

These Omaha-Owned Runners Now Racing at Tiajuana Represent More Than \$50,000 in Cold Cash



Scribe Says Tommy Gibbons Has No One to Ballyhoo for Him

New York, March 17.—(Special)—Efforts are still being made to get Jack Dempsey in the ring with somebody. Besides Firpo, interest seems to center on Tom Gibbons. One sport says that if Tom Gibbons had been managed by a live wire he would have been matched with Dempsey long ago. Gibbons has enough stuff to work on, but he has no one to ballyhoo for him. Georges Carpentier, a fighter not half as good as Gibbons, drew \$1,600,000 in a match with Dempsey. Clever publicity methods did that for Georges. Without any other publicity than his deeds in the ring earned for him, Gibbons once worked himself up to a match with Dempsey. By scoring 29 knockouts in succession over men of more or less ability, Gibbons compiled a record that was almost the equal of that possessed by Dempsey before Jack won the title. Just when Gibbons was all set for a crack at the title, he made the mis-

take of matching himself with Harry Greb. Greb won the decision over him and Gibbons retired to his home. Little has been heard from him since.

John McGraw Bubbling Over With Confidence as Race for 1923 Pennant Nears Barrier

By JOHN J. MCGRAW.
Manager World's Champion Giants.
AN ANTONIO, Tex., March 17.—The Giants and I will soon be out for another pennant. I team myself with my players because we are a unit in our desire and determination to win three world championships in a row. We may not break all records by doing that, but we shall all work together as one man and teamwork will accomplish big results. It is the chief asset of any winning team. I consider, too, that I never had a lot of players who appear to me any more capable of being moulded into a baseball machine than those I have now with me in this training camp.

I have a splendid lot of players with me. They are all working together with a spirit to push to the front that has been inspiring to them as it has been to me. The veterans on the team who have already won two world championships in succession are not at all chummy over their success, nor overconfident about this year's result. They are really quite modest. I mention this for the reason that last spring I felt called upon to take methods to subdue their cockiness over their previous season's victory and defeat of the Yankees. When the White Sox played their first two of three exhibition games against us in 1922 my boys got the idea into their noddles that they could beat the American leaguers of my old friend, "Kid" Gleason, on their reputation as world champions alone. The Sox quickly dissolved those chesty chumps' minds of any such fallacy.

I then took a hand and what I handed out to them in the shape of verbal lashouts was a caution. I said: "You are no longer the world's best. You are only minor leaguers. Now just forget you are on top of the heap. Start right over again from now on and think of nothing else but the championship to come."

They saw their faults and failings, also my point, and looked like another team in the next game and throughout that exhibition series. "Kid" Gleason is a wise old bird and a splendid manager. He was the one who threw the hammer into my machine that time by saying before the first game his pitchers were not in shape. I think the "Kid" will find the situation a bit different this spring. My pitchers are all in fine condition, with the exception of Jack Scott and Bill Ryan, who reported late. All my men are here now with the exception of Jack Bentley. I consider him a very foolish fellow not to be in training with the rest of us. Bancroft fell into line all right and was as pleased as I was when he handed me his signed contract. He is invaluable to the team as catcher. It is almost too early for me to make predictions about my young pitchers. I have, though, the most promising bunch one could desire. Just which ones I shall retain I cannot say as yet. Neither am I predicting the pennant for the Giants next fall. Still good pitching will keep us in the race and I have some very nifty talent among the youngsters. (Copyright, 1923, by the Christy-Walsh Syndicate.)

Luis Angel Firpo.
LUIS ANGEL FIRPO'S splash into the pugilistic spot light recalls the beginning of Jess Willard's fistic campaign. Jess is like Luis in more ways than one. First, Firpo, like Willard, is several years past the age when most fighter get their start. Second, like Jess, Luis is a giant in stature, being six feet three inches in height and weighing 223 pounds. And last, Firpo is like Willard in that he is not a natural fighter, but shows indications that he can develop into a champion.

Caddock Ruminates in Religion.
NOW cometh a rumor that Earl Caddock, former world's heavy-weight wrestling champion, has abandoned his career as an athlete to devote the remainder of his life to religion. According to a reliable source, Caddock has an idea that he would like to compete with Billy Sunday inside of a large tent. The "low down" on Caddock is that last year an evangelist visited Caddock's home town to spread the gospel. The wrestler became interested in his discourses with the result that he became converted and has stuck steadfastly to his conversion pledges.

Yale Boxers Victorious.
New Haven, Conn., March 17.—The Yale boxing team defeated Queens college of Ontario, five bouts to one, in an international boxing tournament here. Two of the bouts were knockouts.

Ritola Anxious to Best Joie Ray
New York, March 17.—Willie Ritola, foremost long distance runner in America, is fast blossoming out as a middle distance of considerable repute. Some of his admirers are looking forward to the time when the great Finn will be able to beat Joie Ray at any distance from one to two miles.

Interesting Bouts Carded for Polo Grounds Soon
New York, March 17.—(Special)—Tom O'Rourke, a matchmaker for the Republic A. C. which holds a boxing license and a lease of the Polo Grounds, has sewed up two interesting national bouts—Johnny Kilbane, world's featherweight champion, against Eugene Criqui of France and Jimmy Wilde of England, world's fly-weight champion, against Pancho Villa, who lost the American title to Frankie Genaro a couple of weeks ago.

'Kid' Schlaifer Matched to Fight Karr at Auditorium, March 29

ORRIS SCHLAIFER will get another crack at Johnny Karr of Cleveland. Arrangements for a 10-round bout between these two knuckle whippers were completed yesterday by the matchmaker for the World War Veterans. The bout will be staged at the Auditorium March 29.

It will be the second meeting between Schlaifer and Karr this month. Karr recently beat the "Kid" in a 10-round Mill at Davenport. According to the reports of the Davenport fight, Karr had the best of Schlaifer in nearly every round until the 10th, when Schlaifer "crushed" and had the Cleveland scrapper wobble at the bell. Schlaifer is in training and has been ever since his battle with Karr. The "Kid" is anxious to erase his defeat received at the hands of Jimmy Dunn's welter and will start recruiting sparring partners Monday.

The game little Schlaifer will have his hands full when he meets Karr. The latter is a tough nut and no one knows it any better than Schlaifer. However, the "Kid" has an idea in his noddles that he can take this Karr bird down the line and will do his best to add a victory to his list. The "Kid" has sort of lost a little of his reputation as a fighter in Omaha and wants to regain what he has lost. In the semi-wind up, "Tiny" Herman, who beat Emil Engberg via knockout in the ninth round Friday night, will get a chance

to earn a little more coin out of our realm. Homer Smith, Fred Fulton, Carl Morris or Bob Roper may be Herman's opponent.

"Tiny" has won his three starts in Omaha and is ready to tackle tougher opponents. That'll mean can give 'em and at the same time take plenty. It is not disputed by Omaha fight fans. Since coming here, Herman has knocked out Jim Marples; won from "Farmer" Lodge and knocked out Emil Engberg. Irwin Bice and "Turk" Logan will be matched for a six-round preliminary affair. A four-round bout is in the making, according to officials of the World War Veterans.

Stoneham Wants to Know When Club Is Sold
New York, March 17.—Charley Stoneham, president of the Giants, says he wishes people would stop trying to sell his ball club from under him. "I own a little stock in the Giants," said Charles A., "and if the New York club is about to be sold I should like to be consulted. And if I am eased out of the president's office I also should like to have something to say about that."

Plan to Abolish New York Racing Commission Started
New York, March 17.—(Special)—Governor Smith's plan to abolish the state racing commission does not arouse much opposition among turfmen, for the reason that the commission never has been clothed with real authority. The commission is a relic of the Percy Gray law, which was partially repealed at the instance of former Governor Hughes in 1907. Its duties are limited to the granting of licenses to the various New York tracks—a matter of form—the approval of racing dates and the filing of an annual report to the legislature.

Walter Johnson, G. Alexander, "Babe" Adams of the moment, by reason of great strength and temperate habits, have created great records and interesting baseball history.

Only Difference Between Yankees of 1922 and Club of 1923 Is That "Babe" Ruth Is in Shape

King of Swat's Value to American League Champions Can Be Measured Only in Dollars and Cents—Bambino Down to Playing Weight and Looks to Be Fast—Ollie Tucker Possible Successor to Witt.
By SID MERCER
(International News Service.)
NEW ORLEANS, La., March 17.—The principal difference between the New York Yankees of 1922 and current edition is found in the fact that "Babe" Ruth is in shape and is eligible to play for the entire season.

It has been said that Ruth's value to the champions of the American league can be measured only in dollars and cents, and yet, until last season, he was a valuable unit in team work. When Babe failed to equal his individual achievements of 1921, he was labeled a failure by those who did not look behind the returns. In some ways he was, in others he was not. With all his faults, he remained the big gun in the Yank attack.

There were times when he was positively a negative factor. He reported at New Orleans weighing 235 pounds after a posturing winter. He knew he would be set down for 40 days after the season opened and when he entered training he was pointing himself for May 20, which objective was too far away to engage his interest.

Manager Huggins, while pitching Ruth and Meusel in the spring exhibition, was obliged to form another outfield combination of Elmer Miller, Camp Skinner, Norman McMillen and Chick Fawcett, all of whom have been sold up to the river to Simon Legree Frazee. The big improvement in the Yanks should be found in the outfielders. Last April, it was Miller, McMillen and Fawcett. This year it will be Ruth, Meusel and Whitey Witt.

Ruth Looks Fast.
And the greatest of the lot should be "Babe" Ruth. He came to New Orleans a week ago weighing 206 pounds, his lightest weight since 1918. He looks fast and is fast. A winter of hard work and abstinence has kept down his flesh and hardened his muscles. There is no reason why he should not hit many home runs this season, for he is only 29 and batting eyes do not usually fade at that age.

The case of Meusel is not to be overlooked. He was held down for the same period as was Ruth, yet had a good season in 1922. Huggins, who once despaired of making a star of the tall Californian, is now optimistic about him. Indeed, Huggins boasts that Meusel has improved so much that he may move him to center field. Witt was a valuable man to the Yanks last year until late in the race, then his hitting deteriorated. Even so, he is the best lead off man the Yanks have had in 10 years.

Tucker Has Promise.
A possibility as Witt's successor is Ollie Tucker, a splendid young hitter. Bob Gilks, southern scout for the Yanks, brought Tucker here a year ago from a little league in Georgia. Huggins left him in New Orleans as "ground rent" and Tucker proceeded to hit in more runs than any other southern association slugger has driven home in any season for 10 years. He is still a crude outfielder, however.

There is, in fact, but slight chance of any recruit breaking through the shell of the 1922 champions. The infield is intact but lacks reserve strength and Huggins may be compelled to step out and acquire a ready-made substitute to take the place of McMillen. Otherwise the Yanks are likely to stand pat. They have added Herb Pennock to the wonderful pitching staff of Ruth, Shawkey, Hoyt, Jones and Mays and are relying upon the slender left hander to win 12 or more games this season. This leaves little or no chance for any young pitcher. The catching will be taken care of by Shang and Hofmann, with Benny Benbough, late of Buffalo, in reserve, and only Hendrick, from Galveston, and Hinky Haines, former Penn State athlete, can dispute Tucker's claim of the place of outfielder.

Sioux City Cage Games.
Sioux City, March 17.—In the northwest Iowa independent basketball tournament staged at the Y. M. C. A., the games were all fast and snappy. The results follow:
Northwest, 42; Westfield, 12.
Sioux Athletic Club, 32; Mott, 15.
Hunt, Hardware Company, 49; Moorehead City, 37.
Sioux, 24; Lawton, 21.
Pelle Creek, 20; Orange City, 27.
Sioux Athletic Club, 41; Uta, 8.

"B. ALTY" ISBELL, owner of the Wichita club of the Western league, believes he has one of the best first basemen of the loop in the person of Jimmie McDowell. McDowell covered the initial sack for the Witches last season and his stick work was worthy of comment throughout the flag campaign. This winter Jimmie has been playing ball on the west coast and is said to be doing some real clinching.

The Wichita first-sacker played third base with the California team and hitting in third place in the lineup, indicating that his batting has been permanent.

Frank Harding, a first baseman from the Blue Grass league, Bob Fowler, a shutout from Texas, have been showing fairly well among a raft of rookie infielders. The outfield will have Pat Duncan, left; George Harper, center; and George Burns, right field. Eddie Heck, farmed out to Atlanta last season, looks to be ripe and will likely be kept. Rube Bressler, long with the team, will be the other outpost man kept. The club has virtually given up hope of getting Eddie Roush to sign. He has asked for \$25,000, wanting the club to make up the money he lost as a holdout last year. He has been told \$15,000 is all he can hope to get.

Daubert at First.
The infield will be Daubert, first

WESTERN LEAGUE NOTES
ACCORDING to reports from Mineral Wells, Tex., where the Tulsa Oilers are in training, Jack LeVelt, former Omaha manager, but now boss of the Tulsa club, is rapidly getting his batting eye focused.

THE Denver club of the Western league has signed a young hurler by the name of Ed Greer. They call him the Concrete Cavanaugh. He hails from Concrete, Colo.

Last season Greer tried out with the Bears. He has plenty speed but little control, which accounts for him being considered a recruit this year. In a recent practice tilt with the Bears at Guthrie, Okl., where the Denver club is in training, Greer knocked Dixie Parker and the other catchers over with his speed. He threw them wide, but not so handsome. He hurled part of a game but walked enough men to win a 4-0 on ball games. He has the speed, they say, of a French 75, but the control of a woman fly driver.

IN a letter to the writer, Barney Burch, owner of the Omaha Buffaloes, says that if the Buffaloes don't quit the hunting this season they'll fool him. "We have one of the best if not the best infield in the Western league," writes Barney. "Our outfield will rank with the best in this circuit with Griffin, Bonowitz, Apperson and O'Connor doing the fly chasing. Manager Ed Kenetchy will make a hit with the Omaha fans. I'll be just the kind of a manager I believe the fans back home want. He can hit, field and the best part about him is that every one of the men on the club will play to the best of their ability for him. That's a lot, you know." "Jimmy" Wilcox is coming along fine at second base. He is playing his position this season better than he did at short last year. As for Tony Defate, Omaha knows Tony and just what kind of a player he is. Defate has made a hit with Konechy and the latter thinks he will be the talk of the league this year. McDonald at third is another George Grantham. He can hit, field and run bases. "Judging from what I have seen on the Corsicana club's diamond where we are training, I believe Omaha is going to have a pennant winner."