

NEWS OF THE SPORT WORLD

BILLY GEMMELL RECALLS SOME LIVELY BANGTAILS

Hears From Friend of Boyhood Days, Who is 76 Years Old and Wants to See Racing Revived in Missouri as Much as Billy Wants to See the "Sport of Kings" Made Possible for the Residents of Montana.

Harking back to the days when Jesse James held up the "gate" at the Kansas City race track in the 70's, William Gemmell, a pioneer turfman of Butte and Montana, withheld disclosures regarding his life and brought to light memories of bygone days which are not forgotten by the old horsemen of Montana and other states. News that fans are trying to revive racing in Kansas with the book-makers left out was responsible for the flood of memories.

"Billy" Gemmell was reared in Missouri and spent his boyhood in the vicinity of Henry Avis' racing plant, and much of the time was spent admiring and handling some of the Avis string of runners. Horses raised by Henry Avis, who is 76 years old, a resident of Kansas City and for 30 years owner of many famous bangtails, are the ancestors of many horses which in later years won prominence in Montana when racing was supreme here. Mr. Avis, in spite of his advanced years, is hoping to see the game revived in Missouri as "Billy" is hoping for a return of the sport in this state under the pari-mutuel system.

According to Henry Avis the game is coming back throughout the United States and will receive the backing of some of the biggest men in the country who spent a quarter of a million dollars last year in buying English runners and bringing them to the United States.

"Billy" Gemmell told of Avis' famous mare Chiquita, which surprised the western stake horses at Pimlico Sound in a handicap and later on other big tracks.

"Chiquita, sired by imported Hurrah out of Sunrise, was run on the Kansas tracks at first where she won prominence

by winning from all contestants," Mr. Gemmell said.

Jesse James Rode in.

"One of the days when she was running and thousands of persons were at the Kansas City track, watching the gallopers, Jesse James rode into town on a horse, came up to the gate at the race track, dismounted, walked into the ticket office, tied up the ticket man, swept the proceeds into a sack and rode out of town before the ticket seller was discovered and turned loose.

"Chiquita was purchased by Henry Avis in 1873 from a Kansas rancher. She won in every race she entered on the brush circuits and it was suggested that she be sent east.

"No horse in the west could touch Chiquita and it was decided to try her in one of the big eastern handicaps. She was first entered on the Pimlico track at Baltimore and started making a fortune for her owners, Henry Avis and William Mulkey, the latter a former Kansas City millionaire real estate owner. Belmont was the favorite in the Baltimore handicap and no one paid any attention to the little western mare. She sold for \$15 in auctions that had \$1,200 and \$1,600 in them.

Hard to Get Jockey.

"Difficulty was had in getting a jockey for the western entry. Finally an Englishman from the Lorrillard stables was secured. Just before he rode out of the paddock he asked for his instructions. 'You just sit on her and push the reins,' Avis told him, 'she'll do the rest.' 'And how about position?' asked the Englishman. 'Leave that to her, too,' Avis told the rider. 'She likes plenty of room in front and if you don't pocket her she'll

FOUGHT TWO YEARS AGO FOR THE SUM OF \$9; WILLIE JACKSON IS NOW RATED WITH CHAMPS



Willie Jackson

BY PAUL PURMAN.

A boy who two years ago fought for \$9 and two weeks ago received \$400 for his end of a bout is now a factor in light-weight circles and his demands will run well into four figures for future ring engagements.

It took Willie Jackson less than three minutes to hurdle into fame.

Unknown, picked as setup for Johnny Dundee, this frail-looking youth in less than one round accomplished what no other light-weight has been able to do with over the sturdy Italian by a knock-out.

Not since Young Corbett came out of the west and sent Terry McGovern to the canvas for the count has there been

such a sensation in ring circles as that produced by the one-round victory of the New York Hebrew.

And for those who would discount the victory by the lucky punch theory there is this to remember:

For several years Johnny Dundee has been fighting the best of the feather-weights and light-weights, and in that

DECIDE DATES FOR MINING DISTRICT

Elimination Basketball Tournament Stated for Helena on March 1, 2 and 3.

The mining district tournament in which six high school basketball teams will compete will be held in Helena March 1, 2 and 3, according to the invitations received from Helena by Coach Cook of the Butte high school. The competing teams are Butte, Helena, Missoula, Dillon, Anaconda and Great Falls. The Electric City has recently been added to the mining district. Three teams will be picked from the tournament by a process of elimination to compete in the state basketball tournament to be held in Bozeman the following week.

Butte's chances to qualify for the state tournament look exceptionally bright. The Purple and White has defeated Dillon and Havre and the grid among the basketball fans is mournful to say the least. Springer, McBride, Holmes and Suh have been barred from participation in athletics because they have played independently in Helena. Helena looks like the only strong opponent and Coach Cook is training his men to defeat the state champions.

Butte has a while Butte had hopes of getting the district tournament here but Physical Director Thomas of Helena opposed the suggestion and issued invitations for the teams to play in the capital city.

Butte will play tonight with the Gallatin county high school team in the gymnasium, the game to be called at 8:15 o'clock. A dance will be held after the game in honor of the visiting team. Butte will probably line up as follows: Driscoll and Ladd, forwards; Myers, center; Sullivan and Zundel, guards.

The Good Old Days.

"Among the horses out of Chiquita which will be remembered by old-time Montanans are Fusillate, John Baker, Jos Howell and Premier. The latter was named 'Suey' Craig in Missouri, but changed when she arrived in the west. The Ryan Brothers of Miles City owned some of Chiquita's descendants, and raced them in the old days, and say, 'Buddy,' those were the good old days out here, too. Think it ain't?"

MISSOULA ATHLETICS WANT GAME IN BUTTE

A basketball game between the Missoula Athletic club, one of the fastest independent teams of the state, and the Y. M. A. squad of Butte, will probably be arranged for Feb. 29. The local squad has issued a challenge to any amateur team of the state and a letter has recently been received from the management of the Missoula club asking for a game in Butte. The team is composed of former varsity stars who are anxious to meet a Butte aggregation.

On the squad are Ricketts and Prescott, two former forwards on the State university team, and Sheridan, center, all three letter men. The men are playing a class of fast and snappy basketball and Butte fans should not overlook the opportunity of seeing them play here.

time has assimilated numerous healthy punches on his jaw. The general result was that Dundee came back and fought all the harder.

He swapped punches with such husky wallowers as Willie Kibane and Charley White and Johnny Kibane and did not suffer.

Considering that Jackson must have something, Dundee, himself, admits that Dundee held no title. But he was the best man in the country at 135 pounds, and was so dangerous that Freddie Welsh would never consent to meet him over a long route.

For that reason Jackson must be given serious consideration until he proves that he was a flash in the pan.

Who is this Jackson anyway? Well, his everyday name is Oscar Tobler, of Jewish parents, and he is not yet 20 years old. He is a public school graduate and used to be a basketball player and an amateur baseball pitcher.

"I would rather be a good pitcher than a great fighter," he said after the Dundee bout. "But I would never be successful, I'm too small."

Jackson is tall and rangy and fights at 135 pounds without trouble.

His boxing career started a little over two years ago when he appeared at the Fairmount A. C., New York, and asked to be put on for a preliminary. At that time preliminary fighters were not yet but were permitted to sell tickets to their friends and keep half. That's how Jackson made \$9 in his first bout.

His early performances were not particularly successful. He was beaten by Frankie Burns, but weighed 113 pounds to Burns' 120. Later Johnny Kibane knocked him out.

In this Jackson's career somewhat resembles Young Corbett's. Corbett had been knocked out by Benny Yanger and a third rater named Dempsey before he stepped McGovern.

Jackson right now is after Fred Welsh and Fred's title, but is not aching for a match with Kibane.

"Kibane is the greatest fighter in the world," he confided. "I would rather fight Welsh at 140 pounds than Kibane at 120."

DECIDING GAME WON BY LOWELL AVENUE

The Lowell Avenue Methodist church basketball team last night won the

championship over the quintet of Peoples' church by defeating them 37 to 15. It was the third and deciding game of a series of three. The lineup: Lowell-Smith and Rexroad, forwards; Hole, center; Barker and Carlson, guards; Peoples-Harrison and Saries, forwards; Morrison, center; Adams and Parker, guards.

Y. M. A. TO MEET BOULDER.

The Y. M. A. basketball team which has been practicing faithfully for the past week will leave tomorrow afternoon for Boulder to clash with the Deaf and Dumb team. The local players practice in the high school gymnasium and have some veterans on the squad. Earl Gensberger is again manager and will probably take the following players on tomorrow's trip: Mueller, center; Walters and Sulgrove, guards; Ashworth and Ballard, forwards; Graham, Malsted, Davis and Barger, substitutes.

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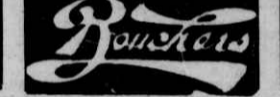
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29-31 West Park



29-31 West Park

ANNUAL MEETING OF TENNIS ASSOCIATION

New York, Feb. 9.—Delegates from all parts of the country are here for the annual meeting of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association late this afternoon. The conference is expected to be one of the most important in the history of the organization.

The amateur status of the player who deals in sporting goods supplies will be discussed and possibly fixed at this meeting.

Other matters include proposed changes in the rules, allowing expenses to players competing in tournaments at a distance from their homes; the separation of the singles and doubles championship tournaments and allotment of prominent tourney dates.

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