# Sports

## BOWLING.

The past week's campaign in the South Side Bowling League has been an eventful one. Wonderful to relate, the Famous team was defeated three straight—and by Ceramics, one of the second division clubs. This did down materially the heavy lead of Famous, bringing three teams within hailing distance of the front. Of these, Randy Boos and Tidal Wave come together tonight, and one will, of course, leave the alleys with a decided advantage over the other. The other likely club is Harvest, and as Fette's boys battle with the tail ender Aber-Nits on Tuesday evening, Harvest may go up a notch. Still, Harvest has a habit of dropping games to tailender clubs and it would not be surprising if they should continue on that tack to-morrow night. The team standing in the league is now as follows:

| Clubs. | W. | L. | Per. | Av. | Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Famous | 37 | 14 | .726 | 866 | |
| Tidal Waves | 33 | 18 | .647 | 838 | |
| Randy Boos | 30 | 21 | .588 | 840 | |
| Harvest | 28 | 23 | .549 | 860 | |
| Ceramics | 21 | 28 | .451 | 829 | |
| Auroras | 21 | 29 | .421 | 833 | |
| Mail Pouch | 21 | 30 | .412 | 817 | |
| Aber Nit | 10 | 41 | .196 | 782 | |

In individual work, the veteran, O'Neill, formerly of the Brownies, has jumped to the front, passing Jackson, who had led the league several weeks. The figures:

| Name. | Team. | Ave. | Mch. | Ch'ge |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| O'Neill, | Randy Boos | 164 | 177 | 7 |
| Jackson, | Auroras | 157 | 158 | 1 |
| Rahr, | Tidal Waves | 157 | 158 | 1 |
| W. Fette, | Harvest | 155 | 156 | 1 |
| Gus Weitzel, | Famous | 155 | 154 | 1 |
| Campbell, | Famous | 155 | 155 | — |
| Kneke, | Famous | 155 | 155 | — |
| Marschner, | Famous | 153 | 154 | 1 |
| Hall, | Famous | 151 | 151 | — |
| Bickmeyer, | Randy Boos | 151 | 151 | — |
| Hazlett, | Tidal Waves | 150 | 144 | 6 |
| L. Fette, | Ceramics | 150 | 149 | 1 |
| Speidel, | Harvest | 149 | 148 | 1 |
| Gaughan, | Harvest | 149 | 147 | 2 |
| Webster, | Ceramics | 148 | 148 | — |
| Nolte, | Mail Pouch | 148 | 144 | 4 |
| Handlan, | Famous | 147 | 146 | 1 |
| Sarver, | Harvest | 146 | 143 | 3 |
| Scheehle, | Mail Pouch | 146 | 145 | 1 |
| Arndt, | Randy Boos | 145 | 144 | 1 |
| F. Brash, | Randy Boos | 145 | 143 | 2 |
| Seamon, | Harvest | 144 | 146 | 2 |
| Tucker, | Aber Nit | 144 | 143 | 1 |
| Bieswinger, | Harvest | 143 | 144 | 1 |
| Yenke, | Tidal Waves | 143 | 140 | 3 |
| Reib, | Auroras | 142 | 143 | 1 |
| Brett, | Auroras | 142 | 142 | — |
| W. Brash, | Randy Boos | 142 | 142 | — |
| Weeds, | Famous | 141 | 144 | 3 |
| J. Fette, | Tidal Waves | 141 | 142 | 1 |
| Wagner, | Auroras | 140 | 139 | 1 |
| Balser, | Randy Boos | 140 | 140 | — |
| Baumann, | Harvest | 139 | 139 | — |
| Boss, | Mail Pouch | 139 | 139 | — |
| Ebeling, | Mail Pouch | 139 | 138 | 1 |
| Long, | Randy Boos | 139 | 139 | — |
| Bosley, | Famous | 139 | 139 | — |
| Schroeder, | Ceramics | 138 | 137 | 1 |
| Turner, | Randy Boos | 137 | 137 | — |
| Martin, | Ceramics | 135 | 135 | — |
| Horsman, | Auroras | 134 | 134 | — |
| Wasmuth, | Auroras | 134 | 134 | — |
| Hungerman, | Ceramics | 134 | 133 | 1 |
| Schrebe, | Auroras | 133 | 132 | 1 |
| Franz, | Mail Pouch | 130 | 126 | 4 |
| Nordeman, | Mail Pouch | 130 | 130 | — |
| Springer, | Randy Boos | 130 | 130 | — |
| Rolf, | Randy Boos | 130 | 130 | — |
| Auber, | Aber Nit | 129 | 127 | 2 |
| Schafer, | Aber Nit | 129 | 129 | — |
| Hall, | Randy Boos | 129 | 129 | — |
| Schultz, | Ceramic | 129 | 126 | 3 |
| Schmulbach, | Famous | 129 | 129 | — |
| Habsteter, | Aber Nit | 127 | 126 | 1 |
| Brimson, | Mail Pouch | 127 | 127 | — |
| Bartolas, | Tidal Waves | 127 | 127 | — |
| Helenstein, | Ceramics | 125 | 124 | 1 |
| Brahler, | Aber Nit | 125 | 125 | — |
| Golner, | Aber Nit | 123 | 122 | 1 |
| Kliver, | Aber Nit | 123 | 123 | — |
| J. Weitzel, | Famous | 122 | 122 | — |
| Kehm, | Famous | 115 | 115 | — |
| Schultz, | Aber Nit | 114 | 114 | — |
| Walters, | Aber Nit | 108 | 108 | — |
| F. Schroeder, | Aber Nit | 98 | 98 | — |
| Hofreuter, | Auroras | 98 | 98 | — |

This week's schedule:

Monday—Randy Boos versus Tidal Waves.

Tuesday—Aber-Nit versus Harvest.

Thursday — Famous versus Mail Pouch.

Friday—Auroras versus Ceramics.

### The Corbett-Fitz Fight.

A special wire and operator at Gavin's cafe, on Wednesday afternoon. The Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight by rounds. All invited.

## BASE BALL.

Manager Coyle, of the Wheeling ball club, was in town a few hours Saturday evening, having returned from the Mansfield meeting of the Inter-state League. Of course he wasn't in ecstasies over the schedule that has been adopted. The eastern clubs play away from home on Fourth of July, and are kept at home on Decoration Day. This may be all right so far as Youngstown, Mansfield and New Castle are concerned, but Decoration Day is hardly a holiday in Wheeling—at least it is not generally observed on the south side as in other cities. On the other hand, Wheeling would turn out a larger crowd on the Glorious Fourth than any other city in the league, and for that reason Springfield club would probably consent to the transfer of the game if it were not that the league has decided to pool the receipts of games on the Fourth and divide equally among the eight clubs. This being true it would not be worth anything to Springfield to consent to the transfer.

The western clubs ran things about as they desired at the Mansfield meeting. On account of the uncertainty regarding the eighth club, only seven were qualified to vote, and the four western clubs of course out voted Wheeling, Youngstown and New Castle. Finally one of the eastern managers threatened to refuse to play Sunday games on the western circuit, and after a farewell bluff or two, Meyer and Stroble came off their high horse.

J. A. Spinney, the Cincinnati sporting goods dealer, has offered to contribute a silver trophy, something on the order of the Temple cup for which the first and second position National league clubs contest annually. The league has accepted the trophy and Wheeling and one other club will battle for it next fall.

Of course somebody is sure to laugh at the assertion that Wheeling will be one two in the Inter-state race, but it isn't a laughing matter. So far as can be seen now the Nailers appear stronger than any other team in the Inter-state. Messett and Toft are as fine a pair of catchers as there is in the league; for pitchers, Coyle, Campbell, Garvey, Guest and one other, form a quintette that is hard to beat. O'Brien on first, Kress on second, Lyons on third and Verga at short, with Donahy in reserve, make up what is certainly the best infield of them all; and what is the matter with this outfield: Curtis, McSteen and McGinnis, with McNamara in reserve? Such a good judge of players as Sammy Nichols, of the Kansas Citys, says Wheeling has the best team in the Inter-state, and others have voiced the same sentiment.

Wheeling is particularly fortunate in securing the St. Louis boy, Lyons, who played such a brilliant game at third for Fall River, of the New England league, in '96. Fall River "fans" are already kicking because Lyons was allowed to sign a Wheeling contract, and fear his absence will be felt.

Kress, the second baseman, just signed by Wheeling, is wanted by Buffalo; in fact, it has been sent out from Steubenville that Kress has signed a contract with the Buffalo club. As Kress's signature to a Wheeling document was obtained several ago it is quite likely the report is without foundation.

Now that the South-eastern league has gone to the wall before a ball was pitched, it has presumed that Manager Coyle will throw his net into southern waters and fish out a pitcher and possibly an infielder.

Owing to the break-up of the South-eastern league, the Pittsburghs will not go to Atlanta. Instead, they go to Roanoke, "Dicky Bird" Padden's old stamping ground, for spring practice. They will return north earlier than usual and play several exhibition games before the National League opens. Wheeling will cross bats with the Pirates.

### See the Big Fight.

On Wednesday afternoon at Gavin's, on Market street, the news of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight will be received by rounds.

## THE BIG FIGHT.

The sensation of the day at Carson was the declaration made Sunday afternoon by William Muldoon, the famous wrestler, regarding Fitzsimmons. Muldoon is an acknowledged authority among sporting men on all matters pertaining to training and physical culture, and his opinion carries great weight with it. He visited Cook's ranch and had a long talk with Fitzsimmons. He looked him over carefully in order to obtain as close an estimate as possible of Fitzsimmons' physical condition, and his opinion, expressed after leaving Fitzsimmons' training quarters, was not as favorable as it might have been.

"I did not like the looks of his eye," said Muldoon to a party of friends. "I took a walk with him and we had a long conversation. We discussed the fight and prospects of both men, and Fitzsimmons to me did not seem to be at all over-confident regarding the result."

Muldoon then went on to say that during his conversation with Fitzsimmons, he told the fighter he had seen Corbett at work while stripped in his dressing room, and that in his opinion the champion was in first class condition.

"I know it," said Fitzsimmons. "I know he is all right. I understand he never was in better condition than now."

Fitzsimmons has given up all hard work in his training and from now until the day of the fight he will take only light exercise. Sunday morning he took a short run to the penitentiary and back home, covering about four miles. He took his rub-down and this ended his work for the day. To-day he will take a short run on the roads and do a little work at punching the bag and on Tuesday will do practically nothing.

Among the callers at Cook's ranch today was Billy Madden, who tried to make arrangements with Fitzsimmons to meet his man, Joe Goddard, in the ring in case he succeeds in defeating Corbett. Fitzsimmons was rather noncommital on the subject and declared that in any event he would not consider the signing of articles to meet Goddard or any other man until after the fight.

"There will be plenty of time after the fight with Corbett," said Fitzsimmons, "to consider the question of fighting Goddard or any other man. I know that if I win this fight there will be all sorts of challenges hurled at me, but I am not going to be in too great a hurry about accepting any of them. This fight means a good deal in money besides that which is involved in the purse and side bets, and for my part, if I win it, I wish to get some of the money that will be mine for the looking after it. I will not say that I will not fight Goddard, but I will not agree at this time to enter the ring with him or anybody else in case I win the fight next Wednesday. There will in any event be no use of my talking about making any more matches until I am through with this one."

"Do you really think you are going to beat Corbett?" asked Madden. "You must remember that he is a clever man."

Fitzsimmons looked at Madden in disgust and remarked:

"Will I beat him? Of course I will beat him. I tell you one thing right now and that is unless I force the fighting on Corbett he will not be able to lick me anywhere inside of six hours. I am going to beat him just as sure as there is a fight on March 17th. I never had any doubt on that score, and you will see that I have not overrated myself nor underrated Corbett."

At the conclusion of his interview with Fitzsimmons, Madden said he considered the red-headed fighter to be in the best possible condition.

"I have seen Fitz in the ring many times," said Madden, "and I have been referee in several of his fights. I never saw him looking as well as he does now, and if he is defeated I do not think he can claim anything on the score of lack of condition."

While Madden was talking to Fitzsimmons, Al Smith, who is the stakeholder of the fight, drove up. He was greeted cordially by Fitzsimmons and the whole party entered the house for refreshments.

"You're looking well, Fitzsimmons," said Smith, "and I am glad to see you in such excellent condition. I have seen Corbett and I know he is in the best of shape and anybody that tells you otherwise is no friend of yours. This should be a fight without any excuses on the part of the loser."

Smith and Madden made but a brief call and after returning to the city Smith was asked his opinion regarding Fitzsimmons. He said: "I consider him in good shape. He is in good spirits. His race is terrible thin because of the hard work he has under his training, but I think, generally speaking, judging from what I saw of him, he is in very good condition. I did not see him stripped, nor did I see him do any work, consequently I am unable to express a forcible opinion concerning Fitzsimmons as I did yesterday regarding Corbett. I did not discuss the merits of the fight, and I merely talked in a general way and smoked a cigar with him. In my opinion, Fitzsimmons is a dangerous man in a fight and no contest in which he is engaged can be a foregone conclusion, no matter who is the other party to the fight."

Mr. Smith said that the ruling of Siler, giving the men right to strike with one arm free and in the break-aways will probably make a short fight. He considered the ruling as being distinctly to the advantage of Fitzsimmons, who is particularly strong with his jabs. Mr. Smith said that Fitzsimmons' only show would be in mixing and close fighting and that if he attempted to stand off and box he will have no show whatever.

Speaking of Corbett," said Mr. Smith, "when I saw him stripped his muscles were like Sandow's, and I do not think any man could work as he did Saturday for three hours and show no distress. His wind seemed as good when he finished as when he began his exercise."

Trainer White made several radical changes in Corbett's training Sunday. The ten mile morning run was abandoned, the champion taking a substitute of fifteen minutes' walk around his quarters. About 10 o'clock he began the work of the day, White having decided that the afternoons hereafter shall be given to short walks and resting. Corbett went at the wrist machine first, giving it about fifteen minutes attention and then spent twenty minutes punching the bag. White allowed but three games of handball, and as Corbett and his brother Joe succeeded in taking three straight from their opponents, the champion went at his boxing in excellent humor. McVey was given the first round and for five minutes was roughly handled in a wrestling bout fast enough to set the spectators to cheering vigorously. Joe Corbett sparred a round, Jeffries followed for three minutes and then Woods with his swollen face and puffy pneumatic gear, was taken for the hardest work of the day. Corbett continued his practice of punching on the break-away and succeeded in making Woods decidedly unhappy, despite the leather protector. Each of the four men was given two rounds, and a rub-down ended the training of the day.

White declared at the finish that his man has shown so much cleverness in the work at close quarters that further practice at that style of fighting will be abandoned. To-day's training will be fight and Tuesday Corbett will do no work beyond a short walk.

James Wakeley, of New York, who will bet $1,500 at 10 to 7 on Corbett, was one of the champion's callers, and Major Hughes, of Louisville, also spent several hours at the champion's camp.

Carson weather was at its old tricks again Saturday and Sunday and bids fair to keep on doing the wrong thing for at least twenty hours longer. In the early morning a large cloud sailed over the mountain tops and let itself fall on Carson City with the result of half an inch of snow and bad, muddy roads. During the day several small squalls made their appearance, each adding somewhat to the saturated condition of the thoroughfares. The clouds were still hanging over the town last night and to all appearances there will be a further fall of snow this morning.

### PRIZE FIGHT RETURNS

#### Will be Heard by Rounds at Three Places in Wheeling.

Through the special service of the Western Union Telegraph Company, the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight at Carson, will be served up by rounds at three places in this city. It will be given between acts at the Grand Opera House, and also at McLaughlin's, on Water street, and at Gavin's, on Market street.

The fight is billed to begin between 11 o'clock a. m. and noon, at Carson, which means between 2 and 3 p. m. by Wheeling time. The news will be received here without a relay, direct from the ringside. A minute after Fitzsimmons is knocked out Wheeling people will know it.

#### Fight by Rounds.

The Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight can be heard by rounds at Gavin's cafe, on Wednesday afternoon. Direct wire and special operator.

### "BLUE ROCK" DEFENDS

#### The Sportsmen From the Attack Recently Made by "Subscriber."

SIR:—For information pertaining to trap shooting, and the use and abuses of the shot gun, I respectfully refer "Subscriber" to your issue of March 1. Everybody knows that a good trap shot can kill five birds on the wing to one killed by a man not accustomed to wing shooting. The point he wishes to make is very apparent, viz.: that if there is no trap shot there will be but few quail killed. How about that "pot shot mentioned in his article of February 25, wherein he has seen a whole covey destroyed with one charge? Such inconsistency! Turn again to your issue of March 1. Now the legal right to hunt, and where. Did I infer that I had a right to shoot upon A.'s farm or B.'s farm without permission? Certainly not. We are indebted to our friends, the farmers, for the privilege so kindly granted.

But is it not a fact that there are thousands of acres of land in West Virginia and other states which can be hunted over without the formality of asking permission, and perhaps would be impossible to locate the owner, in order to get a permit. Everybody knows that the farmer has a perfect right to exclude any, or all, trespassing upon his premises. Therefore, "Subscriber's point is not well taken. Again, I assert that we have no leased territory, never had any, do not know of any in this state, and do not want any for two years, at least.

I can mention some persons who have turned out hundreds of western quail in this and other sections, not upon leased ground, but indiscriminately, and the farmers were pleased to have the quail placed with them and invariably extended an invitation to come for a few days' shooting in the fall. I may add here that about thirty dozen live quail now ordered (I say "live" quail that "Subscriber" may not purposely misconstrue), will be turned out this month regardless of closed season.

Again I assert that owing to importation, quail were more plentiful last fall than for several years previous, and they were not all seen at the door of a restaurant. It is useless to enter into further discussion upon this subject. In your issue of February 25, "Subscriber" assailed the "sportsman with his pointer dog and destructive gun," as being the prime cause of the scarcity of quail, a defense of which is fully set forth in your issue of March 1. Trusting that the present law may bring about the desired result, and thanking you for valuable space, I remain very respectfully.

BLUE ROCK.

Wheeling, March 14.