

JEFF READY TO START WORK.

Will Begin Training in New Springs Early in March.

IS WORRIED OVER HIS WIND.

Californian Intends to Do Most of His Work Outdoors So as to Perfect His Bellows—Big Fellow Should Engage Several Husky Pugilists to Help Him

Since Jim Jeffries announced that he would start training for his coming contest with Jack Johnson the first week in March the big fellow has been receiving hundreds of letters daily from the fight experts and fans offering all kinds of suggestions as to how he should prepare for the coming mill and some advice as to how he should fight the negro. As Jeff has his own ideas as to how he should train for the coming mill, all the suggestions will go for naught.

Jeffries has announced time and again that he will devote most of his time to outdoor work so his wind may be as good as it ever was. He figures that with his bellows in good shape he will have very little difficulty in disposing of Johnson. While Jeff thinks this is O. K., still there is another thing just as important. That is for the big fellow to select a staff of husky young pugilists, not old timers, to fight, not box, with him, men that will try hard to sneak over a knock out wallop. He should engage in one of these real scraps twice a week. Then in a short time he would know whether his judge of distance is a good as ever. In justice to the people who are going to bet on him in the coming fight Jeff should do this. These men want to bet on James J., but they don't want to bet blindly. They want to know whether he is "there."

A man may train with the strength of a bull and the endurance of a Marathoner, but training isn't fighting—not by a long chalk. One round of real fighting sometimes takes more grip out of a man than a half a day's hard work in the gymnasium. It's the nervous strain that does it.

When old John L. Sullivan turned up in New Orleans to train for Jim Corbett a bunch of prominent sporting men filled the gymnasium to see him begin training. Old John was fat; there was no getting away from that. But, fat as he was, there was one thing which he could do—he could slip the rope as nimbly as any other big man and it did not seem to affect his wind. John performed a few stunts, took hold of the waistband of his trousers and hauled in about a foot of slack and that was enough for the wise boys. They went out and offered three and four to one that John L. would lick the youth Corbett. If a Corbett man turned up with any money they matched for him.

Jimmy Britt never showed more power of endurance than in his training for the Colma fight with Bat Nelson. Britt was also a rope skipper, punched the bag and slugged with his sparring partners for about two hours every afternoon, and such a glutton was he for work that he did not take the usual rest of one minute between rounds, but shadow boxed or maulled a heavy bag while the trainers were resting. He seemed to be able to last from noon till sundown, and he might have been able had he played his own game and boxed with Nelson instead of standing up in the sixth round to slug it out then and there.

At the end of that terrific three minutes both men were very tired, and Britt reeled to his corner, gasping for breath.

"I'm awful tired," he said. All his weeks of hard work, all his training for stamina and endurance, left him weak and shaky after three minutes of real fighting. Jeff should have some real fights. The provisions of the articles of agreement will prevent him from engaging in public battles, but there is no reason why he should not take on some tough fellows and fight them to a finish in private. He will get nothing of assistance to him in boxing with a clever man. What he needs is real fighting. If Stanley Ketchel had trained for his second O'Brien fight by trying to pick up cleverness O'Brien would have outpunched him, because that is O'Brien's game.

Jeff will probably have the greatest all star training quarter staff in history, and eight good cooks will always be ready to make the eggs and scorch them.

What is the big, tough men who will try to knock his head off? He will get nothing of assistance to him in boxing with a clever man. What he needs is real fighting. If Stanley Ketchel had trained for his second O'Brien fight by trying to pick up cleverness O'Brien would have outpunched him, because that is O'Brien's game.

It isn't going to be long which will see Johnson so much as hawn and the wallop.

Springer Resonant Now a Jumper. Resonant, once the mightiest sprinter in the country, is now one of the best hunters in New York state. Since his retirement to James Wadsworth's farm he has learned to jump. He soon became so proficient under the tuition of his young mistress, Miss Wadsworth, that he was permitted to try his prowess at the cross country sports. He is said to be one of the finest saddle horses in the land.

AN UNFINISHED STORY.

Snoiled Because the Man Who Told It Had a Poor Memory.

Mr. Sniffin was at a dinner party given a few days ago at Judge Pitman's. While the company were at the table Sniffin said in a loud voice:

"By the way, did you read that good thing of Adler's the other day about the woman over in Pen-cader? It was one of the most amusing things that ever came under my observation. The woman's name, you see, was Emma. Well, sir, there were two young fellows paying attention to her, and after she'd accepted one of them the other also proposed to her, and as she felt certain that the first one wasn't in earnest she accepted the second one too. So a few days later both of 'em called at the same time, both claimed her hand, and both insisted on marrying her at once. Then of course she found herself face to face with a decidedly unpleasant—unpleasant—er—er—less see what's the word I want? Unpleasant—er—er—er—Blamed if I haven't forgotten that word."

"Precidament," suggested Judge Pitman.

"No, that's not it. What's the name of that thing with two horns? Unpleasant—er—er—hang it! It's gone clear out of my mind."

"A cow," hinted Miss Gridley.

"No, not a cow."

"Maybe it's a buffalo," remarked Dr. Potts.

"No, no kind of an animal. Something else with two horns. Mighty queer I can't recall it."

"Perhaps it's a brass band," observed Butterwick.

"Or a man who's had a couple of drinks," suggested Peter Lamb.

"Of course not."

"You don't mean a fire company?" asked Mrs. Pitman.

"N-no. That's the durndest, queerest thing I ever heard of that I can't remember that word," said Mr. Sniffin, getting warm and beginning to feel miserable.

"Well, give us the rest of the story without it," said the judge.

"That's the mischief of it," said Mr. Sniffin. "The whole joke turns on that infernal word."

"Two horns, did you say?" asked Dr. Potts. "Maybe it is a catfish."

"Or a snail," remarked the judge.

"N-no—none of those."

"Is it an elephant or a walrus?" asked Mrs. Potts.

"I guess I'll have to give it up," said Mr. Sniffin, wiping the perspiration from his brow.

"Well, that's the sickest old story I ever ran across," remarked Butterwick to the judge. Then everybody smiled, and Mr. Sniffin excused himself upon the ground that he had to meet a man, and he withdrew.

The mystery is yet unsolved. I never conceived any such story as that, and I have a faint impression that Sniffin was trying to build one up by bringing that woman's name, Emma, somehow into a pun with the word "dilemma," and I am glad he failed. When a man begins to palm off his infamous jokes on me the time has come when he can die without being missed.—New York Weekly.

How They Broke Up.

An amusing story is related in "Canadian Savage Folk" of the manner in which an adjournment was taken by a mass meeting. A missionary who had started a school among the Indians met with opposition, and the meeting had been called in support of the rival scheme.

There were several speakers who denounced the school in existence. We replied vigorously, showing the efficiency of the school and denouncing in turn the methods adopted by the opposition. An Indian chief produced some specimens of work done at the school, and several speakers supported the work as it was being done. The climax was reached when a gentleman rose and said:

"I move the whole thing bust!"

The chairman put the motion.

"It is moved and seconded that the whole thing bust!"

The audience sprang to their feet and waving hats, yelled "Busted!" and made for the door. Thus ended the first and last opposition in that matter.

Early Needles.

It is said by some that steel needles were invented by the Moors. Before their general diffusion throughout the civilized world thorns and fish bones, the latter with a hole pierced for an eye, were in use. The first needles made in London were by a Moor, in the reign of Henry VIII., and in Queen Mary's day steel needles were sold in Cheapside and other streets of London. After this time the manufacture increased rapidly, many Germans migrating to England and establishing needle works in various places.

EX-CUE CHAMPS STILL BUSY.

Houston and Demarest Want Another Chance to Win Back Titles.

Undaunted by the loss of their titles, Calvin Demarest, who relinquished his 182 billiard title when he was beaten by Harry Cline of Philadelphia, and Thomas Houston, who lost his pool championship to Jerome Keogh, are preparing for new worlds to conquer. Houston is going out for the three cushion billiard title now held by Fred Eames of Denver, and Demarest expects to regain his title before many months. Both players lost their titles recently.

Houston will play all comers in New York in preparation for his match with Eames. He confidently expected he would be able to defend his pool championship against Keogh and capture the three cushion title as well, but now that he has lost his title he has determined to gain another in a new field.

While Cline succeeded in beating Demarest, the ex-champion says another chance will see him again a champion. But now Willie Hoppe must be reckoned in the running in championship billiard circles. Hoppe



TOMMY HOUSTON, WHO WILL PLAY EAMES IN DENVER.

beat another retired champion, Ora Morningstar, while Cline was winning the title from Demarest and will likely be matched with Cline in the near future.

Since winning the pool championship Keogh has been a popular man with challengers. Charles Weston of Chicago, known as "the cowboy," will have the first chance at the new champion. His challenge has been accepted, and the match will be played in either Buffalo or Rochester in March. Houston will challenge the winner and expects to have back his title by next May.

HORSE RACING DATES.

Eastern Meetings Divided Up to Satisfaction of All Tracks.

Racing dates for the coming season have been officially announced by the Eastern Jockey club. According to the schedule, the sport will begin at Aqueduct, N. Y., April 15 and continue until Nov. 15, which will give patrons of the game 184 days to watch the thoroughbreds fight for purses. By the arrangement there will be about forty more days of racing than last season.

The intention to open on April 15, the first legal day to race in New York state, proves that there is no great opposition figured at the Pimlico meeting in Baltimore.

Saratoga, Empire City and Brighton Beach (New York) tracks will not conduct fall meetings. Saratoga has won a victory in that it will have twenty-

JOCKEY CLUB DATES FOR NEW YORK COURSES.

Aqueduct—April 15 to April 28, twelve days.
 Jamaica—April 29 to May 12, twelve days.
 Belmont Park—May 13 to May 30, fifteen days.
 Gravesend—May 31 to June 16, fifteen days.
 Sheepshead Bay—June 17 to July 4, fifteen days.
 Brighton Beach—July 5 to July 20, fourteen days.
 Empire City—July 21 to Aug. 3, twelve days.
 Saratoga—Aug. 4 to Aug. 27, twenty-one days.
 Sheepshead Bay—Aug. 29 to Sept. 10, twelve days.
 Gravesend—Sept. 12 to Sept. 24, twelve days.
 Belmont Park—Sept. 26 to Oct. 8, twelve days.
 Jamaica—Oct. 10 to Oct. 27, sixteen days.
 Aqueduct—Oct. 28 to Nov. 15, sixteen days.

one days instead of eighteen, as originally planned. Empire City would have been better satisfied if they had received eighteen instead of twelve days, but Brighton coming into the arrangements upset the calculations.

The season follows its regular course as in former good days. In the aggregate Aqueduct and Jamaica will have twenty-eight days; Belmont Park twenty-seven; Gravesend, twenty-seven; Sheepshead Bay, twenty-seven; Brighton Beach, fourteen; Empire City, twelve; and Saratoga, twenty-one. Pimlico, in Baltimore, opens April 20 and runs to May 7.

DIAMOND DIDDINGS

Some of the Stuff That is Flying Around in the Western League.

SANDY GRISWOLD HAS A CATNIP AATTCK.

Throws His Usual Spasmodic Ejection Up and Into the Western League.

Sandy Griswold in his usual stunt as a knocker opposes the 168-game schedule in the Western League and calls the promoters "sap-heads." We believe it is much better to be a "sap-head" and progressive than a "junk-head" who imagines oneself the only fighting cock on the dunghill. Sandy imagines that he knows a whole lot about what the fans of the Western league want in the way of base ball, but he is just about as close to the real fan as an Omaha policeman generally gets to a burglar. He may be an authority on pugilists but the very little that he knows about the real wants of the average base ball lover in the Western wouldn't fill the sporting page of the Bullville Yearly Bummer.

The Denver fans are beginning to get cold feet this early in the season over the prospects of having a good team. The Times says that the infield is all right, but the outfield is an uncertain quantity, while the pitching staff is woefully weak. If the Denver papers would devote more time to boosting instead of knocking there would be some thing to inspire the management to better the condition. The fact is that no base ball management has ever had the loyal support of the papers out there. Every time there was a chance for a kick the kick was sure to come. If the town wants a winning team the thing to do is to boost and let every fan get into line and show his loyalty. A management which knows that they are going to get the prod every time things don't go to suit hasn't much of an incentive to get out and get a winner, for the risk is too great. If that bunch of cold blooded so called sports would take a lesson from little old Lincoln where the fans boost just as hard when the team is at the foot as they do when it is at the top, there would be some chance for them to make good as dead game sporting people.

The selection of a 168-game schedule for the Western may not meet with the approval of everybody. It was not expected that it would. There has been some young and new blood injected into the league which feels like making something out of it. The new schedule may not be the right thing. Then again it may be just exactly the right thing. Surely no one will ever know until it is tried. The Western has been moving along with its little old schedule from year to year until it needed some one to start a new invention. If it is a success, it is what the league wants. If it is a failure it is easy to drop back to the old game. If every club manager in the Western should carry out the idea of some of the knockers against the new schedule, that it was better to stick to what they had rather than to try out new players, there would be no new faces in the line-ups of any of the clubs. Every club owner would keep the same old gang and no changes would be made. In every business walk in life success has been the result of new experiments, and the success of the Western league will be brought about in the same way. We are glad the new schedule has been drafted. Sometimes we think that maybe it is not what is wanted, but we believe just the same that it is worth trying.

We do not know whether Cooley, Holland and Rourke should be classed with Sandy Griswold's "sap-heads" or not, but as he also includes Despain and Fairweather, it would look like the Western League was going to be full of sap this year anyhow. With that bunch in the "sap-head" class we rather feel that the "Sap-head" crowd is a pretty good crowd to run things in the Western.

The picture of Fred Merkle which accompanied the current issue of the Sporting News will be received with a great deal of interest by the base ball public. Probably no base ball player ever jumped into the lime light quite as suddenly as did Mr.

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Relieves you of your cough at once and leaves no bad after effects as it contains

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Merkle. Generally when a player reaches the pinnacle of fame it is because of what he has done. However Merkle reaches his renown because of what he did not do. Probably the knowledge of what his fatal error cost not only himself, but the New York Club and each of his fellow players will be a lesson he will never forget and a lesson which has so impressed itself upon the base ball players all over the country, that its benefits will be far reaching.

Reaps Results.
 Col H. C. McMaken, received an order today on W.M. Forbes, National Treasurer of the Knights & Ladies of Security, for the first installment on his policy in that company. Colonel McMaken having reached the age limit at which the company agrees to pay out on the policy at the rate of \$1 per year on a one thousand dollar policy.

Mr. C. E. Wood, of Talmage, a cousin of Sheriff Quinton, has been in the city today on a short visit. Mr. Wood is cashier of a Talmage bank and is a very pleasant gentleman to meet.

BIG DAMAGE SUIT COMMENCED THURSDAY.

Earl R. Blish Seeks to Recover From Burlington for Loss of Leg

By far the most important law suit to be tried this term of court was commenced Thursday afternoon when the court directed Clerk of the district court to "call the jury" in the case of Earl R. Blish vs. C. B. & Q. R. R. Co. It took the court and attorneys about an hour to get the jury in the case. After which the court excused the balance of the panel until next Wednesday at 9 o'clock.

Attorney for the plaintiff, Mathew Gering addressed the jury giving his version of what the facts in the case would be as counsel understood the witnesses would testify to. Mr. Gering was about half an hour stating his case, his statement was taken down by Myron Wheeler, of Omaha, for the company. Mr. Clark occupied but a few moments going over what the evidence for the defenant company would show.

Mr. Gering stated in substance that the plaintiff was a young man twenty eight years old, born in Pennsylvania where he resided until about one year ago when he came west and entered the employ of the Burlington, on or about June 30th 1908 and was directed to report to Charles Bell here on that day, the young man was put to work with the switch crew and had been in the Plattsmouth yards scarcely twenty four hours when the accident occurred which resulted in the loss of his leg.

Mr. Gering went into detail as to the situation in the yards, explaining to the jury that the trains of the company were operated by semiphores, which showed different colored signals each having a meaning, stating that the semiphores were operated with levers connecting by wires which which extended along the ground from one semiphore to the other. It was shown to the jury that at this time and for a few days prior, George

Poisal had been doing grading in the yards for the company and the wires had been removed and the semiphores were out of use. That all conductors and men in charge of trains had orders delivered to them, telling them to approach the Plattsmouth yards with caution, and in the yards to have their engines and trains under complete control, that is to say under such control that the engineer could stop his train within a distance covered by his vision. That on the night of the accident, July 1st an extra freight was sent out of Omaha which left Gibson at 11 o'clock. The train was a heavy one containing 50 cars, 48 of which were loaded and was run at a high rate of speed, making the distance from Gibson to Oreadpolis in a remarkably short time reaching Oreadpolis at 11:40 and reaching Plattsmouth 11:47, running the distance of nearly four miles in seven minutes, or at the rate of a mile in two minutes. The switching crew were sent to the west end of the yards to do some work, and the man in charge of the crew nor the plaintiff who was firing on the switch engine knew of the extra coming at that hour. When the switch crew backing toward the north reached the cross over some eighty rods north of the station, the extra coming at full speed dashed round the curve and was upon the switch crew before any of them were aware of the danger.

The plaintiff was in the act of shoveling coal into his engine when the engineer yelled at him to "look out" and jumped from the engine. The engineer and fireman of the extra jumped and as Blish started from his position of shoveling coal to the tender of his engine, and attempted to make his exit the two engines came together catching his left foot and leg between the tender and the engine cab, pinning the fireman fast and he was tortured there for over an hour before the engines could be separated and the foot released. Mr. Gering stated plaintiff was drawing \$75.00 per month at the time of the injury, was a young healthful man, sober and industrious with chance for promotion. That the result of the accident crippled him for life. That at his age then, his expectancy of life was thirty five years. That he expected the jury to find a verdict to be commensurate with the damage.

Mr. Clark made a brief statement of the defendant's side of the case and stated that in most of the details there would be little conflict in the evidence. But that he expected to prove that plaintiff had been informed that the part of the yards where they were operating at the time of the accident was the most dangerous in the yards. That the question of negligence, if there was any one for the jury to determine under the instructions of the court and that if negligence was found then the matter of the damage would be a matter for the jury to settle.

The jury empaneled to try the case is composed of the following gentlemen: Charles Jacjman, John Bogard, Wm. Kunz, Geo. Voegel, Wm. Cross, John Schoerman, John Domingo, Crede Harr's, H. F. Ktopp, John Froliek, Emerson Dowler and W. E. Dull. The jury were taken this morning to view the yards at the place the accident occurred. C. S. Johnson being the witness on the stand at the time the visit was ordered, accompanied the jury with a plat of the yards.