

THE HARNESS RACING OUTLOOK

With Grand Circuit Reorganized Great Season Is Predicted.

CONDITIONS ARE LIBERAL.

Surplus Entrance Fees Will Go to Winners—Daily Events For Amateurs—Readville, Hartford and New York Have Rich Cards.

Horsemen the country over are greatly elated over the fact that the eastern end of the grand circuit has been saved from dissolution. When it was announced the Buffalo meeting had been abandoned the managers of the Readville (Boston), Hartford and New York tracks announced that with a break in the circuit it would be impossible to conduct successful meetings in the east and for that reason they would abandon the dates assigned them and hold no meetings this year. This decision was practically a one man affair since A. J. Welch is pretty nearly the whole thing in the management of all three eastern tracks mentioned, and he will manage all three meetings. He has conducted the Hartford meeting for a number of years and last season gained possession of the Readville track. It was through Welch that negotiations were opened for a meeting in New York, and he has made arrangements for the use of the Empire City track, near Yonkers, N. Y.

The formation of a new harness racing organization, called the Buffalo Racing association, of which H. M. Gerrens is president and C. R. Bentley secretary, filled the Buffalo gap in the circuit, which was made when the old driving club in that city relinquished its dates about a month ago owing to the stringent anti-betting laws. The new organization made possible the maintenance of the entire eastern circuit. With the new organization to fill the gap New York, Boston and Hartford are back in line.

The New York meeting will be held from Aug. 23 to 27, following Buffalo and preceding Boston in the circuit. Five stakes of \$2,500 each have been opened for the meeting. Commemorating old times, these stakes have been named the Robert Bonner Memorial, for 2:30 trotters; the Speedway stake, for 2:16 trotters; the Fleetwood Park stake, for 2:14 trotters; the Union Course stake, for 2:20 pacers, and the Fashion Course stake, for 2:10 pacers.

Under the conditions announced, all surplus entrance fees will go to the winners instead of being retained by the club, and any horse distancing the field will receive the entire stake. All races at the meeting are to be mile heats, best two in three. The Speedway stake is open to all trotters of the 2:16 class, but professionals cannot drive. The contest will be to wagon, and such amateur reinmen as General Brayton Ives, James Butler, James A. Murphy, De Witt E. Flanagan, C. K. G. Billings, James McClenahan and M. K. Devereaux will probably drive.

Amateur sports will be a prominent feature of the Empire City meeting. The Speedway stake, for 2:16 trotters, is to be for amateur reinmen, and the race will be to wagon. Geers, Murphy, McDonald and all professional trainers are free to enter their horses, but the drivers must be members in good standing.

Arrangements are being made to hold the annual intercity races of the League of Amateur Driving Clubs in connection with the grand circuit meeting, and if this plan is carried out there will be at least one amateur race each day.

The schedule for the reorganized grand circuit is now as follows: Kalamazoo, Mich., July 25-30. Detroit, Mich., Aug. 1-6. Cleveland, O., Aug. 8-13. Buffalo, Aug. 16-19. New York, Aug. 23-27. Boston, Aug. 29-Sept. 3. Hartford, Conn., Sept. 5-9. Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 12-17. Columbus, O., Sept. 20-30. Lexington, Ky., Oct. 3-15.

Third Base Essentials.

A good third baseman must be a mind reader. He must know instinctively whether the batter is going to bunt or hit 'er out.

Startling News—Evers Released, Wallace Suspended.

Johnny Evers released, Bobby Wallace suspended—that's what Secretary Farrell's latest bulletin says. Aren't you somewhat surprised at this declaration? Selah, yes! The release of Evers would cause a slight contraction of the retina even if the suspension should not be regarded as extraordinary.

Yes, Evers has been released by the Elmira New York State league club to York, Pa., in the Tri-state league. He is now playing with York. How is this possible? Very simple. The Evers released is not the shrewd, quick thinking Johnny of Chicago club fame; also Bobby Wallace is not the St. Louis Browns' old but crack infielder. Wallace was suspended by Galveston.

The similarity of names is the cause of the startling statement.

DRUCKE PROMISING TWIRLER.

Mathewson Says He Will Prove to Be One of the Best In Game. New York fans are highly pleased with the showing of young Drucke, the Giants' promising twirler. Although he has not established any strike-out records or won every game he has pitched, he gives every indication of developing into one of the best in the



Photo by American Press Association. DRUCKE, GIANTS' PROMISING YOUNG TWIRLER.

league with a little more experience. Drucke has quite a large assortment of twists, speed, good control and, above all, a cool head. Mathewson, his side partner, is teaching him some tricks, and Christy says he is the most promising young twirler in the country today.

FLYNN HAS MADE GOOD.

Pittsburg's New First Sacker Clouting Ball Hard and Often.

No young ball player who has broken into big league baseball company in recent years has had such a sensational debut as Jack Flynn, the Pittsburg Nationals' new first sacker. In no less than five games this season Flynn has by reason of a timely drive won games for his team, and on two occasions he has won games from Chicago with a home run clout. Flynn is not showing up like a Wagner in the averages, but he is making his hits count, thus showing extreme gameness, which is one of the greatest requisites of a winning ball player.

Several clubs had their eyes on Flynn while with St. Paul last season, but it was not until in December that the Pittsburg club purchased him. There was a wide difference of opinion as to Flynn's chances to make good with the Pirates, but after looking him over Manager Clarke decided that he would do, rid the team of all other candidates for the position and gave the place to Flynn, who has certainly made good with both feet.

"THREE FINGERED" BROWN TRYING OUT NEW TWISTER.

"Three Fingers" Brown, the Chicago Nationals' star twirler, is experimenting with a thin rubber glove so as to control a curved ball when the ball is wet. Brown says the rubber glove is just the thing for wet or cold weather pitching and that it enables him to get a better grip on the sphere. The fans have never questioned his rubber glove yarn.

Experience Teaches.

Only years of experience and training make finished ball players. Every youthful upstart can't come along and show the veterans how to play ball. There are too many tricks to be mastered to make the speed boy dangerous until he rubs some of the rough edges off.

DIAMOND CHIRPS

Brooklyn fans say that Tony Smith is playing a fine game at short. He is the best man there since Bill Dahlen's days.

Infielders Johnny Evers and Tinker of the Cubs have robbed the Giants out of more close games than all the rest of the Club players put together.

Outfielder Milan of Washington is unquestionably playing the best ball of his career this spring. Not only is he hitting well, but getting on the bases one way or another.

When Roger Bresnahan's pitchers have his team should win just as often as it loses. Oakes, Huggins and Corridon are three most valuable additions acquired via Cincinnati. Then Morrey for Charles also was a 100 per cent swag in St. Louis' favor.

IS BIG FIGHT ON THE LEVEL?

This Question Is Now Being Asked by Many Fans.

POINT TO JOHNSON'S RECORD.

Negro Has Faked In Several Battles. Some Believe He Will Do Same in Coming Mill—Training Methods of Men Not Pleasing.

By TOMMY CLARK.

Owing to the immense amount of money involved in the coming big fight, the selection of Tex Rickard, the promoter, as referee and the latter's close connection with Berger, Jeff's manager, coupled with Johnson and Jeffries' recent desultory training methods, have caused some pretty spicy gossip regarding the bout. In fact, many questions are being asked as to whether the battle is on the level.

In an answer to what he thought about the coming fight a well informed New York sporting critic has the following to say: Johnson is a faker—a notorious faker. A fighter who once fakes might fake any time. Johnson has faked every time there has been anything to be gained by being crooked. He began his career by agreeing to let Joe Kennedy, a third rater, stay to a finish with him and then to stand for Kennedy getting the decision. Johnson double crossed his friends, but on himself and knocked Kennedy out.

Johnson's fight with Marvin Hart was even more barefaced. The battle was a joke. Hart lumbered around for twenty rounds without landing a real blow. He got the decision, although he was no more entitled to beat Johnson than Lench Cross would have to beat Sam Langford. Johnson faked with Sailor Burke at Bridgeport, Conn. Burke, who doesn't know how to get up after being hit, stayed six rounds with the negro.

The "wise" fight followers have never been able to understand why Tommy Burns allowed Johnson to beat him. Burns was a faker. He has confessed it, and it would have taken only a few thousand dollars to make Johnson quit in their fight. The only explanation is that Burns was so conceited that he believed he could put the negro away in a fair fight, and then he was beaten.

Jeffries has never been proved a faker, but for the last year he has been chasing dollars in every part of the globe. He has also been leading a merry life. Of course his habits may have been stopped since he went into "strict" training, but a man with the tastes of Jeffries isn't likely to give up anything that pleases his palate.

If Jeffries is really training he is having a good time of it. In the good old days, when a fighter had to take the chance of being ridden on a rail, the public had a chance to look over the men and form an opinion. Nowadays it's all a secret. Johnson's training has been in his automobile and at wine parties, so his condition can't be much better than Jeffries'.

Berger is a faker. He and Jack O'Brien had a fiasco in the Quaker City, and when O'Brien's conscience pricked him he told about it. Berger is a close friend of Tex Rickard, the promoter and referee of the big fight.

Jeffries is thirty-five years old. He has been out of the ring for a great many years. His fight with Monroe was a joke, and he began to dissipate long before he mowed the milder down. If he wins this battle honestly he will be regarded as the most wonderful fighter that ever lived. If he loses honestly it will not be said that he did his best. If Jeff fakes every one will know it. He will be regarded as a Benedict Arnold. Every friend will denounce him. He will get \$100,000, but he must realize the consequences. If Jeffries is trying to get into condition it is time for him to settle down to hard work.

Here are some choice pearls attributed to John Robinson, manager of Bat Nelson: "To defend the honor of the white race! The diabolical irony of the phrase is being illustrated in the frantic efforts of Jim Jeffries and his corps of handlers to fool the public into the belief that the former world champion is back in the ring solely to gather the laurels from the bullet shaped head of Jack Johnson. 'Joke! Biggest joke of the much abused prize ring! If Jeff and Johnson fight on the level Johnson will whip the bolter maker as sure as fate. Jeff can never come back."

"Jeffries, the most conceited, egotistical man on earth, fighting a negro he despises. Bull headed, he never would take a chance of losing that fight. Berger behind the guns, crafty and wise. Johnson, money loving, lacking backbone. Here is the combination against which the great American public must line up."

"In plain language, the fight is framed, and Johnson will go down. My advice is don't bet a dollar on the fight."

While these little side lights and prog nostications on the coming battle may carry much truth, there is another side of the affair to consider. He of the "golden smile" may be offered a fortune to lose and agree to accept the money under those conditions. When the time comes to carry out his part of the agreement, however, Johnson may suddenly think of his title, of which he is so proud, and decide that it is worth more than any amount of cash.

(From Monday's Daily)

Miss Frances Hiber spent Sunday in Omaha with friends.

Cliff Wescott left today for Beatrice where he will attend a Sunday school convention which is being held there this week.

Miss Anna Priesman returned to Omaha this morning after being in the city a day or two, acting as piano player at the Majestic.

Mrs. Robert Troop, Mrs. Wm. McCauley, Mrs. F. H. Steinker and Miss Ada Searles are spending the day with friends in Omaha.

Mrs. J. L. Young and family left today for Macedonia, Ia., to remain a week or ten days at the home of Mrs. Young's uncle, Lincoln Hobson.

Samuel Atwood of the stone firm of Atwood and Newell is in town today having come up from his home in Lincoln to attend a few matters of business.

Miss Genevieve Howard departed today for Sac City, Iowa where she will spend the summer at her home. Miss Howard was one of the faculty of the local High school.

Miss Esther Royal who has been entertained for the past few days at the home of her uncle B. C. Hyde, departed this morning for her resident town, Glenwood.

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Wunderholm and daughter Edith of Omaha, arrived in the city this morning to make this their home. Mr. Wunderholm is employed as engineer at the city water works.

Miss Hazel Cowles who holds a position in an Omaha store was in town over Sunday being accompanied by Miss Grace Crane, one of her Omaha friends. They returned to the city this morning.

Charles Contryman who lives in the vicinity of Nehawka put on a big smile Saturday afternoon as a result of a new girl that appeared at his place. She is a healthy looking little lady and both she and Mrs. Contryman are doing very nicely.

Miss Carrie Hunt and Mrs. C. H. Higley of Omaha were in town yesterday with Mr. Higley who is making his home in this city, working as fireman for the Burlington. They have rented the Monroe house and expect to reside here after the middle of the week.

Ben Harrison, former principal of the High school left Saturday afternoon for Dunbar, Nebraska where he expects to remain on his parents farm for the summer. In the fall he will enter the law school of the University of Nebraska.

Mrs. L. S. Burton was in town spending Sunday at the residence of her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. S. Burton. She left this morning for her metropolis home accompanied by Mrs. Burton. Mr. L. F. Burton left last week for California in charge of a new McKeen motor, which he has to deliver to the San Pedro railroad in that state. He is meeting with fine success in his work with the Omaha company, having had a number of promotions since taking up the position with them.

His Latest Request.

There is a clever lad who will get his living in this world. For playing truant maternal authority cut off his supper. Casting one fond look at the authoress of his existence, he paused at the door to say:

"Mother, I am going to die, and when I am no more I wish the doctor to cut me open and look at my stomach."

The maternal heart was filled with awful forebodings, and the maternal voice asked what he meant.

"I wish it to be known," he answered, "that I died of starvation."

This was enough. The small boy was triumphant and retired to his little bed gorged to repletion.

An Awful Jolt.

"I see you have a new automobile," said Wiggs enviously.

"Yes," responded Biggs as he slowed up the machine near the sidewalk. "And it's a beauty. Everything works like clockwork."

"That's good."

"The tires are puncture proof."

"Better still."

"And she goes like the wind."

"Gee whiz! Wish I owned one."

"By the way, are you fond of riding?"

"Am I fond of riding? Well, I should say so!"

"Well, here's a street car transfer I just found. I won't need it, and you can ride home on it."—Chicago News.

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