SPORTS OF THE LAST WEEK

Base Ball Pennant Races Seem to Be Developing Into Processions.

CINCINNATI AGAIN SURPRISES US ALL

Goes East in the Lead and Returns to Mill Creek in First Place—Only Race in the Western is for Second.

Commencing with today the western teams in the big league return to their division to start a bit of a whirl between themselves and then to receive the eastern teams. They will stay in the west until August 12, when the third eastern trip will commence and continue until August 24. Another stay at home will follow until September 14, when the fourth and final whirl around the eastern circuit will take place, the teams coming home to finish out the season on September 24.

Cincinnati will come back home from her second trip with a nice substantial lead once more. On last Friday with out one more game to play away from the home grounds she was twenty-one points to the good over the Bostonese. It is thirty points less than the lead the Reds had when they left Cincinnati, but it seems to be sufficient for all purposes, as they will remain almost uninterruptedly on the home grounds for the coming three weeks. When they left on the trip they were fifty-two points ahead of the Beaneaters. This was on July 4. When they had finished the trip about the western circuit on July 11 they had increased this lead to fifty-seven points, so that their actual loss on the trip in the east was thirty-six points.

It is the second time that the Reds have returned from the tour in the lead, but this time the advantage has been cut down one-half. When they departed for the first tour on May 28 they were seventy-seven points ahead of anything behind them. On their return this lead had been cut down to forty points, but in the stay-at-home until July 4 it was boosted up again to the fifty-two-point advantage with which they began the trip just ended.

The Bostonians do not seem to have made a sufficient gain on their home grounds. When they left the west their percentage was 61.5. This was decreased just one point while they were touring among the eastern clubs. While on the home grounds they forced this up to the 64.2 mark on last Friday. Cleveland had been plodding along steadily. On July 3 when the Spiders left home they were at 60.9 and at exactly the same figure when they left for the east. They come west with 61.3, a gain of four points in the ten days. Baltimore has been jogging along at about the same rate. When the Orioles left the west they were with a percentage of 59.7. They gained four points on the tour in the east and on last Friday after a ten-day stop on the home grounds they had exactly the same figure with which they arrived, 60.3. Chicago has been dropping steadily. She reached the Windy City on July 4 with a percentage of 56.7. She dropped seven points during her week's stay and during the trip east she dropped an even dozen more, standing at 54.8 in the race.

The eastern whirl of the western teams in the Western league has also ended and this has resulted in two particular features—the fall of St. Paul and the rise of Milwaukee. When the Saints reached St. Paul at the conclusion of the first eastern trip on June 19 they were fourth, but with a percentage of 59.6, that threatened to place them in second and third place at any time. Their play at home and among the western teams did really boost them into the first place when the second eastern trip just concluded began. They then had a standing of 63.2. They come back in fifth place with a percentage of 56.8, a less of 64 points.

The Brewers have as much of a record in the opposite direction. When they started on the western trip on June 19 they had fifth place cinched with a percentage of 52.9. Their tour of the western clubs resulted in a raise to a percentage of 55.1. They kept running upward all the while in the east until now, at the beginning of the western trip, they are fourth with a percentage of 58.3, a gain of 54 points over their standing when they began their first western trip.

The race is still for the second position between these four clubs—St. Paul, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Columbus. The Blues come home with 15 points less than at the conclusion of the first trip, and the Senators have 22 points less than the percentage with which they started out on the first western trip. Indianapolis is still easily in the lead at about the same figure with which she started on the western tour before. At that time she was 51 points to the good, now she is 54. She took a big slump in the meantime, for at the time St. Paul held the lead the Hoosiers had lost 40 points and more, but they managed to regain all this loss on the home grounds.

The rebaptized Babes have about held their own in the east. They started on the trip with 36.5 points, and are now at 35.6. Detroit has made a small gain, but that has been sufficient to raise them above the Babes. Minneapolis has been losing steadily since her last return home, being twenty-nine points less in percentage.

The awakening of the Giants after Anson had gone, and their recent hustling and successful efforts to climb up the ladder, bears out the conclusion that the players did not and would not put forward their best efforts under the veteran's leadership. While Anson was at the helm they played the dopey game that characterized the work of the Colts during the last few seasons of the reign of the "old man." Why it is that Anson, who is supposed to give the men under him the best of treatment, should be unable to get good work out of his players, is a mystery of the game that will never be explained.

The reorganization of the Western league circuit for another year, even if no more changes are made this year, is a puzzling problem that faces its members. The Columbus and St. Joseph teams will no doubt have other permanent homes by another season, and there is another matter that may make a change. The Cleveland team in the National league will unquestionably be removed to some other city before next season and Indianapolis is about the most prominently mentioned place just now, for Buffalo can hardly stand for an Eastern league team as it is. In that case the Western league would have to seek three new cities and would have to consider the question, perhaps, of trying Cleveland. The National league can make it surrender Indianapolis October 1. There has been considerable talk of a break-up of the Eastern league circuit and of Western league teams going to Buffalo and Toronto, but it is likely to remain just what it now is—mere talk. The Eastern league may quit before finishing this season, but it will hardly do so without some guarantee as to its territory being reserved under protection of the big league. Already the Western league magnates have shown their disposition to co-operate with the Eastern league owners in preserving their holdings, for they have agreed to leave their players alone now that salaries have been cut, except in cases, of course, where releases have been given.

Chris Von der Ahe is still in base ball. The deal—engineered in private and not sprung on an unsuspecting public until it had been completed—whereby the German magnate disposed of his club to Capitalist Becker for a sum not publicly stated, will not likely be questioned by the base ball world. It is known that Becker and Chris are old pals, that the latter is in debt to the former, and that but for his moneyed friend Chris would have been forced to relinquish his hold on the Browns years ago. It is also admitted that the deal Chris has fixed up with his friend will enable him to continue to exercise a controlling influence over the St. Louis club, which latter fact is a bitter pill to the St. Louis base ball public. If the deal with Becker was brought under the searchlight of a law court there would probably be a certain amount of decayed matter discovered in connection with it. It is not likely that this will be done, however. It seems a pity that the Browns did not fall into new hands. The team seems to have fallen into a rut that it cannot get out of, and with Chris still the guiding spirit the fans down in the Mound City admit that there is little hope for improvement. The franchise of the club is a valuable one. St. Louis is a great ball town with a winning team. There are many men of means who know this and who were ready to jump in a few days ago at the public sale of the club that was to come off and bid for it, with the intention of providing a team that could win. But Chris has fooled them all once more.

Diamond Dust.

Joe Corbett of last year's Orioles is the base ball writer for the San Francisco Call, and his writings are much sought after by the fans.

Buffalo confesses to a loss of $100 a day. That doesn't look as if the Queen City of the Lakes has much of a hunch over Cleveland as a retreat for ball cranks.

Jake Beckley walks to first base on "hit by pitched ball" about as often as any player in the business. Old Eagle Eye will not get out of his tracks for anything short of a rifle shot.

Boston has the unique record of being shut out without a hit or a run twice this season. Hughes of Baltimore and Donnahue of Philadelphia did the trick. They have been whitewashed eight times altogether this year.

Altrock, the twirler Louisville purchased from Grand Rapids and who won a game the other day, won the last seventeen games out of eighteen in which he officiated, and has been batting over 400 in minor league company.

Since the story that Cleveland games will be transferred has gone out, the Indians are being called many pet names by league city papers. A few of them are: Tramps, Nomads, Wanderers and Pot Hunters. Vagrants is the name that seems to suit the case best.

The war tax of $10 is payable alike by all base ball clubs, professional, semi-professional or amateur, where an admission fee is charged. While the theater fee is charged only to towns of 25,000 or over, the base ball tax will have to be paid by clubs in every city, town, borough or village.

Boston has no utility infielder now and depends on Captain Duffy to come in and fill Collins' or Long's place in case of injury, weakening the outfield and forcing the captain to a very unpleasant duty, as he is not a clever infielder, but a remarkable player in the left garden.

There are teams that will likely lead the Philadelphias in batting at the end of the season, but for all that the Quaker city crew is the hardest hitting aggregation, says Harry Weldon. It is safe to bet that the Philadelphias make more clean, hard hits, the kind that fairly ring when they go off the bat, than any other team in the league.

The Louisville team seems to have carried the young blood idea so far that its efficiency is destroyed. There are only three old heads on the team—Kittridge, Clingman and Hoy. Cunningham is the only experienced twirler left since Ehret has departed. If this thing keeps up the club will develop into a kindergarten pure and simple.

The best long-distance hitter in the National league, according to the latest figures, seems to be big "Napoleon" La Joie, who led all the sluggers for extra bases in 1897. La Joie's record includes twenty-five two-baggers, eight triples and two home-runs. Anderson of Washington ranks second and Ryan of Chicago, third. "Scrappy" Joyce leads in home-runs, and Harry Davis excels in three-baggers. Hamilton leads in base running.

WITH HORSES AND HORSEMEN

Opening of the Grand Circuit Races at Detroit Shows There is Still Speed.

The opening of the grand circuit last Monday at the Grosse Pointe track at Detroit brought together for the first time this year a great many of the trotters and pacers that have been burning up the tracks in the east and the west in the preliminary campaigns. As a consequence the followers of harness racing look with keen interest upon the first bout between the flyers of the rival sections. The number of high class horses uncovered at the early meetings was altogether unprecedented, and turf followers predicted a campaign of remarkable brilliancy. When the sensational young performers from the far west were cut loose at Denver, St. Joseph and this city a few weeks ago, eastern horsemen shook their heads and prophesied that the westerners would sweep the board. The opinion continued to prevail during the early performances at Hartford, Providence and other eastern meetings, but toward the end of the gatherings the doings were enough to indicate that the east will hold up its end.

The big purse at the Detroit meeting was the Merchants' and Manufacturers' annual stake of $10,000 for the 2:24 class. This was won by an eastern horse, Directum Kelly, the property of James Butler of New York, who had to lower his record from 2:14 to 2:11½ in order to win the money. Kelly's principal opponent was the Colorado mare, Belle J., who quit, however, after two heats, both of which she won, Kelly being fifth and second. The winner, while at present owned in the east, is a western horse, bred by Monroe Salisbury at Pleasanton, Cal., and was sold at auction in 1885. He is a 4-year-old, of a rich bay color, about 15.1 hands high and is considered one of the fastest horses in training. He is by Direct, the son of Director, 2:17, who has a trotting record of 2:18¼ and a pacing record of 2:05½. He is out of the bloodlike bay mare Rosa Ludwig, by Anteeo, 2:16½, granddam by thoroughbred Limerick Boy. He won two races in a week at Hartford, cutting his record down from 2:24¼ to 2:14.

In the 2:04 pace easterners again won with Frank Bogash after a struggle extending over eight heats. The prominent western horses, Anaconda and Chehalis, were not in it, being flagged out at the end of the fifth heat. The west came to the front, however, in the fast class on Thursday. In the 2:09 pace the great California horse, Searchlight, won in three straight heats from a field of nine others. The time made, 2:07¾, 2:07¼, 2:06¾, was almost equal to the records made in the 2:04 class in the first three heats.

Magnificent time was made on Thursday in the other race for a big purse during the week. This was the chamber of Commerce $5,000 stake for 2:24 class pacers. Heats in this race were down to 2:08¾.

There have been rumors that Lewis M. Tewksbury's great pacer, the ex-champion, John R. Gentry, 2:00½, is off his speed. As a matter of fact the horse is in the pink of condition and ready to go to his limit if he has a chance for a race, match or a go against the watch. He made a trial at Charter Oak recently in 2:07½ and has gone quarters in :30. The death of Ginnette, who was matched against him for $10,000 a side for three races, has left him without any engagements, as the leading meetings of the season have no free-for-all purses on the programs, the idea being that at the outside only Joe Patchen and John R. Gentry would enter, as the owner of Star Pointer has decided not to race him this season. This is a singular condition of affairs when the fastest horses in the country have no purses open to them because they are fast. A series of specials between Joe Patchen and John R. Gentry, however, should attract the public.

From a breeder's standpoint it is a remarkable achievement to give standard trotting records to three sisters in one afternoon, and it is still more worthy of mention when the three sisters are yet fillies and at the same time are the oldest foals of their dam. The incident referred to occurred at Terre Haute, Ind., on the afternoon of July 4. Kathay, 4 years, won the 2:30 trot; time, 2:39½. Kavala, 3 years, won the 2:35 trot; time, 2:29 1-4. There being no race for 2-year-olds, the youngest, Kalevala, had to go against time and trotted on easy mile in 2:30, the first half being in 1:11 and the third quarter officially timed in 0:34. All this must have been highly gratifying to W. P. Ijams, the president of the track, who owns Kaplan, the yearling brother. All are sired by Kremlin, 2:07¾. The dam is Almera, only 9 years old, and she herself, though without a record, had a world of speed. She has now by her side a bay colt by Kremlin, 2:07¾, and is, of course, stinted this year to that stallion. Almera is by Kentucky Prince, out of Alma, 2:28¾, sister of Dexter, 2:17¼, and is consequently of the same breeding as Dexter Prince. At the age of 9, out of five foals, the oldest of which is 4 years, three are now in the list. Almera appears to hold the world's record as a great young speed producer. What other mare has ever done the like?

The performance of the Oregon pacer Chehalis at Denver, where he took a record of interest, has attracted the attention of horsemen all over the country. Chehalis is a son of Altamont and he is out of the famous producing mare Tecora, by Cassius M. Clay, jr., second dam by Brignoli, son of Mambrino Chief. In his race at Denver he paced to the half in the first heat in 1:01 and the second quarter was covered in 0:29½, a feat that demonstrates his possession of speed to make even the owners of Star Pointer, John R. Gentry and Joe Patchen consider him as a probable rival in the pacing brigade. Chehalis is a very beautiful bay horse, standing only fifteen hands high. His action is easy and gliding, although he goes rigged in hobbles, which are let down much lower on his legs than most horses wear them. He also carries considerable weight on his toes in addition to ten-ounce shoes, a knowledge of which will make horsemen regard his chances for championship honors with suspicion. There have always been surprises bobbing up in the pacing world, however, and this queerly-rigged Oregon pacer has already demonstrated his possession of extreme speed and good racing qualities. If his extremely fast race so early in the season has not injured him he is likely to be one of the shining lights of pacerdom this year.

Western Horseman: "The Merchant, 2:25, the Keystone farm's great young son of The Conqueror, 2:12¼, is clearly about the best 2-year-old trotter that has thus far showed up this season. In his race at Omaha, June 28, in which he took his record of 2:25, he was easily driven to the half by the clever reinsman, Scott McCoy, and had it been necessary it is believed that the gallant youngster could have stepped the second half about as fast as he did the first. The Merchant was the only trotting yearling to take a standard record last year. While he is a marvelous colt, much of his greatness must be credited to the careful and skillful handling of McCoy."

Notes of the Track.

Frank Agan is pacing quarters in 30 seconds without any trouble.

The Iowa pacing stallion, Hail Cloud, 2:07¾, is stepping quarters in thirty seconds in his work.

The get of the trotting stallion Fuchsia continue to win their races in France with surprising regularity.

The first 2:15 trotter for Kansas the present season is Askey, 2:13¼, a grandson of Charles Caffrey, that obtained a record of 2:20¼ last year.

The fastest trotter in the southwestern part of this state is said to be the bay mare, 2:15, by Knight Templar. This mare was bred by John Gilbert of Red Cloud.

There are over 22,000,000 horses owned in Russia. This is double the number of horses owned by any other country in the world. The United States ranks second, with 10,500,000.

The first of the produce of John R. Gentry to enter the list is the bay horse Patton, out of a daughter of Strathmore. He won in straight heats at St. Joseph, Mo., in 2:19¼, 2:19¼ and 2:19½. This is a good beginning.

The difference between the eastern and western racing gaits at early meetings is illustrated by the fact that the Kansas mare, Belle Colley, won the 2:25 pace at Bridgeport, Conn., in 2:30¼, 2:22¼ and 2:23¼, while she was compelled to step a mile in 2:14½ in the meet in this city in order to win first money in the 2:17 class.

Fervor, by Fonso, dam Bettie Blaise, won the Oakwood handicap at Washington park, Chicago, on July 2, one mile and a furlong, in 1:51¾, and it is going the rounds of the press as a new record for the distance. This is not true. The record for the distance is 1:51½, made by Tristan, 114 pounds, at Morris Park, June 2, 1891.

Such a feat as that performed by the Village Farm driver, E. F. Geers, at Charter Oak Park, July 4 and 5, was never equaled in the annals of the trotting or running turf. On the opening day he won all four races and the second day he won the first two events, making six in succession, in first-class company. The only reason why he did not win the seventh, apparently, was that he did not drive in it. Five of his six winners were from his own string and four were bred at Village Farm.

PALAVER OF THE PUGILISTS

McCoy and Corbett Agree to Get Together and End Their Talk in a Real Fight.

The event of the week in pugilistic circles was unquestionably the signing of the smooth and talkative Hoosier, Kid McCoy, and the pompadoor conversationalist, Jim Corbett, for a long-round go next September. These chaps have bluffed and blustered quite a while over the proposed go and it will be a relief to the sporting element that they have been finally brought together even if the bout develops into nothing more than a rehearsal. If it should pan out into an affair of this kind, it will be a disappointment to many of the followers of McCoy, who had hoped, perhaps sometimes against the signs, that he is not a standoff with the ex-champion in the sure thing line.

There is a touch of suspicion in the deal from the fact that Kid McCoy carried his point so easily. He insisted that there should be no hitting in the clinching or break aways and Corbett was as steadfast in maintaining that this should be allowed. Yet according to the agreement finally signed it is stipulated that the knights of the felded digits shall break clean. It is explained that this backdown on the part of Corbett was the result of a bit of diplomacy upon the side of W. A. Gray, McCoy's manager. McCoy, it is said, kept away from any meetings with Corbett because he feared that something might come up that would queer the match. In answer to a query Gray told Corbett one day that McCoy so thoroughly despised him that he would not come to the meetings for fear the transactions would break up in a general fight and he would not get the opportunity of fighting Corbett in the ring. Corbett turned white with rage when he heard that and told Considine to agree to any kind of an agreement in order to get the "kid" in a ring. Corbett appears to think the coming fight will be one of the softest things he has ever fallen into. Some of his friends are worried about the easy manner in which Corbett is taking the affair and are earnestly telling him to be careful.

If the fight is on the square, it ought to be a great battle of boxing masters. The two are unquestionably the superiors of all fighters at present in the ring as far as pure science goes. Men who have followed the game seem to think that McCoy gained a very great advantage when he forced Corbett to sign articles prohibiting hitting with one arm free. Although it is probable McCoy will be the post favorite in the betting on the coming fight, the measurements of the men show that Corbett will have all the better of the argument so far as physical construction is concerned. One point in McCoy that shows remarkable strength is his large wrist. It is much larger than Corbett's and shows that those short jabs of his from the side, commonly known as the corkscrew blow, must have tremendous power behind them. Another point in favor of McCoy is the length of reach he possesses. He is well over an inch longer in that respect than Corbett and that will stand him in good stead at long range battling. Following are the measurements of the men:

McCoy.		Corbett.
25 years	Age	32 years
159 pounds	Weight	182 pounds
5 feet 10¾ inches	Height	6 feet 1 inch
76 inches	Reach	74 4-5 inches
32 inches	Length or arm	33 4-5 inches
14 inches	Biceps	15½ inches
11½ inches	Forearm	14½ inches
7½ inches	Wrist	6 4-5 inches
16 inches	Neck	18 inches
35 inches	Chest contracted	38 inches
41 inches	Chest expanded	42½ inches

The fight is to be twenty rounds for a purse of $20,000. It is to take place at the Hawthorne club in Buffalo on September 10, during the afternoon, in order that veriscope pictures may be taken. If it should be necessary, on account of the weather conditions, the fight is to be postponed from day to day until everything is right for the taking of the pictures. Incidentally, it is said that McCoy has an interest in the Hawthorne club, and as the wily Kid is likely to get a bit of the profits if the bout is pulled off, this, too, looks a bit queer. Corbett is a foxy sort of a guy himself, and he is not likely, under the present financial stress under which he is laboring, to have passed up so long a chance to pick after a $20,000 note, unless he had a chance to work an extra graft himself. After all, though, the fight may be on the square, and if it should be it will certainly be a great battle.

While Admiral Sampson's fleet is cruising in Cuban waters, looking for more Spaniards to annihilate, Tom Sharkey, the fistic offspring of the navy, is in New York with a chip on his shoulder daring any and all heavies to knock it off. Corbett, McCoy, Jeffries and Maher are all within hailing distance, but seek not the sailor's game. Sharkey is allowed to parade up and down Broadway with all the airs of a victorious man-of-war and without danger of a call. None of the above heavyweights seem eager to try conclusions with Sharkey. To tell the truth, he is too tough a proposition to tackle, and the aspirants for Fitz's title are all seeking the softest road to his crown. The sailor, with his bull-like style of fighting, and his crushing strength, is given a wide berth, and no doubt certain heavyweights would be tickled if Tom grew disgusted and started to lick the Spaniards. Decrepit old Joe Goddard is the only fighter who seems willing to have a try at Sharkey, and we will soon hear of the latter giving the Barrier man another beating. No doubt Goddard thinks the loser's end of the purse a sweet morsel these days. He certainly cannot lose anything, and he might get in on Tom such a punch as he did on Maher in their second skirmish. But this is only a remote possibility. Sharkey has become so hard up that he has come out with an offer to meet both Corbett and McCoy in limited round goes, but up to the present time has received no response.

"Spike" Sullivan's match with Lavigne still hangs fire, but the former says that he is prepared to sign at any moment to box Burge's victor, providing the latter places $5,000 on his chances to win. The Irish-American declines to box Lavigne for a $3,000 purse, claiming that a world's championship contest is worth more money. If Lavigne declines meeting the Celt he intends keeping on defeating lightweights and further prove his claim to the championship title. "Spike" also adds that he would not be adverse to leasing the Lenox club for his battle with Lavigne, providing Manager O'Rourke would interpose no objection.

Bob Fitzsimmons is following up his proposition to grant Corbett another chance at him if he presents him with $20,000, by condescending to give Sharkey another go if the latter will reimburse him for the $15,000 he was defrauded out of by Wyatt Earp in 'Frisco.

FOR LOVERS OF GUN AND ROD

Goodrich and Metz Come Back with a Pretty Fair Black Bass Bass Fish Story.

Fred Goodrich and Charley Metz came back from Lake Quinnebaugh last week with the biggest fish story of the season so far sprung upon the unsuspecting public of Omaha. They calmly make the announcement that in one week's outing at this resort they caught exactly 475 black bass. After another whiff at the pipe, they relate that the finny captives were secured in three days' actual fishing time and as an example of the avidity with which the bass took after the bait, they say that they caught sixty-three in an hour and a half. This is at the rate of one fish per man each three minutes—a pretty fast clip. Goodrich and Metz are pretty veracious chaps under ordinary circumstances and therefore the tale may be taken despite its dopey flavor. There is no question that the lakes in this section of the country are fairly swarming with the game fish this season. Big catches are reported from, all the resorts. The great supply house of the lakes, the big Muddy, appears to be unusually stocked. Fred Goodrich says that he was standing on the shores of the inlet which supplies Quinnebaugh with its water and saw whole schools of bass passing in. Goodrich has gone back to Quinnebaugh for another whirl.

Onawa is quite popular with Omaha fishermen just now. Last Sunday Doc Owens, Billy Townsend and Harry Rhodes brought back a string of beauties. Among those who will try their luck there today are J. B. Mickel and James Brennan.

"There is a good rush to buy tackle and fine tackle at that," declared Brune Schneider the other day, "and I believe that nothing but the finest tackle will be bought in a year or two. Featherweight rods, that is, rods of the weight almost unheard of a few years ago, are all the vogue. It is natural that with a call for fine and light rods there should be a corresponding demand for fine tackle. Artificial baits, such as flies, spoons, etc., are growing in favor rapidly, and the man who uses worms or live bait seems to be dropping out of existence. From this it may be gathered that the desire to outwit is uppermost in the angler's mind; not the desire to possess. Sportsmanship is gaining ground rapidly and Izaak Walton need not blush for such of his followers who claim the United States as their residence."

Plover are not very numerous about these parts this season, but they can be found in small quantities. Last week Charley Johnson and Ward Burgess secured a bag on the Pappio. A few have been shot on the island, too, during the last week.

It has been decided to hold the fall shooting tournament of the Dupont Gun club on September 21, 22 and 23. Some of the details of the affair will be arranged by the committee in charge during the coming week.

Frank Fogg cut quite a caper at Billy Hardin's shoot last Thursday. He got in on first money in every one of the ten events. In four of them he shot fifteen straight and in the other six he shot fourteen out of fifteen, making a score of 144 out of a possible 150. He was jogging with Luck on her blind side, for every time he missed a target all the rest did, the consequence being that he was in on first money always.

The Dupont Gun club had a team over at the Hardin shoot with the intention of carrying off the prize, but owing to a lack of entries the event was declared off. The boys shot in the individual events and made nice scores.

There will be the usual varied program at the weekly meet of the Dupont club this afternoon and quite an attendance is expected.

The party bound for the Big Horn country, consisting of Judge Ives, Frank Gaines and his brother, M. A. Hall, Dr. Connor, Charles A. Goss and Judge Keysor, got off last Wednesday. Some of them will be back in three weeks, and others will not return for six weeks.

While Billy Townsend was in a philosophical mood the other day he declared: "The popular outcry against the expert at trap-shooting events this year is not only likely to bar the professionals from many such gatherings next year, but is also going to make it hard for an amateur expert to put in an appearance at some of them. The paid expert, or rather the professional expert, is frowned down upon by the amateurs, not so much on account of his being a professional, but chiefly because he is more expert than they are, has more opportunities for practice and is therefore far better fitted to capture the bulk of the purses than are the big majority of the amateurs. This fact has been demonstrated hereabouts. For this reason professionals and manufacturers' agents are gradually being barred from taking part in many tournaments, or at least are barred from doing anything except shooting for targets only. The result has been that amateurs have turned out well at several such tournaments, for example that at Sioux City, but only to meet the same old fate—to be skinned by their more expert brethren who belong to the amateur class. It is only a question of time, therefore, before another wail goes up from the amateurs, who will soon find that they need as much protection from the expert amateur as they do from the expert professional."

In this connection a new handicapping scheme has been suggested and has been tried with success at some of the eastern resorts. The experts have been placed on scratch and they allow all the others an extra target or so handicap in the ten and fifteen birds events, according to ability shown, and two or more in the twenty and twenty-five target events. As soon as a man shows he is receiving too much handicap, and the score will soon indicate that, he should be promoted and have his handicap cut down. The scheme has worked very satisfactorily in small events and it would be an interesting experiment to see how it works in a tournament.

CHESS.

The following is a recent game between Walbrodt and Burn, the interesting Kieseritzky gambit being employed:

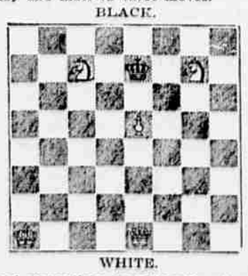
White—Walbrodt.	Black—Burn.
1—P to K 4.	1—P to K 4.
2—P to K B 4.	2—P takes P.
3—Kt to K B 3.	3—P to K Kt 4.
4—P to K R 4.	4—P to Kt 5.
5—Kt to K 5.	5—B to Kt 2.
6—P to Q 4.	6—Kt to K B 3.
7—Kt takes Kt P.	7—Kt takes P.
8—B takes P.	8—Q to K 2.
9—Q to K 2.	9—P to Q 3.
10—Kt to K 3.	10—B to K 3.
11—P to B 3.	11—Castles.
12—Q to B 3.	12—P to Q 4.
13—B to Q 3.	13—P to Q B 4.
14—B takes Kt.	14—P takes B.
15—Q to Kt 3.	15—P takes P.
16—B to Q 6.	16—Q to Q sq.
17—Ptakes P.	17—R to K sq.
18—P to Q 5.	18—B to Q 2.
19—Kt to B 3.	19—Kt to R 3.
20—Castles.	20—R to Q B sq.
21—R to B 2.	21—P to B 3.
22—Q R to K B.	22—K to R sq.
23—P to R 5.	23—Kt to B 4.
24—P to R 6.	24—B takes P.
25—R takes P.	25—B to Kt 2.
26—R to B 7.	26—B to Q 5.
27—R takes P (ch.)	Resigns.

A recently completed game between A. Rasmussen and M. F. Winchester of the Nebraska Chess association resulted in a draw, with the odds rather in favor of the latter. The play was as follows:

White—Rasmussen.	Black—Winchester.
1—P to K 4.	1—P to K 4.
2—Kt to K B 3.	2—Kt to Q B 3.
3—P to Q 4.	3—P to Q 3.
4—P to Q 5.	4—Kt to K 2.
5—B to Q Kt 5 (ch).	5—P to B 3.
6—P takes P.	6—P takes P.
7—B to R 4.	7—Kt to K B 3.
8—Kt to Q B 3.	8—B to Kt 2.
9—Kt to Q 5.	9—Q Kt takes Kt.
10—P takes Kt.	10—Q to R 4 (ch).
11—P to Q B 3.	11—Kt takes P.
12—B to Q 2.	12—Q to Q sq.
13—P to Q B 4.	13—Kt to K B 3.
14—Castles.	14—B to K 2.
15—B to Q Kt 3.	15—Castles.
16—R to Q B sq.	16—P to K R 3.
17—P to Q B 5.	17—P takes P.
18—Kt takes P.	18—Q to B 2.
19—B to K B 4.	19—Kt to Q 4.
20—B takes Kt.	20—P takes B.
21—Q to K Kt 4.	21—B to Q 3.
22—K R to K sq.	22—Q R to K 1.
23—Q to Kt 3.	23—P to K R 3.
24—Kt to Kt 6.	24—R takes R (ch).
25—R takes R.	25—B takes B.
26—Kt takes B.	26—P to K Kt 4.

Problem No. 33: The following situation was given last week and is reprinted owing to the misplacement of the queen. White to play and mate in three moves.

BLACK.



WHITE.

Good suggestions regarding the above situation, as proposed last week, have been received from H. W. Moore, D. F. Logan and T. N. Hartzell.

H. W. M., Lincoln: Your criticism of the manner in which this column is conducted would be more clear if you would acquire the system of chess notation in common use. For example, in problem No. 32 one would designate the move of white knight at Q B 7 as Kt to Q 5 rather than Kt to B Q 4.

WHIST.

The most recent developments in whist seem to be almost entirely along the line of trump management, the most prominent feature in the best known modern systems apparently being some method of indicating trump strength or a desire to find such strength in the hand of the partner. This idea undoubtedly had its root in the so-called "invitation game," in which the original leader opens up his attack in such a manner as to indicate to his partner whether or not a trump lead would suit him if the partner had strength enough to risk it. In speaking of the good and bad points of this game a writer in the New York Sun remarks that its chief trouble is that the partner often feels unduly encouraged and soon gets into the habit of leading trumps on very slight provocation. In some hands this works very well, in others it proves very disastrous, but the result has been that the good shots have so overshadowed the bad that many modern players have drifted into the habit of leading trumps for one suit. When it "works" this is very nice and the practice is responsible for most of the swings that we see nowadays in compass games. The amusing part of it is that some players lead trumps for suits that have no existence except in their own imagination, they are so afraid to go back once more just to see whether or not their partners really have the suit. The most inveterate invitation players will occasionally lead a singleton and it would seem as if those occasions were especially selected by the partner for leading short trumps.

The hands from which most players are likely to be tempted to make a speculative trump lead for one suit are those in which the combination of cards in the long suit is such that one cannot make an invitation lead of a small card without stretching the principle a good deal. Take the case of a long suit headed by A K Q, for instance, with four average trumps and no re-entry cards. To lead a small card from the long suit is to risk a very small card winning the first trick for the adversaries and the second round of the suit being ruffed. To lead a short suit from such a hand is to conceal its possibilities from the partner and to "run" with the strong suit is practically to give up all hope of making more than two tricks in it.

The common-sense way to manage such hands is to show the suit once and then to lead the best supporting card the hand contains, so as to give the partner a chance to come to your assistance if he can, but at the same time to warn him that you have no re-entry cards and cannot accomplish anything in the suit without his assistance.

In the following position by W. H. Whitfeld, spades are trumps, S to lead and with N to make eleven tricks, against best play of E and W:

N: S—7, 5, 2. H—A, Q, 9, 8. C—9, 2. D—A, Q, 6, 4.

W: S—9, 8, 4, 3. H—K, J, 10. C—6, 5, 4. D—K, 10, 5.

E: S—Q, J, 6. H—7, 6, 4, 3, 2. C—Q, 10, 7, 3. D—J.

S: S—A, K, 10. H—5. C—A, K, J, 8. D—9, 8, 7, 3, 2.

Questions and Answers.

OMAHA, July 22.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Is there any distinction regarding abiding by the laws of this country, and the punishment of the failure of the same, between an ambassador representing a foreign power and a citizen of this country?—M J. Zittel.

Ans.—Yes, an ambassador of a foreign power is not amenable to our powers of arrest. If he violates any of the laws the United States would call the matter to the attention of his government and the latter is the one to take the steps of prosecution. However, if an ambassador violates the law and his government authorizes this government to prosecute him, he can be tried in our courts

GREEN RIVER, Wyo., July 18.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Is Schley of higher rank in the navy than Sampson? If so, why was Sampson run above Schley?—A Bee Reader.

Ans.—(1) Schley outranks Sampson by several numbers in the naval register; that is, he was appointed commodore before Sampson. Schley was commodore before the war broke out; Sampson was captain and has been appointed commodore since. (2) Just before war was declared Rear Admiral Sicard was in command of the fleet at Key West. He became sick and was relieved. Sampson, at that time captain, was the next in rank at the station and was appointed acting rear admiral. Schley was at Hampton Roads. Sampson's appointment can be revoked at any time, but as acting rear admiral he is Schley's superior, although Schley outranks him.

ROGERS, Neb, July 15.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: What became of the trainload of provisions and supplies that left Omaha some time ago for the relief of the insurgents in Cuba?—S. C. Allen.

Ans.—It formed a portion of the cargo of the ship Texas, which last week landed the stuff at Santiago.

Trials of a Lecturer.

Under the title of "Some Reminiscences of a Lecturer"—Jarrold and Sons—Dr. Andrew Wilson, the well known writer on popular science, gives many amusing anecdotes of lecturers and their audiences. Most irritating to the former is a provincial habit of turning heads "en masse" when a door creaks, to ascertain who is coming in. Dr. Wilson tells a story of a lecturer who, when any one happened to come in late in the usual clumsy fashion, was in the habit of stopping short and watching the intruder to his seat, generally with the effect of making him look sheepish and disconcerted. It happened, however, one day, while he was lecturing in a provincial town, that he was interrupted by a gentleman coming in late with a particularly irritating pair of creaking boots. The lecturer stopped, according to his custom, and stared at the intruder, who seemed to be not in the least conscious that all eyes were upon him. At length, getting out of patience, the lecturer, in an icy tone, said: "I am waiting for you, sir." Apparently quite unmoved the offender spent a few seconds in arranging his coat on his chair. Then, sitting down, he turned to the lecturer with a charming smile, and said: "Now, sir, I am ready if you are. Please proceed!"

Weak Men

ATTENTION!

I suffered for years from sexual weakness, seminal losses, varicocele, stricture, atrophy, neurasthenia, brain and nerve exhaustion. I was robbed, swindled and nearly killed by quacks, advertising doctors, medical institutes, etc. A brother clergyman told me he had suffered from the same troubles that I had, that he was treated and cured at small expense by an honest firm of manufacturing chemists, and advised me to write to them; I did so; they sent me a small book. I read it, followed the advice therein given, and was permanently cured for a few dollars.

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Rev. Charles U. Downing.

In the Medical Investigator and Adviser.

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