

# BASEBALL CONSPIRATORS ARE FREED

## OF LAW ALL GAMES 'CROOKS'

### Against Coast Games Quashed When 'Criminals' Are Released From Custody

Los Angeles, Dec. 25.—Concepts of "throw" baseball games is a familiar one, according to the ruling of Judge Frank R. Willis in the Los Angeles Superior Court yesterday, when he dismissed indictments charging W. Baker (Babe) Borton, former member of the Vernon club of the Pacific Coast League; W. G. Maggart, former Salt Lake player, and Nathan (Doc) Johnson, alleged gambler of St. Louis, with having conspired to "throw" games in the past season.

Whether new indictments will be sought against the four was not indicated. The district attorney's representative in court would not make a statement until he had a conference with his chief, J. F. Williams.

The decision of the court followed the entry of a demurrer to the indictment which was presented by counsel for the accused when they were called upon to plead recently. The demurrer was argued several days ago, but Judge Willis took his decision under advisement until yesterday morning.

After reviewing the alleged facts in the indictment, which were in substance a recital of the steps by which the four were said to have arranged in advance to determine the winners in Coast League games so that they and others could profit, Judge Willis said:

"There is nothing in the penal code of California providing for prosecution for the offense named in the indictment. The conspiracy, if it existed, and if it was carried out, constituted a violation of contract. The remedy for that is the civil courts. The contract broken provided that the men should play ball to the best of their ability."

The court professed this statement by saying that "if the charges of conspiracy were true, the acts on which they were based were 'reprobable.'"

Borton and Maggart were in court and expressed great joy at the decision. Rumler and Raymond, who were not in town, were notified by telegraph.

"Up to Baseball."

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—William H. McCarthy, San Francisco, retired president of the Pacific Coast Baseball League, said yesterday professional baseball players should bar from their ranks W. Baker (Babe) Borton, Hank Maggart and William Rumler, players who were cleared of indictments in Los Angeles yesterday. Mr. McCarthy said he had feared the indictments would be quashed. "Even if these players may not be punished criminally, Borton, Rumler and Maggart stand indicted and convicted in the eyes of the Coast League baseball public," McCarthy said. "If the law cannot punish them, it remains for baseball to do its share anyway and to at least keep them from participation in professional ranks."

## STAGE FOR BETHA AFTER JAIL TERM

New York, Dec. 25.—Jack Johnson, formerly heavyweight pugilist, the champion of the world, sent to a sentence in the federal prison at Leavenworth for violation of the Mann act, may enter the theatrical profession when he is freed, possibly next March.

A concern specializing in negro theatrical companies has sent a representative to the penitentiary to speak Johnson's signature to a contract calling for two years' service as the head of an organization of fifty negroes to appear in New York and on tour.

Johnson has indicated, it is learned, that he would accept such an offer if it appeared to be "worth his while."



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## Woman to Promote Next Leonard Bout

### SHE'LL SELL FIGHT TICKETS AT AUCTION



ANNE MORGAN

Miss Anne Morgan, chairman of the committee for the devastated in France and promoter of the Leonard-Mitchell lightweight world championship fight Jan. 14, will sell tickets for box seats at auction. She expects to make Madison Square garden look like society night at a grand opera show on this occasion. Women, who are timid about attending prize fights, will get a chance to see a regular show promoted by a regular woman.

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## KNOX PROTESTS BASEBALL RULE

### Gambler's This Issue With Award of I. L. A. C. 1929 Title to St. Victor Over Academy.

Bloomington, Dec. 25.—Coach Fred L. Muhl of the Wesleyan university athletic teams, who is president of the Illinois intercollegiate athletic conference, received a communication yesterday from Knox college athletic authorities, protesting the award of the 1929 baseball championship to St. Victor college, which action was taken at the recent meeting of the conference representatives in this city.

The grounds on which the protest is filed is that St. Victor used academy players on its baseball team.

Knox's baseball team played 15 games, all of which were won, but only two conference teams were included in its schedule. St. Victor played a like number of games, losing two contests, but including in its schedule five conference teams, all of which were defeated. On the record of these two teams, the conference representatives voted the championship and Spalding trophy to St. Victor. Knox has since learned that St. Victor played academy students on its baseball team, and feels that the title should be awarded to the I. L. A. C. There is no rule in the playing of academy students, although it is stated that no school can claim a championship when academy students are used, hence the Knox protest.

## FLORIDA LEAGUE AFTER BIG STARS

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 25.—Suggesting that Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and other major league baseball stars be obtained for baseball clubs of the Florida West Coast Winter baseball league were said today to be under consideration by Rube Allen, the league secretary. Competitive bidding for the services of the big league players by the St. Petersburg and Sarasota clubs led to the suggestion that their services be obtained by the league management and awarded to the weaker teams.

## RICKY IN LINE

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Branch Rickey has booked 22 recruits who will make the trip south with the Cards in the spring where they'll get their first big league baptism.

## GLEASON'S WAT

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Kid Gleason is one manager who will have nothing to do with the business office of the club. He sticks to the clubhouse and if they want to talk to the kid they'll find him in his own precinct.

## CREDIT TO GAME

Seattle, Dec. 25.—Francisco Flores, known as the "Filipino Tiger" of the ring, supports a family of twelve and has never been accused of being swell-headed.

## Sporting Jazz

BY BRUCE COPELAND.  
FLAPPERS.  
Young maidens whose braids flap smartly in the breeze might well have been called Spankers instead of Flappers, according to see rule. Outside of such nautical remarks, there is further sense in saying that modern Flappers are getting so flip they ought to be called Flippers.

WIPANCY at that is pretty enough in its flippant way. It goes well on the stage, for example, where a flip act seldom flops. Flappers wear flapjacks over their ears and their beaus are known as Flapper Jacks.

Under floppy hats flappers fondly flock wherever soda clerks flip traps.

AIN'T IT GLAND?  
If Doctor Voronoff's discovery becomes universally popular, we can say that our great-grandparents sprang from an ape.

WHAT SAY!  
Just because a woman happens to be a brunette, is it any reason why she should be called unfair?

GETTING A HAND.  
Second-story men are in demand at diners—providing their first stories make a hit.

UNIONIZED.  
Even women who do not work for a living have a natural yearning to make a striking appearance.

FRENZIED FINANCE.  
Babe Ruth demands \$50,000 from the Yankees.  
Jack Dempsey wants \$500,000 to fight Carpenter.  
John D. Rockefeller gives \$100,000,000 to the public.  
Ye writer bought an option on an egg.

THE SVELTE STENOGR.  
O worthy stenographer,  
It always gets my goat—  
A 12-per-week stenographer  
In a gorgeous scalisish coat.

NOB CENSORED!  
Women should not be censured for wearing narrow skirts—it might be their only safeguard from jumping at conclusions.

## Bowling

### (Games of Dec. 25.) LEAGUE STANDING.

Do Drop Inn	W.	L.	Pct.
R. I. Elks	21	11	.656
Grid Iron Grips	21	12	.636
Black Hawk	17	13	.566
Feetless	16	17	.485
Mueller Lumber Co.	13	14	.481
R. I. Buicks	10	23	.303
Regulars	6	15	.286

Johnson	211	166	558
Bleuer	197	148	177
Paulsen	203	224	182
Kuehner	125	133	153
Salsmann	207	190	181
913 913 859 2696			
Mueller Lumber Co.	180	170	180
Stark	135	179	155
Noeckel	159	162	213
W. Mueller	129	147	191
P. Petersen	179	168	200

Black Hawk	176	167	169
Krabbenhoft	225	225	182
Wessel	181	160	208
Pollock	214	176	177
Vinall	183	171	156
984 899 892 2775			
Peerless	175	191	171
Sundin	193	153	166
Hartman	167	181	188
Schober	194	227	199
Bergman	224	193	174

Grid Iron Grips	158	171	151
Strayer	147	185	163
J. Wick	232	147	183
Graham	192	171	172
Danielsen	168	181	192
887 855 861 2603			
Regulars	188	244	182
Hull	175	184	193
Friend	183	159	227
McKeown	153	159	227
Dunblazier	150	164	187

R. I. Buicks	153	141	131
Long	148	158	140
Warnock	162	131	143
Quale	160	107	152
Kohls	193	177	150
816 714 716 2246			
Do Drop Inn	169	161	152
Lindberg	167	160	183
E. Sundeen	136	126	152
Carlson	150	146	148
Erickson	154	163	205
Fredeen	776	758	840

## PAL MOORE AND SHAKY AGREE

Great Little Bantams to Tangle Dec. 29 in Madison Square—Agree to Make 122 Pounds at 2.

New York, Dec. 25.—All the necessary details have been completed for the fifteen round contest between Pal Moore of Memphis and Jack Sharkey, the east side bantam, to be held at Madison Square garden, Dec. 29.

The boys have agreed to weigh 122 pounds at 2 o'clock on the day of the contest. The wrangle over the weight situation was amicably settled late yesterday and both men have arranged to start training immediately. It is expected the winner will furnish another opponent for the new champion, Joe Lynch.

Tex Rickard also announced that he had obtained Panama Joe Gans the colored middleweight champion, and Sallor Darden of Charleston, S. C. for the semi-final of ten rounds. In another ten round bout Earl Baird of Seattle will hook up with Tony Elm of Paterson, N. J.

## BENJAMIN DEFEATS SCHUMAN ON COAST

Portland, Ore., Dec. 24.—Joe Benjamin, Portland lightweight, won a 10 round decision over Harry Schuman of Denver Wednesday night.

Benjamin floored the Denver fighter twice in the second round, but the latter by a great rally managed to stick it out.

## CLEVELAND TECH OFF FOR EVERETT TO CLINCH TITLE

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 24.—Coach Sam Willaman, and East Tech High School football squad, 29 strong, left here today for Everett, Wash., where they will contest on New Year's day with the holders of the Pacific Coast title for the National High School football honors. According to schedule, they will arrive in Everett the morning of Dec. 30.

OLE RECOVERS.  
Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 25.—Ole Anderson, the Pacific coast boy who failed to make much of a hit down east as a knockout fighter, but who won a lot of credit for gameness, is tipping over heavyweights again.

IT'S COMPLICATED.  
New York, Dec. 25.—There are 27 clauses in the contract which Dempsey and Carpenter signed to fight for the title. That doesn't name the time or place, either.

RING GALLERY.  
Albany, Dec. 25.—The New York boxing commission requires all boxers who expect to box in the state to send photographs of themselves. This will prevent fakery from posing under many names.

## Facts and Figures of Buckeye-Bruin Battle

### CALIFORNIA

Name	Age	Hgt.	Wgt.	Pos.
Berkey	22	5.11 1/2	178	L.E.
Dean	21	6	175	L.T.
Majors	21	5.11 1/2	183	L.G.
Latham	22	5.11 1/2	187	C.
Cramer	21	5.11	190	R.G.
McMillan	23	6.01 1/2	176	R.T.
Muller	19	6.01	188	R.E.
Erb	20	5.09	146	Q.B.
Spratt	23	5.10 1/2	167	L.H.
Toomey	24	5.11	168	R.H.
Morrison	23	6.01	175	F.B.

Probable Substitute List	Name	Age	Hgt.	Wgt.	Pos.
Hall	23	5.10	165	E.	
Nisbet	21	5.10	185	F.B.	
Cline	21	5.11	153	E.	
Van Sant	22	5.10	156	H.B.	
Toney	22	5.10 1/2	167	E.T.	
Deeds	20	5.09 1/2	164	H.B.	
Higson	23	5.09	157	Q.B.	
Gallagher	22	5.10	174	C.	
Barnes	20	6	172	T.	
Bell	24	6.01	187	F.B.	
Rowe	24	5.11	178	H.B.	

### 1928 GAMES.

California	21 Olympic Club	0
California	88 Mare Island	0
California	127 St. Mary	0
California	70 Nevada	7
California	63 Utah	0
California	17 Oregon Aggies	7
California	49 Wash. State	0
California	38 Stanford	0
Totals .....482 Totals .....14		
California's team weight average is 176 pounds while the line average is 183.		

### Pasadena, Calif., Dec. 25.—When the Ohio State football players—undefeated champions of the Western conference—dig their toes in the gridiron here New Year's day against the University of California team—champions of the west, Ohio will have a slight advantage in the weight problem.

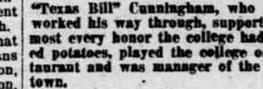
The team average of the Buckeyes is 183 pounds as against a 176 pound average for the Californians. In the line, the average weight of the Ohioans is 182 pounds, while the average of the California forward wall is 183 pounds. The backfield of the Buckeyes also is the heavier, the combined weight totaling 527 pounds. The total weight of the California backfield trio is an even 500 pounds.

### 190 Bruiks' Limit.

California will not have a player in the game weighing above the 190 mark, while Ohio will start two players scaling above that figure and two others tipping the beam at exactly 190 pounds. Willaman, the plunging fullback of the Buckeyes, scales 205 pounds, and Nemecek, at center, weighs 203 pounds. Trott and Spiera, two line men, are 190 pounds. "Pete" Stinchcomb, the sensational halfback, is the lightest player on the Ohio squad, scaling only 152 pounds.

The weight of the California backfield is more evenly distributed than that of the Ohioans. Morrison, the fullback, is the heaviest of the trio, weighing 175 pounds. Spratt at left half weighs 167, and Toomey at right half balances the beam at 158 pounds. Erb, the quarterback, is the lightest player on the California eleven. He weighs 145 pounds.

## DARTMOUTH'S MAN OF MIGHT



Maher had as handler old Peter Burns, the Harlem boy who served so many years with the hard clubbing Celt. Beany Murphy, another old time fighter, also was there with Pete Lowery to help Maher along. O'Donnell's weight was announced as 181 pounds, while Maher registered 177 but looked more like a 190.

The men were called to the center of the ring for the usual line of instructions from the referee. This over with, the bell clanged and the fight was on. O'Donnell, towering over the Irishman, really looked dangerous for a moment. Maher advanced toward Steve, but the latter retreated without hesitancy. Maher advanced again in the direction of Steve and the latter again backed away. Steve had a wholesome respect for Maher's wallop, having sampled it on a previous occasion.

Peter finally managed to work O'Donnell to the ropes and as he was digging his toes in ready to send over the right jab, O'Donnell stiffened out of the danger zone. A moment later Steve led and landed a light left to Maher's stomach while the crowd cheered wildly.

The cheers for the Australian stung the Irishman to the quick. Peter tore in and cracked the Australian with a left on the chin, and when he missed a right O'Donnell rushed into a clinch. It was a sure enough clinch. How that fellow did hug Maher! The latter succeeded in shaking himself free and then smashed Steve on the chin, knocking him on his back. O'Donnell got up and rushed into another clinch.

Teak a live.  
After the break Maher let one go from the floor which landed on Steve's jaw. The handsome boy from across the sea fell with a terrific thump and made one turn while he was being counted out. Poor Steve, he was a splendid thing to watch in a gym, but in the ring he was awful.

By way of concluding it ought to be mentioned that there was a preliminary bout to the big show. Jerry Sullivan from Yonkers fought Fred Wright of Peabody, Mass. for 10 rounds, when Wright won the verdict.

We wonder if Santa Claus remembers that old gang any more.

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## 2 DOZEN YEARS AGO MAHER PUT O'DONNELL OUT

### Battler Brought Out by Jim Corbett Stopped by Irish Heavy, Old-Timers Will Recall.

New York, Dec. 25.—Old ring followers will recall Christmas day just 24 years ago when Peter Maher, the great Irish heavyweight, knocked Steve O'Donnell, the handsome Australian, kicking in exactly 40 seconds.

It seems but yesterday, yet almost a quarter of a century has elapsed since that memorable battle on that bleak winter afternoon. The fight was held in the heavy wooden structure of the Greater New York Athletic club at Conny Island and more than a thousand of the faithful made their way to the old spot close to the ocean.

Found by Corbett.  
Steve O'Donnell was a queer type of boxer, much on the style of Bombardier Wells, the tall English boxer of the present day. O'Donnell could hit and was as fast as a streak but when he got one on the chin the show was usually over. Jim Corbett labored with him for years trying to produce a real fighter, but finally had to give it up.

On the day of the quarrel in question, the chattering thousands of regulars stood about in the cold club house while the two principals kept them waiting for hours. It was exactly 3:30 when O'Donnell breezed into the ring and the spectators, to keep from freezing to death, cheered him for several minutes. The Australian was smiling, but at the same time appeared dazed. Steve was licked right there, without Maher showing on the scene.

Discerns Trouble.  
Maher climbed into the ring a minute later and after taking the cheers the Irishman hurried over to O'Donnell's corner, where he grasped the latter by the arm for a handshake and proceeded to almost yank Steve's arm from its socket. Poor Steve was shaking like a leaf.

In O'Donnell's corner was Sam Fitzpatrick, once manager of the great Kid Lavigne. Along with Sam, there was Gus Ruhlin, the Akron giant, who fought Jeffries and Sharkey and all the big men of his time. Billy Madden was the chief adviser, while Mike Butler also was in attendance on the Australian.

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