of Oakgrove vs. J. Boyle's Big Buck; W. Shield's Cliffette vs. Kay & Frank's Carlotta; J. Seggerson's White Chief vs. J. McCormick's Black Prince; Kay & Frank's Sylvia vs. M. Michalik's Douglass; F. P. McQuinn's Fair Rosalind vs. J. Denn's Connemara; P. Kearny's Nelly Daly vs. J. Boyle's Counterfeit; J. Kerrigan's St. Lawrence vs. J. Murnane's Flashlight; Cronin & McDonald's Skyball vs. J. Byrne's Nelly B.

The running begins to-morrow at 1 p. m., the ties being run off Sunday.

Lectures on the Jubilee.

Dr. Voorsanger will begin a series of three lectures on "California's Golden Jubilee," this evening at the Temple Emanu-El. The first subject will be "The law of immigration and how it is exemplified." A large crowd is expected at each meeting.

In the Divorce Courts.

Mary J. Medrano was granted a divorce from Jose Medrano yesterday on the grounds of willful neglect and failure to provide. Lizzie Arnberger was granted a divorce from her husband, Theodore Arnberger, on the ground of desertion, yesterday afternoon. The husband was the plaintiff in the action for divorce, but he failed to substantiate his alleged ground for a legal separation, while the cross-complaint of his wife was found to be based on fact. In consequence the court ordered a decree issued in her favor. In any event, Arnberger secured a divorce as desired.

NEW TO-DAY.

HALE'S CLEARANCE SALE

The Latest Clearance Price News.

Items for housewives and home economists. Too busy for details and extra words. Brief, to the point, interesting, money-saving.

10-cent Flannelette.	Rich Wrapper Patterns in beautiful dark shadings, an elegant flannelette at 10c, manufacturer's remnants, 2 to 5 yard lengths, fleeced both sides, not over 15 yards to a customer; this is a bargain	5c Yard.	O. N. T. Spool Cotton.	6000 Spools of Clark's Famous O. N. T. Spool Cotton (regular 100 yard spools); to be sold at	2c Spool.
Rough Turkish Towels.	Big, thick, heavy Unbleached Fellows, blood warmers, the kind gentlemen like for the bath, 22x46 inches, a grand towel; a leader for the balance of the week	12½c Each.	No. 40 Moire Taffeta Ribbon.	Moire Taffeta Ribbon, 3⅛ inches wide (No. 40), good colors, very pretty for hat ribbons, neck and sash ribbons; a hummer for clearance	9c Yard.
Crochet Bed Spreads.	Full size and extra heavy, pure white, ready hemmed, neat as wax; the $1 25 kind for clearance at	95c Each.	Ladies' Fine Handkerchiefs.	6000 Ladies' Handkerchiefs, came in too late for Xmas, they pay the penalty for tardiness now, worth from 15c to 35c each, embroidered, scalloped, hemstitched, manufacturer's seconds; on the clearing tables	12½c Each.
A Dress Goods Bargain.	Seven yard Suits of Extra Heavy Fancy Cheviot Suiting, to be closed out with a rush at (These suits are easily worth $3 50.)	$2.10 Suit.	Infants' Flannelette Dresses.	Infants' Short Dresses, sizes 22, 24 and 26, made of good, heavy flannelette, trimmed with finishing braid, large ruffle on yoke, neat little dresses to play in; good and warm	25c Each.
Another Dress Goods Bargain.	Seven yard Suits of Fancy English Mohair Suitings in small and medium effects, all new winter shadings, never sold for less than $5 25 suit; to aid the clearance rush at	$3.85 Suit.	Gents' Wool Underwear.	Natural Gray and Camel's Hair, good, heavy wool winter garments, silk bound, full of wear and warmth and comfort; to go for clearance at	50c Garment.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We have arranged with one of our most prominent manufacturers of food articles for an attractive display of food products in our store this week.

A light luncheon will be served, gratis, by a skilled attendant, who will take pleasure in giving our lady patrons some valuable culinary hints.

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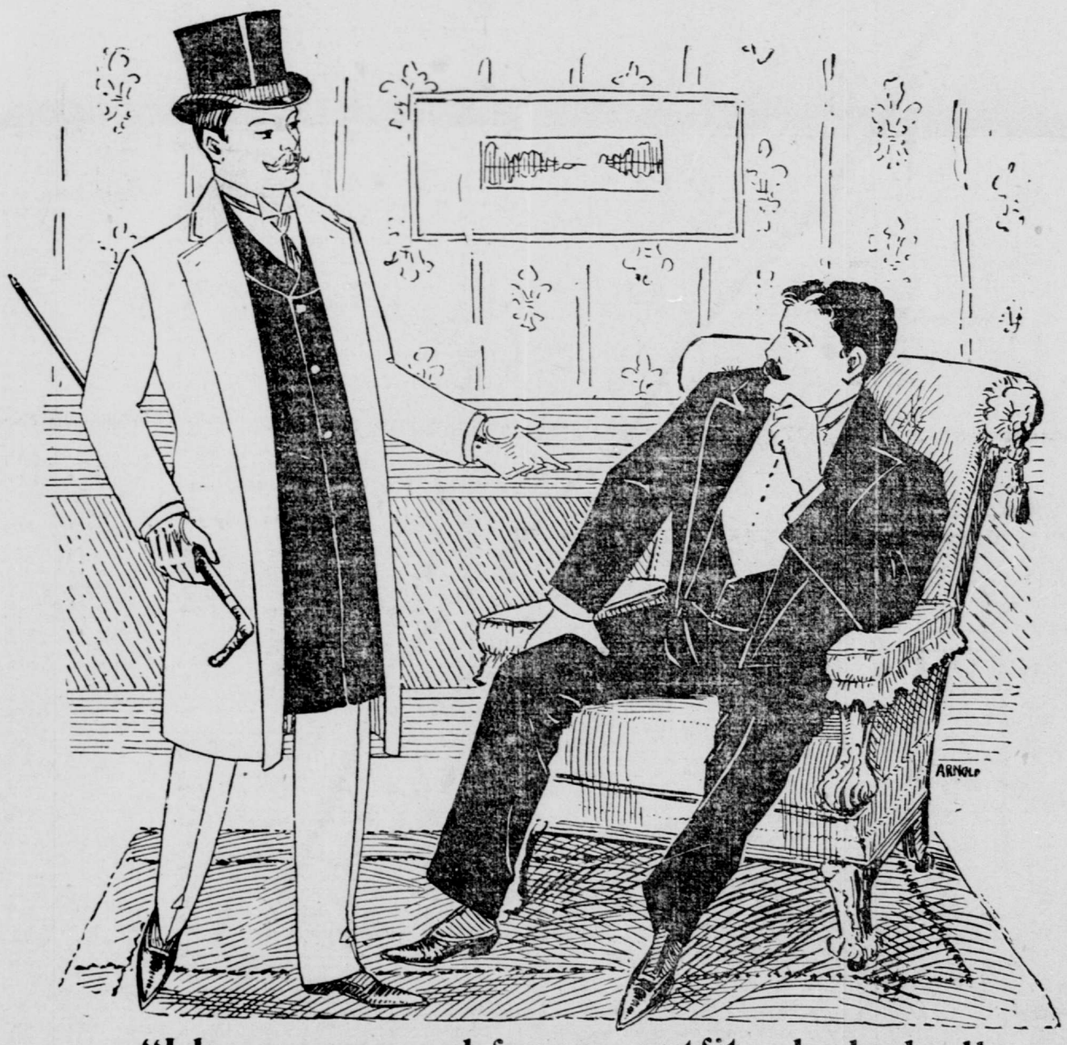

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