

George Siler Chosen to Referee the Gans-Nelson Fight at Goldfield Three Ballots Are Required Before a Choice Is Made

Jack Welsh Is Only Californian Voted Upon for Place.

By Edward Clarke.



GEORGE SILER OF CHICAGO, WHO WILL REFEREE THE CHAMPIONSHIP BATTLE BETWEEN GANS AND NELSON.

GOLDFIELD, Aug. 17.—George Siler, the dean of American sporting writers, the man of sound judgment and undoubted honesty in things pugilistic, will referee the battle at Goldfield for the lightweight championship between Joe Gans and Battling Nelson.

Siler's selection for the honor was made on the third ballot at a meeting tonight of the nine members of the fight club. A complete list of referee possibilities was read and considered. When it was decided that six of the nine members would be required for that choice names were made and Eddie Graney was not among the three offered for consideration.

Siler, Jack Welsh and Eddie McBride were offered on the altar of Goldfield pride. On the first ballot Siler and Welsh received four votes each and McBride one. The latter was dropped. The next vote found five for the Chicago man and four for the Californian. The last trial was a standing vote and six were counted for the grand old man.

All this was mixed the liveliest and most earnest discussion of capabilities that has ever bothered the promoters of a ring event. The general spirit of the meeting was in favor of the choice of a man of sufficient reputation to advertise the camp and of honesty to bar the least taint of suspicion from the contest.

Siler's choice will prove satisfactory to 90 per cent of the local enthusiasts. Gans was not officially represented at the meeting, but one or two special pleaders did well by him. Nolan appeared in time to make a most masterly summary of the honesty and of the ability of all the referees in the business. He made no plea for any favorite and it was evident that he was satisfied with the club's choice.

After the meeting and in accordance with the motion of Walter Stone the following telegram was sent to Siler: "George Siler, Tribune, Chicago, Ill: You have been tendered the refereehood of the Gans-Nelson contest. Will you accept? Would like you to be on hand three days before contest, to take place on Labor day, September 3. TEX RICKARD."

Joe Gans Assured a Square Deal at Goldfield. The sporting end of the mining camp takes Gans' view of the situation and proposes to see that he wins or loses on the dead square.

Before the night meeting of the fight club for the selection of the referee the controversy over the third man in the ring developed nothing beyond a merited defense of Eddie Graney, which Billy Nolan, over his own signature, made in response to certain published articles calculated to offend little blacksmith. Nolan's statements, to which Nelson fully agrees, are as follows:

"I have read in the daily press notices charging Eddie Graney as being favorable to Joe Gans. Other press reports have tried to connect him to be in with a crooked deal in relation to the Nelson-Gans contest. Nolan Expresses Confidence in Eddie Graney.

"In answer to these allegations let me say right now that I have as much confidence in Graney today as I had prior to the Britt-Nelson contest, and if the Goldfield club selects Graney I will be as well satisfied with him as any other man in the world. I don't place any confidence in the lying allegations that have been spread broadcast throughout the country by his enemies.

"In my opinion Graney is honest and a more capable man never entered a twenty-four-foot ring in charge of any contest. (Signed) "BILLY NOLAN."

Nelson this afternoon got into his training quarters at the Ladies' Aid Hall and did his first hour of exhibition work in the camp, punching the bag and roughing it with Jack Clifford. In spite of Nolan's worry over the selection of a gymnasium, the delay does not mean that the Dane has been idle. He has been climbing the hills around the camp with a retinue of followers and has benefited his wind and muscle, besides finding an enjoyment in the unusual exercise and in looking for stray coyotes. Clifford's training in the Nelson camp will be duplicated by Bobbie Lundie when the latter arrives tomorrow and the pair of clever lightweights will fight the preliminary to the big battle.

Contract Is Let for the Big Fight Arena. The club let the contract this afternoon for the construction of the big arena at the ball grounds to local contractors, G. C. Harper and Thomas Kelly, for a figure in the neighborhood of \$2100. Plans drawn by W. C. Clarke provide for a seating capacity of something less than 8000 and the club is already worrying for fear of lack of seats for the expected crowd. Orders are coming from everywhere and include individual checks for \$25 seats from unexpected quarters. Tex Rickard, the Napoleon of the fight game, is so optimistic that he believes Goldfield and its environs will alone fill the pavilion, and this expected attendance includes numberless women, who will enjoy a privilege never heretofore granted to the sex at a championship contest.

Governor Sparks Is Interested in Outcome. A lively story is being circulated among the select few concerning a conversation in a group of which Joe Gans, Senator Nixon, Governor Sparks and Claude Smith, the District Recorder, were chief personages. The talk drifted to fight topics. Gans is reported as saying to the Governor: "Well, you're going to see the fight of your life." The Governor blandly retorted: "I will pardon the man that lives." Joe is said to have turned blue around the gills and to have protested nervously: "Governor, I don't want to kill no man."

Nelson is taking a quiet interest in Gans' talk, and today, commenting on Gans' boast that he would win the fight in two rounds, the Dane remarked: "Maybe it will go the other way in just as quick a time."

A story direct enough to be authentic is out today, and if true guarantees the honesty of the coming Nelson-Gans championship battle. Larry Sullivan, speculator and sporting man, who took a notion to back the black champion, is said to hold papers signed and sealed before a notary which will rob Gans of the last red penny of profit in the fight if the negro doesn't fight gamely, squarely and with a purpose of winning. The document in question transfers all of Gans' \$10,000 interest in the purse to Sullivan, with instructions to bet that amount that the negro will be the victor. According to the story from Sullivan's office, Gans made this disposition of his rights when Sullivan demanded an assurance that the negro was going to fight to win. Thereupon Gans is said to have made the proposition and delivered his power of attorney to Sullivan to collect the short end of the spoils of the battle, making the remark: "If I lose I go out of Goldfield a pauper."



Battling Nelson and Some of His Proteges.

FOUR RUNS CINCH GAME IN THE SECOND.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 17.—Los Angeles took the game out of Fresno's hands in the second inning, when Hall was negotiated with for two singles and a double. These, with a double steal, a long fly to left and a hard infield hit, gave the locals four runs and brought the score to 5 to 1. An error in the ninth polished off the score at 7 to 3. Three clever running catches by Bernard in center field were features of a game well played throughout. Score:

Table with columns: Club, AB, R, BH, SE, PO, A, E. Rows for Los Angeles and Fresno.

Runs and Hits by Innings. Los Angeles: 2 4 0 0 0 1 0 0 7. Fresno: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0.

Summary. Two-base hits—Bernard, Randolph, Cartwright. Sacrifice hits—Gochsauer. First base on error—Los Angeles 3, Fresno 2. Bases on balls—Los Angeles 3, Fresno 2. Struck out—By Randolph 3, by Hall 3. Wild pitch—Randolph. Time of game—Two hours. Umpire—Ferrine.

JEFFRIES TO HUNT BIG GAME IN OREGON.

PORTLAND, Aug. 17.—Watt Montteth, a well known sportsman, has received a letter from Cy Myrick of Los Angeles requesting him to secure pack horses and supplies for a party of ten or more and to have the same at Roseburg, Ore., within the next week. According to the local man's informant the Southern California contingent intends spending the next few weeks in the wilds near Belknap Springs putting in most of their time hunting deer and other game, which is plentiful in that vicinity.

Included among the party that is to take this excursion to Oregon's game preserves is James J. Jeffries, the retired heavyweight champion of the world, who has already had a taste of the Oregon hunting game and has often written friends here of his intention to come again. According to the letter from Myrick, who is a close friend of the big fellow, his desire is about to be realized.

Other members of the party named in the letter are James F. Morley, former manager of the Los Angeles baseball team, Harry Corbett, Harry Carrillo of Bakersfield, and Al Levy of Los Angeles. The party is due to reach Roseburg some time next week.

Japanese Stabbed in Back. ALAMEDA, Aug. 17.—Takama Tsu, a Japanese, was stabbed in the back here late tonight. He was fighting in Chinatown. Two Japanese have been arrested for the assault.

Autojats Seek Speed Permit. NEW YORK, Aug. 17.—Application was filed yesterday by the American Automobile Association with the Nassau County Board of Supervisors for a permit to hold the third international race for the W. K. Vanderbilt Jr. cup over the roads of the county on October 6, between the hours of 5 o'clock in the morning and 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and for permission to hold the elimination trials over the same course on September 22, at the same time. The application will not be considered until Monday, but no difficulty is anticipated in securing assent.

Concert at Leonhardt's. Restaurant and cafe every evening 6 to 12 p. m. Good things to eat and drink at 1234-1235 Fillmore.

Eddie Graney's Name Not Mentioned After the Balloting Commences.

By R. A. Smyth. THE last of the important preliminary details of the Gans-Nelson fight, the selection of the referee, has finally been disposed of. As predicted yesterday by Edward Clarke, The Call representative at Goldfield, George Siler, the veteran newspaper man of Chicago, was chosen. The only Californian voted upon for the important position was Jack Welsh. From the start the Goldfield people seemed opposed to Eddie Graney. When the balloting commenced the name of the honest blacksmith was not mentioned. A press dispatch throws new light on the opposition to the San Francisco man. It says:

"Eddie Graney was known to be out of the running early in the evening. Crowds gathered on the streets to await the result and an informal count found few adherents of the 'little blacksmith.' The main grievance against Graney appeared to be his ruling in the Nelson-Britt fight at Colma when he declared all bets off. It was held that in this Graney did wrong. Had he merely declared his own bet on Nelson off or declined to officiate he would have adopted the proper course, according to the Goldfield sports."

This will be Siler's second appearance in the ring in Nevada as judge of a finish contest, as he officiated when Fitzsimmons won the championship from Corbett. He has always been a great admirer of Nelson and undoubtedly has had the support of Manager Nolan for the present position.

Siler was Nelson's choice for referee at Colma. The Chicago man entered the ring and declined the honor, saying he was there in the capacity of correspondent and could not officiate.

The following message came from Chicago last night: "CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—George Siler has wired his acceptance of the offer made to him to referee the Battling Nelson-Joe Gans fight at Goldfield, provided his terms were accepted. Mr. Siler would not say what he expected from the Goldfield management, but it is not anticipated here that there will be any hitch over money matters."

Nolan said regarding Siler: "The selection is perfectly satisfactory to me. I know and the American people realize that George Siler is one of the most prominent and capable referees in the country. When he steps into the ring it means fair play and no favor for either contestant."

Gans weighed 134 pounds yesterday and said he could make the required weight within twenty-four hours. Three thousand five hundred dollars was wagered at Goldfield with Gans a 9 to 1 favorite.

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Whitman Breaks Auto Record Across the United States Cutting the Time in Half Makes New York in Fifteen Days

NEW YORK, Aug. 17.—From the City Hall, San Francisco, to Herald Square, New York, in fifteen days and six hours by automobile is the remarkable record ride accomplished by L. L. Whitman in a six-cylinder Franklin car of 30-horsepower. The performance cuts seventeen days and eighteen hours from the best previous record from coast to coast.

Whitman's whirlwind dash across the continent was completed at five minutes before midnight tonight, when he drew up his travel-stained machine in front of the Herald building.

Whitman was modest in speaking of his record-breaking feat. The run up the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where an elevation of 7260 feet is reached, was made in almost Overland Limited train time. The run across the Nevada Desert, 600 miles, to Ogden, through Marino, Nev., was made at an average speed of eleven miles per hour.

Considerable time was lost, however, in Wyoming, where the rivers were all badly swollen from recent rains, making fording dangerous. The car encountered many irrigating ditches and had difficulty in crossing them. In several places in Wyoming quicksands were met with and time lost in that way.

From Ogden, an elevation of 4300 feet, the car climbed to 8000 feet, which was the highest point reached on the trip. After passing Cheyenne, Wyo., Whitman figured that the car would make up lost time going into Omaha, but unfortunately it encountered mud all through Nebraska.

"We were hoping to make a fast run from Chicago to New York," said Whitman, "and seemed certain of beating the record between those points when the unfortunate accident occurred in Ohio. Up to that point our most serious engine trouble had been the replacing of one spark plug."



L. L. WHITMAN, WHO CUT THE AUTO-MOBILE RECORD ACROSS THE AMERICAN CONTINENT IN HALF.

THIRTEEN INNING SEALS HIT BALL BRING VICTORY TO BEAVERS. WHEN MEN ARE ON BASES.

RESULTS OF GAMES. San Francisco, 4; Seattle, 2. Portland, 6; Oakland, 5 (thirteen innings). Los Angeles, 7; Fresno, 3. GAMES TODAY. Seattle and San Francisco at Oakland. Oakland at Portland. Fresno at Los Angeles. STANDING OF THE CLUBS. PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE.

Table with columns: Club, W, L, Pct. Rows for Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland, Fresno.

PORTLAND, Aug. 17.—The Beavers won from Oakland today in a thirteen-inning battle. The game was a comedy of errors, each team making five. Umpire Buck Keith was off on balls and strikes. The score was tied in the ninth. There was nothing doing until the thirteenth, when Donahue reached first on Buck Franke's error. He went to second on a Lister's hit and was scored by McHale, who hit a line drive over second. Brick Devereaux was put out of the game in the thirteenth for kicking. Haley's one-handed stab of Donahue's line drive in the sixth was the feature of the game. Summary:

Table with columns: Club, AB, R, BH, SE, PO, A, E. Rows for Portland and Oakland.

Portland. AB. R. BH. SE. PO. A. E. McHale, c. f. 4 2 4 0 0 1 0 1. Franke, p. 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Mitchell, l. f. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. McCreedy, r. f. 3 2 4 1 2 0 0 0. Smith, 2b. 3 2 4 1 2 0 0 0. Moore, 3b. 4 0 0 2 2 1 1 0. Donahue, 4b. 5 1 2 1 1 1 1 1. Cates, 1b. 3 0 0 0 2 1 1 0. Calif. p. 3 0 0 0 2 1 0 0. Henderson, p. 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Totals 31 7 12 16 15 5. Henderson batted first in the ninth.

OAKLAND. AB. R. BH. SE. PO. A. E. Smith, r. f. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Van Halren, c. f. 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0. Kruger, 2b & l. f. 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Helmstetter, 1b. 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Devereaux, 3b. 5 0 2 3 2 1 1 0. Haley, 2b. 4 0 0 2 2 2 2 2. Franke, p. 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Reidy, p. 4 1 0 1 3 0 0 0. Cates, 2b & l. f. 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0. Hopkins, l. f. 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Totals 45 8 9 17 14 5. Cates batted for Haley in the tenth. Henderson batted third in the ninth.

SEATTLE. AB. R. BH. SE. PO. A. E. Kane, c. f. 3 0 0 0 1 3 0 0. Van Buren, c. f. 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Blankenship, r. f. 4 1 1 0 4 1 0 0. Householder, c. f. 4 1 1 0 1 0 1 0. Croil, 1b. 0 0 2 1 0 0 0 0. Hildebrand, 2b. 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1. Irwin, 3b. 3 0 1 0 4 4 0 0. Williams, 4b. 2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0. Mott, 2b. 4 0 0 0 2 3 0 0. Kuss, 1b. 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Garvin, p. 3 0 0 0 1 6 0 0. Totals 32 2 8 0 24 18 2.

SAN FRANCISCO. AB. R. BH. SE. PO. A. E. Spencer, c. f. 4 0 1 2 2 0 0 0. Walburn, r. f. 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Mohler, 2b. 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Hildebrand, 1b. 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1. Irwin, 3b. 3 0 1 0 4 4 0 0. Williams, 4b. 2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0. P. Wilson, a. c. 2 1 1 0 2 2 0 0. Spies, c. 2 1 1 0 2 0 0 0. Hitt, p. 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0. Totals 24 4 9 2 14 11.

RUNS AND HITS BY INNINGS. Seattle 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1-2. Base hits—0 2 0 0 1 0 2 0-3. San Francisco 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 2-4. Base hits—0 0 0 1 0 3 2 1-6.

Summary. Three-base hits—Householder, Spies, Blankenship. Two-base hits—Croil, Jansa, Irwin. Sacrifice hits—Irwin, Spies, Wilson. First base on called balls—OF Garvin 6, of Hitt 1. Struck out—By Garvin 3, by Hitt 2. Hit by pitched ball—Dobie played—Mohler to Williams. Croil to Streib, Hitt to Irwin. Time of game—1 hour 25 minutes. Umpire—Hodson.

RECORD CROWD ATTENDS THE WOODLAND TROTTING RACES. Many of the fleetest horses in the State Furush Exciting and Interesting Sport. WOODLAND, Aug. 17.—The largest crowd of the meet attended the races of the Trotting-horse Breeders' Association today. The events of the day were up to the standard of the previous days. The summary: Pacing, two-year-olds, purse, \$750: Areolite (Chadbourne) 1:11. Hymette (Fresman) 1:12. Search Georgia (Ruckert) 1:14. Time—2:15 1/2, 2:18 1/2, 2:20, 2:23.

Pacing, 2:10 class, purse, \$800: Kelly Briggs (Durfee) 2:11.1. Nellie B. (Quinn) 2:12.2. Kitty D. (Verlisse) 2:13.3. John R. Conway (Chadbourne) 2:14.4. Lady B. (Walton) 2:15.5. Cuckoo (Sweeney) 2:16.6. Charley J. (Lecari) 2:17.7. Clara L. (Altmark) 2:18.8. Time—2:11, 2:08, 2:08 1/2, 2:11.

Local readers: purse, \$250: Palo King (Hogaboom) 2:31.1.1. Lady Carotta (Montgomery) 2:32.2.2. Athamar (Lillard) 2:33.3.3. Beauty (Spencer) 2:34.4.4. Contancia (Bilgou) 2:35.5.5. Time—2:29 1/2, 2:29 1/2, 2:30, 2:33.