

JAPAN'S MIGHTY WRESTLER

Mr. Hitachiyama Explains Why People Honor Him.

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE IS HIS

Is Really a Composite Popular Hero, Representing Excellence in Many Lines—Honorable Origin of Wrestling in Japan.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Standing under the big sign "Welcome" in the Nippon club at 44 West Eighty-fifth street, T. Hitachiyama, who holds the championship sword and the glory belonging to the mightiest wrestler in Japan, extended a chubby hand of greeting to a reporter and an artist from The Sun.

He has come here with letters and credentials from the highups of Japan. Dr. Jokichi Takamine, the well known chemist, is proud to act as his sponsor, an honor which he explained might easily be expected by some diplomatic celebrity instead

which he hopes to be able to place at the feet of the man whom he considers, next to the Mikado, the greatest in the world.

He has many other awards presented to him by townsmen and by Japanese athletic associations and a gorgeous array of heavily embroidered scarfs. Some of these he put on for the benefit of his visitors.

There are forty-eight regular holds in the Japanese wrestling contest, varying from the misukake, which to the uninitiate looks like the embrace the Prodigal Son might have received from his brother in private, to the kuzuki, which is to all intents and purposes if the pictures may be believed, very like what a stout lady has to suffer at the hands of her masseuse through the many changes and chances of a much coiffured world is copied with fidelity by Mr. Hitachiyama. Like Buddha he has an unwrinkled face, for only those who are defeated wear wrinkles, and like him he has the eye which seems to see nothing and which nothing escapes.

He is gowned in a morning costume, which is not so informal as it sounds, being a costume of rich, heavy silk, with innumerable folds and plaits and its general effect is not unlike that of the starchy starched suit worn by a small boy to dancing school.

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S. HIRSCH & CO., KANSAS CITY, MO.

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HITACHIYAMA LUNCHING AT THE JAPANESE CLUB.

if a gentleman in private life like himself.

In order to understand the respect, one might even say adoration, which surrounds Mr. Hitachiyama it is necessary to know that wrestling in Japan is not in the same athletic category as with us. Take a composite photograph of the champion of the Spanish bull fight, the leader of a Newport cotillon, the maker of a winning three-bagger at the polo grounds or the captain of a crew in an Oxford-Cambridge boat race and you will have some idea of what Hitachiyama means to his countrymen.

He does not bear his honors meekly, far from it. In fact he fairly exudes dignity. His gestures are those of one in command.

Accustomed to connect the idea of physical prowess with a certain liteness and to believe that great weight and weakness

Mr. Hitachiyama is the nineteenth on the roll of Japanese champion wrestlers. He has two ambitions. One is to continue to be the nineteenth so long as youth and ambition last; the second is to meet President Roosevelt, of whose prowess as a hunter, horseman, gymnast and all around sport he has heard much. He has brought with him a sword of gold and silver lacquer, when she is trying to reduce her waist measure to the prevailing fashion.

The champion admitted that while he is training he has to discipline himself in the matter of food and drink as is customary in every country, limiting himself usually to a diet of rice and meat. This rule does not hold good during his American trip, in proof of which he extended his hand and took a chikanagaki hold of the cocktail glass, handed him with much ceremony by the Japanese butler, and



SWARDS AND BELTS OF THE CHAMPION.

are synonymous it is at first a shock to the occidental when the 26 pounds of Japanese champion are viewed. Under the flowing robes of silk, it is explained, however, that the wrestler is hard as nails and this statement was corroborated by the reverberations ensuing when occasionally during the conversation he pounded himself placidly. When he walked across the floor of the Japanese salon upstairs the whole house quaked in a manner which would do no discredit to San Francisco.

If Buddha unclothed his much crossed legs and stepped down from his pedestal to enjoy the hospitality of a luncheon at the Nippon club he could without much stretch of the imagination be taken for the twin brother of the wrestler. The style of hairdressing which Buddha has adhered to with many curls and silken knots,

drank the contents with a fervor which showed that he has no prejudice whatever in the matter of national drinks, whatever he may believe of the superiority of the home style of wrestling.

While he was enjoying the movement of reminiscence which is the due of the beverage the host explained to the American guests that the Japanese, always loyal to his tradition even in matters of this kind, serves a candied cherry blossom in the liquid instead of the cherry fruit, for to the Japanese the flower is everything, the fruit is of less importance, for the blossom contains in it all that the fruit has, with the beauty and grace of the flower besides.

And the champion, while instructing the American guests, who had forty-eight holds on their chestpicks, smiled blandly, Buddha like, as the poetic introduction of the host to the luncheon of many courses,



THE PRESENTATION OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP SWORD.

From a Japanese print, showing the champion, two ex-champions and the referee with the fan.

Yellow tulips and strands of snowy white grass formed beds for the fish, rich sauces were served in wonderful cups of Satsuma and sweetmeats in bowls whose depths displayed rioting dragons wrestling in the Japanese methods, and the straw colored sake was poured from a pale blue bottle with a dreamlike sunset and a moonrise gazing eternally at each other.

The champion held the little cup filled with sake aloft while he explained that what sake is to the Japanese diner so is wrestling to the athletic course in comparison with the wines and games of our land.

"Your favorite drinks are whiskey and beer," he said. "The first, having 40 or 50 per cent of alcohol, is too strong, especially when it is taken without food. On the other hand, beer has too little alcohol, 3 per cent or so, and does not provide stimulus enough.

"Sake has just the right amount, 15 per cent. It stimulates, but does not intoxicate, and is for that reason the ideal drink. And from what I have heard of your athletic games the same criticism holds good. Your foot ball and base ball are strenuous, wearisome, with too often unfortunate results, while the lighter forms of exercise fail to impress, because they lack the stimulus of excitement. Our wrestling, we believe, combines strength and skill in the highest degree without brutality or weakness.

"There is another item in favor of our point of view, too, in this regard. The Japanese does not frequent what you call bars or saloons. When he drinks he eats; his meat and wine are served together, as I think they should be.

"He does not take alcohol on an empty stomach, which must in time have a bad effect, and I believe he enjoys the game of wrestling more than the American enjoys his athletic contests, for it is essentially a game that appeals to him on account of its inherent merits. Betting is prohibited, and while, of course, gambling being a human weakness, there are always bets made in private, sometimes of thousands of yen, these are the exception, and the great ma-

jority of people who witness the tournaments do so because they love the game and not because they are bound by the bond of an unhealthy interest."

"The wrestler, or rikishi, as he is called in Japan, raised his drinking cup. "Sake and sumo (wrestling). Benzai," he said.

"I do not believe that the Japanese form has any connection with that of the Greek," he said. "Just so long as there have been men in the world just so long have they settled their disputes by feats of strength, and from this fashion they have evolved in time certain rules and improvements.

"Its introduction as a science was popularly introduced in the samurai or military class, during the time prior to the introduction of the feudal system, although wrestling was not a vocation but was an accomplishment, considered as important for the private individual as boxing is with you or the Judo-jitsu with us.

"The wrestling game today is regarded by the Japanese public as of great importance. In private it is known as the gentleman's game; in public it reflects the sentiment of the bushido, or 'The Way of Righteousness.' Every victory of the army and navy in war is celebrated by the public tournament of wrestling matches and every foreigner who visits Japan is given opportunity to witness an exhibition.

"I was born in 1871 and my career as a wrestler began at the age of 17. I am the oldest son of Teikani of the house of Ichikawa, enjoying the distinction of San Samurais class. In 1903 I was honored with the title of Yokosuna in addition to that of champion of wrestling in Japan.

"This title has descended to successive champions since the festival held 36 A. D. in honor of one of our gods at Osaka, in the Naikwa.

"A wrestler by the name of Hajikawa, of the province of Omi, won the best battle of the day and finding no one who dared to challenge him cared the rope of 'films' or sacred thread, to be taken down from the rock, or arch dedicated to the shrine, and placed it around his waist, declaring that he would surrender to any one who could touch that rope.

"So 'Yokosuna,' which literally means 'rope at side,' originated in this historic fact, and is considered one of the greatest complimentary titles that can be given by a judgment of his peers to a wrestler.

"The ceremonial which takes place after the tournament when a champion has been so termed and he has been accredited with the honorary title is a custom most impressive. It is then that he dons the wonderful robe weighted with gold and silver embroideries, made of the most carefully woven silks and satins, and is acclaimed with the enthusiasm that is paid only to royalty and to those who have performed great deeds of valor in war."

BIG AUTO SHOW IS CERTAIN

Every Inch of Space in Central Palace Taken.

AMERICAN CARS ON MAIN FLOOR

Great Display of Home Built Machines Will Be Made During the Time of the Show Next Month.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Practically every inch of space for the Automobile Club of America's big show in the Grand Central palace on October 24 to 31 has been assigned.

On the main floor the American Motor Car Manufacturers' association has borrowed anything from the Greeks in the practically all the space. In the center will be found the Ford, the Reo, the Mitchell, the Stoddard-Dayton, the Wayne, the Premier, the Maxwell and the National cars. On the Lexington avenue side are the Garford, the Cleveland, the Rainier, the Blomstrom, the Moore, the Frayer-Miller, the Lane, the Kiesel, the Napier, the Smith and the Klink cars, while on the Dewey place side are the Crawford, the Acme, the B. L. M., the Marion, the Welch, the Imperial, the Carter, the Pontiac, the Gaeth, the Dragon, the York and the Dolson cars and the Knox motor cars.

The Forty-fourth street side will be occupied by the Dorris, the Gearless, the Chadwick, the Moon, the Lambert, the Collins, the Marmon, the Mora and the Jackson cars, while on the Forty-third street side are the Overland, the American, the Allen-Kington, the Evansville, the Simplex, the De Luke, the Glide, the Pennsylvania, the American Mors and the Austin cars.

While the first gallery in the main hall will be occupied by 100 members of the Motor and Accessories association, there will be a number of cars there also, including the Colt, the Jewell, the Huntington, the Holsman, the Schacht, the Cameron, the Ellsworth, the Buzzgobott, the Releble Dayton and the Shawmut.

In addition there will be a number of motor bike exhibits and a fine showing of commercial vehicles, including the Landen, the Logan, the Miller, the Reliance, the Mitchell, the Mack, the Rapid and the Frayer-Miller. There will be sixty different makes of cars and ten types of trucks exhibited on the main floor and gallery.

Motor car engineering is rapidly developing a profession in itself, and several engineering schools and universities are considering the establishment of special courses as a part of their regular curriculum.

A contract has been closed between the Standard Oil company and a transit company, whereby the latter will convey the Standard Oil pipes from Cuyahoga and Lima, O., to and from their own automobiles.

The active life of a modern motor car has been extended, owing to the superior workmanship and materials employed, that there is every reason to believe that it will exceed that of the average piece of machinery.

The Western Union people are anxiously looking for a new machine broke down on the boulevard near Astor City and who pulled down a section of telegraph wire and set a law line, another machine landing aid.

Extensive use is being made by motorists of independent lamps to illuminate the road and to light their cars, the lamps being run either from the ignition accumulator, special storage batteries, or even from dry cells.

A list of the exhibitors for the Chicago convention is 250 names, as compared with 200 last year, and it is probable that the Continental and two army exhibitions will have at least 200 names on the roll by the first week in December.

At Philadelphia on September 8, in one of the most exciting race track races ever witnessed, the 10-mile record for stock touring cars was broken by J. W. Parkin, Jr., who covered the distance in 2 hours, 4 minutes and 48 seconds.

According to Indiana's new highway law a county must improve a road on the approach of the 10-mile record for stock touring cars, which will be traveled by a rural free delivery route and connect with the two other improved roads.

It has remained for Hurs E. Bremer to find a way around the rule of the Swiss council prohibiting motoring in the beautiful valley of the Engadine. Procuring four horses he drove his machine through the valley, despite the cantonal law.

If a nut persists in working loose despite frequent tightening, paint the end of the thread on the bolt, or drop on a little varnish to slacken the nut a little extra force will have to be used, but not enough to damage either the thread or the nut.

The last annual journey of the survivors of Dr. Peter's Yuleen Zouaves, a famous New Jersey Civil war organization, will be made next month in a fighting way. The veterans in this manner will visit the scenes of several battles in which they participated.

L. V. Elliott, head of a telephone and electric company of Indianapolis, who has suffered for years from spinal trouble and has been compelled to use a hand-propelled

contents, it is well to have a canvas cover made that will fit snugly over the baggage.

Tubes, motorbuses and taximeter cabs have completely ruined the business of London's characteristic institution, the cabbie, that he bids fair to soon be an extinct type.

Latest obtainable figures for the export of automobiles from the United States show that for the first seven months this year the total value was \$4,264,000, representing 2,862 cars.

Several German capitalists tried to obtain the sole right to commercialize in New York Grease, but were unsuccessful. Now a Greek company has been organized to carry on the business.

An armored tire, in which copper-plated steel disks, are so placed in a strip of rubber that they form a practically continuous band of steel, has been brought out by an inventor at Buffalo, N. Y.

Careful computation of the figures of the Peiking to Paris race shows that the cars made an average of 120 miles a day, despite the almost unsurmountable difficulties encountered.

An automobile renting company has been formed at San Francisco by ten chauffeurs, who save rather than lose their money away, formed a corporation and bought ten cars.

The local authorities of Washington, D. C., intend to overcome the mud and dust nuisance by coating all the macadam and dirt roads in and adjacent to the city with a tar preparation.

With a steam car on the Readville (Mass.) track, September 14, L. H. P. Baldwin, by winning a mile race in 20 seconds, established a new competitive record for that distance.

A company which is not a member of either of the rival organizations will exhibit at neither big New York show this year, but will exhibit of its own at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

Great Britain during the first half of the current year imported 2,110 cars, valued at \$3,522,520, and parts valued at \$2,003,236, and parts valued at \$2,003,236.

A dust contest has been firmly suggested by a joker in view of the placing of the motor vehicle regulations by the Motor and Accessories club on the Morris Park track, New York.

In three years of their existence the two schools of automobilism in New York have instructed 2,700 students in the running and repairing of motors. Many women have taken the full course.

The Metropolitan Automobile association of New York is planning a two-day road race next month, to be held at touring car races on the Hudson river.

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tricycle, is now using a tiny electric automobile, so small that it can be run from the street into his place of business and up to the side of his desk. The little machine cost \$600 to construct.

During the recent German army maneuvers more persons were killed and injured by the cars of the Imperial Automobile club, which carried dispatch boxes, than by any other cause. There were three fatalities and over fifty lesser casualties.

History records the gradual extinction of species of animals whose existence ceased when their life ended and they became a burden to nature. So in the motoring sphere there is room only for the good, the feasible, the scientific and the necessary.

The Automobile Dealers' association of Marseilles has passed a resolution that the relations between manufacturer and agent should be modified. The agents are dissatisfied with being obliged to conduct definitely for a fixed number of cars each season.

Prince Scipio Borghese, winner of the Peiking-Paris race, has been chosen mayor of Rome. For some time the office was vacant, rival factions being unable to agree upon a man, but the Prince's recent rise to fame made him popular with all parties.

As an experiment in the long-distance transportation of freight by automobile a 22 horse-power truck is on the way from Chicago to New York with a 3,000-pound load of patent medicines. The driver is allowed to make eighty miles a day and to rest at night.

An experienced English driver gives this advice: "Don't race at top speed around corners, curves and bends, even on a quiet country road, unless it is a matter of life or death. It is better for the machine and the tires to slow down and take the bend comfortably."

After an exhaustive inquiry a committee of the Motor union of Great Britain reported to that organization that, sooner or later, the supplies of every fuel, except alcohol must be exhausted. As a result, the union is bending its efforts toward perfecting an alcohol motor.

Former Congressman Powers of Boston is of the opinion that laws should be passed in every state providing that all fines for violations of the motor vehicle regulations be levied by state officers and turned into a fund for the construction and maintenance of improved highways.

Before starting out on the Cape to Cairo automobile trip through Africa, Lieutenant Greutz and Baron von Bieder, the daring Belgian motorists, were obliged to arrange for gasoline supplies by means of carriers sent in advance, there being no stations on the route from which it could be obtained.

"Slow down to ten miles an hour" is the sign that will greet all motorists as they enter the city of Toledo, O. Those signs will be placed at the corporation limits at every entrance into the city for the benefit of tourists and visiting motorists, who otherwise might violate the speed ordinances of the city.

Where magnetos ignition is employed about the only difficulty that can be counteracted arises from the soiling of the contacts of fine metallic dust which has been abraded from their surfaces. If the case be cleaned out periodically and all connections and contacts kept secure and bright there should be no danger of roadside failure.

NOW BRITT SAYS HE IS THROUGH

Announces Retirement After Being Voted a Quitter.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 25.—Jimmy Britt, the ex-lightweight champion, has announced his retirement from the ring. He made this declaration after he had been informed by the different fight promoters on the coast that they could not see their way clear to put him on again at their clubs after the way in which he stepped in his recent battle with Joe Gans.

Since that fight Britt has become unpopular with the fight fans here, as they all claim that he deliberately quit in the fight, and under no circumstances would they ever again go to see him box. Britt can live comfortably on his winnings in the prize ring, as he has considerable property in San Francisco and besides \$10,000 for losing to Gans.

ATHLETICS AFTER NEW FIELD

Connie Mack to Have New Grounds at Home.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 25.—The owners of the Athletic base ball club have begun negotiations for the purchase of a new tract of land on which to construct a ball park. The location is one block north of the present grounds and covers an area 600 by 400 feet, much larger than the present park, which is about 350 by 450 feet.

The new park would afford better transportation facilities also and is thought to be in every way more desirable than the West Philadelphia site, which was first thought of. The price demanded for the new tract is about \$100,000.

See Want Ads for Business Boosters.



SOME POSITIONS IN JAPANESE WRESTLING.