BUSY DOING THE JAW ACT

Pugs Devote Their Time to Fighting with Their Mouths.

SAY THAT THEY ARE SPOILING FOR A SCRAP

Heavyweights Want a Go at Each Other, but Fail to Put Up the Cash to Make Their Bluffs Good.

The two heavies who are now on top of the heap gave a neat little exemplification of the trite saying, "Now you see it and now you don't," during the last week. Like the king of France, who walked up the hill and then walked down again, the man-of-war's-man trotted forward with the money to cover Fitzsimmons' forfeit for a fight and then drew it down again. And now the pair are using mouth ammunition at long range again and bid fair to keep it up for several months. It is a cinch that they will not come together, if they ever do, until some time next fall.

The friends of the Jack Tar insist that he is fairly itching to get at everybody who contests his right to the top of the heap, but it looks to a man up the tree that Sharkey will make no fool of himself as long as he is attached to Tom O'Rourke's string. He would stand a doubtful chance with the farrier. Fitzsimmons is as strong as Sharkey and has proven that he can stand for as much punishment as the sailor. He certainly has had more experience as a ringmaster and outgeneraled the sailor in the eight-round go at 'Frisco. Sharkey has come up the line with a whoop and he is perhaps faster and cleverer than when he met Fitz. But he isn't clever enough to keep a scientific boxer like Tommy Ryan from making him look like a sucker. Sharkey and Ryan sparred at Syracuse not long ago and Ryan outpointed him ten to one. Ryan conned him into lead after lead and his ducking, side-stepping and allround foot work made the sailor's leads go to waste on the atmosphere or they were uselessly spent upon Ryan's guard.

All in all the Jack Tar made no such showing as would make him a likely victor over Fitz and the latter need do nothing except lie low and sneak in a knockout. As Charley Wise O'Rourke said, Sharkey is coming up the hill while the champion is treading down life's road and the former can afford to wait until age handicaps Fitz further.

Fitz seems to be very much in earnest about the forfeit business and it is not at all improbable that he will take on the big Californian, Jeffries. While it is not considered that the result of this scrap will be at all doubtful, yet the pair will unquestionably draw a big house, inasmuch as the champion has not stepped foot inside the roped arena for two years. Sportsmen are more than anxious to see whether or not he has retrograded. Sharkey, too, is after picking up a little easy money, for the report is circulated that he has been matched to meet Charley Mitchell on the other side of the pond. The Charley Mitchell of now is far from the Charley Mitchell who met Sullivan years ago.

When John L. was in the city several weeks ago he referred to this fight he had with Mitchell in France and told a bunch of entertaining stories of his experiences in the land of the frogeaters. The big 'un was jugged after that little affray and was cast into a dungeon vile. He was kept there for some little time and his jailers had sport at his expense by sparring in pantomime at him through the cell bars, accompanying the gestures with a lot of jargon. He was finally released on a $300 bond, but he had hardly put up the money when he gave it out cold that he intended to "duck," as he says. He was promptly returned to the cooler and when he again emerged he found his bond doubled. He put up the money and did not lose a second in crossing the channel to England.

"In the fight Mitchell pulled out pretty nearly all the moustache on one side of my face," says Sullivan. "I did not stop to get shaved on the French side of the channel, but as soon as I landed in England I had both sides of my upper lip scraped. A few nights afterward I showed in a London music hall. The people did not know me and had seen my pictures, in which I was shown with a beautiful moustache. Somebody introduced me as John L. Sullivan, the Invincible, and some sport out in the house hollered, 'You're a liar. That ain't Sullivan.' That put the house in an uproar. Nothing would convince them that I was Sullivan and the entertainment was a dismal failure."

Oscar Gardner took another step upward last week in biffing Solly Smith into dreamland at New York, while Solly's star seems to be on the wane. It was the fourth time that the two had met. Way back in 1893 Gardner won a decision in six rounds and in the following year the Omaha had won again on a foul. In 1897 Smith was given the decision at the end of a twenty-round trip. Accounts of the last and fourth scrap the other day are suspicious regarding Smith's condition, but the manner in which he was lammed into oblivion in nine rounds of what was to have been a twenty-five round affray looks bad for Smith, particularly as it comes right on top of his five-round defeat at the hands of Dave Sullivan last fall. A broken head or arm or something like that was given as the excuse for Smith's easy down and out before the Irish boy, but there was no reason why he should not have been in the best of fettle for the Gardner scrap. It looks as if Solly was wandering along the downward trail.

There are but three featherweights after all—Dixon, Jordan and Gardner—and it's a hard choice to pick 'twixt them. They have mixed it up between them and, even though decisions have been given in favor of one or the other, one cannot pick the certain winner. Jordan would seem to have a bit the best of it, for he has a decision over Dixon, while the colored lad won a very close judgment over the Omaha boy. "Dope" is mighty deceivin', though, and figures do lie. It is possible that some time during the present year the laurels of the feather class will be undisputedly awarded to one of these three. The English boy has whipped about every one there is over the pond and he is now negotiating for a trip to this country with the special purpose of meeting Gardner and Dixon, if the latter wants to try to get back the decision he lost last May. Of the whole three Gardner looks the likeliest. The margin by which Dixon won from him was so small, together with the symptoms of weakening on the part of the most wonderful little man that ever pulled on the mitts, that it looks as if Gardner would certainly get the decision if they come together again. Of course Gardner and Jordan have never met, but the slam bang tactics of the former are sure to make trouble for the Englishman. If Jordan crosses the water Pedlar Palmer will come with him.

As a consequence of his battle with Casper Leon a few days ago the critics are examining Terry McGovern to discover some symptoms of championship fiber in his make-up. The dago fought at the bantam limit, gave away five pounds and broke a hand and rib in the fight, but nevertheless the crimson-tufted Brooklyn lad must be given a good deal of credit for the victory. He is a hurricane fighter and a stiff puncher and in two years has lost but one battle and that on a foul. Leon's reputation did not suffer much as a consequence of this, the third defeat of his career, on account of the circumstances, but it has given quite a boost to McGovern. The latter is negotiating now for a fight with Gardner, who is one of his class, but he is a trifle ambitious and probably will find that he is trying to bite off a bit too much.

San Francisco redhots are preparing for quite a carnival of the short-haired sport in the very near future. "Mysterious Billy" Smith and Kid Lavigne are to have their try-out on the coast, although the match has not yet been completely arranged as far as the date is concerned. Kid McCoy and Choynski are both in California and there is some hope that the two may be brought together. Then there is a sure thing in a scrap between Dal Hawkins and Erne, which is slated to take place on March 2. The easy way in which Hawkins disposed of McPartland and the good showing Erne made in his twenty-round draw with Kid Lavigne gives promise that the coming fight will be a good one.

Young Pluto, the alleged phenom who was battered by George Dixon, is either a fake or one of the easy things you read about. Following very quickly upon the heels of his disastrous engagement with the colored champion he ran up against Breitenstein and was shelved with almost equal expedition. Breitenstein is a clever little fighter, but he is not one of the aces in the deck by any means.

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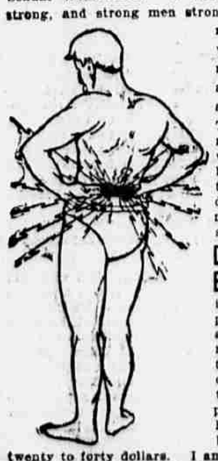

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ALL KINDS OF SPORTY STUFF

Princeton Makes a Deal by Which Yale Changes Date of Annual Foot Ball Meet.

Princeton has prevailed upon Yale to change the date of the annual foot ball struggle of the two from November 18 to November 25, making the game the last one of the schedule of both. Harvard had formerly been assigned the date which the Tigers have secured. It is said that the change was made because it is possible that Princeton may meet the Quakers on the gridiron next fall. In view of the feeling that the New Jersey college still seems to be harboring against the Pennsylvanians, it seems rather doubtful that the proposed game will be arranged.

While the athletics of the big eastern universities are not of an immaculate whiteness, yet they are considered to be as near pure amateurism as is possible. In consequence of this general impression the report that comes from Cornell to the effect that Sweetland, who had been elected by the footballists as their leader next year, has been disapproved by the athletic council on account of alleged professionalism comes as something of a surprise. While the council failed to find that this valuable player had been paid for his athletic prowess, yet enough suspicion attached to result in a refusal to ratify his selection. In order to maintain its amateur standard it now remains for the Cornellians to bar Sweetland from their team next year, and supporters of pure amateur sport will watch with considerable interest whether this action will be taken.

Ernest Roeber, who pre-empted the title of champion of America in the wrestling line without having ever shown that he was entitled to it, is to meet the latest Turkish mat artist, Adlai, in Chicago on March 17. If Roeber does not squeal, he will last about five minutes with the burly Mohammedan.

LAW LACKS PENAL CLAUSE

Intended to Prevent Slaughter of Game, but Does Nothing of the Kind.

During the present session of the legislature the usual crop of fool game laws are being offered for consideration and give the constituents of their authors the impression that their representatives are suffering from paretic attacks. For example, some genius has introduced a bill which prohibits the discharge of firearms on and near any highway in the state, but field hunters may find some consolation in the fact that there is no penalty for being the unfortunate owner of a shotgun. Another of the legislators wants a law incorporated in the statutes which will stop the shooting of all birds of the air except the English sparrow, crows and other like denizens of the atmosphere forever and a day. Still another bill is to stop the killing of quail and prairie chicken for the space of five years.

There may be a little merit in this last bill, particularly that portion which refers to chicken, but, like many another similar law that has been proposed, it provides no penalties whatever. If it should become a law the consequence would be the killing of the birds all the year around. But nonsensical as the laws may seem, they are hardly more so than the present statute regarding the killing of game from blinds, which, if technically interpreted, would hardly allow a shooter to kill a bird unless it roosted upon his gun barrel. The bill which the Omaha shooters have compiled and offered would be the best that could be secured for the preservation of game and for the continuance of hunting if it were allowed to pass without mutilation.

MEN WITH MITTS AND BATS

Eight-Club League Fails to Meet with Much Favor Among the Bleacher Yelpers.

The tales about the reduction of the National league circuit next season are dwindling in size. A couple of months ago a report was out that there would be a cut to eight clubs, but time has effectually demonstrated that it was a pipe fabrication. Next came the yarn about the reduction to ten clubs, Cleveland and Baltimore to be barred, but that seems to have gone the way of the others. Now the Chicago writers have taken a pull at the dope and insist that the twelve clubs will remain until the Fourth of July and then a couple will be dropped.

As a matter of fact nobody knows how the thing will turn out, not even the magnates. There is no question that they would like to see the Indianapolis agreement thrown overboard, but they are just now occupying the position that was at one time pre-empted by Micawber. The Brooklyn-Baltimore deal is said to have gone through, but in the same breath in which this announcement is made it is stated that Hanlon and his co-partners will also maintain a team in Orioleville. It is also certain that the Spiders will go to St. Louis, but this does not mean that Cleveland will be out of the circuit.

This condition chaotic extends to the Western league also. The magnates in this minor organization are hoping against hope that they will be able to scoop up Cleveland and plant Tom Loftus and his Columbus team there. On top of this comes a rumor that Indianapolis will withdraw for lack of grounds. Matters should very shortly be settled, however, as the big league magnates will soon hold their spring meeting.

If the Baltimore deal is put through McGraw is named as the probable manager of the new Orioles, although no official announcement to that effect has yet been promulgated. McGraw thinks that he is down for the job and has given vent to a proclamation that has a humorous cast. He says that he will put the team on a paying basis by cutting salaries to the amount of $15,000. Coming from Mugsy, this sounds like a skit from a vaudeville layout, inasmuch as in the past McGraw has always raised the biggest howl over any slash in salaries.

John T. Brush has taken a decidedly radical step in order to prevent drinking among his players. It has been no uncommon thing for a club manager to insert in the contract of some ball tosser who has a more than passing acquaintance with Mr. John Barleycorn a clause requiring that such friendship be immediately cut. Brush this year, however, has put into every one of his contracts a provision that no player shall go into a public resort and drink when off duty. Every violation of this clause calls for a fine of from $300 to $500. Such a provision in the contracts of the players who wore the Omaha tag last spring would have had some interesting results and even though there is said to be but little drinking among the Reds many a crank will watch how the pledge is observed. Pink Hawley has kicked on this clause, but none of the rest of the team have.

Base ball has long been considered as Uncle Sam's own exclusive game, but it is fast becoming an international sport. No Jap or Chinaman is yet represented in any of the important organizations, but there are players of English, Indian, German, Irish, Scotch, Swedish, French, Italian, Russian and Mexican descent playing on various teams of the larger leagues. Next year a new nationality will break into the Western league—a Bohemian. His name is Charles Cheek, who is at present at the University of Wisconsin and will sign with the Brewers next June. One of his feats consisted of letting down the St. Paul team with four runs with a semi-professional team behind him.

The records of President Nick Young show that before the drafting commenced last year, no less than thirty-four minor leaguers were purchased by the big bugs. The big majority of this number came from the Western league. Among the most prominent of these were Slagle, William and Pardee of Kansas City; Wolverton from Columbus; Tom Daly and Jack Taylor from Milwaukee; Phyle from St. Paul and Phillippi from Minneapolis.

The Boston triumvirate has loosened the purse strings and will give lavish salaries to its players next season. Eight of the tossers will receive the limit or more. Tenney, Lowe, Long, Collins, Bergen and Hamilton will receive $2,400 each. Captain Duffy will get $2,750 and Nichols will draw $3,000. Stahl expected to reach the $2,400 mark, but fell a little short.

Outfielder Frisbee, who was named as one of the Kansas City cracks last season, is to be given a trial with Boston next season, although it had been once determined to try him out another year with the Blues.

SPORTS IN THE BEAN TOWN

City Does the Square Thing and Helps to Encourage Athletics.

The following letter gives an idea of the manner in which they help athletics along down in the effete east.

COLUMBUS, Neb., Feb. 8.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: I was in Boston most all of last summer, and being interested in track and field events, went to see all the cracks perform and watch them in training. The high class athletes of Boston and vicinity are more numerous than in any other locality in the country, having better opportunities for training, there being two public gymnasiums, the like of which does not exist elsewhere in the United States. Tom Burke, the great quarter-mile man; B. J. Wefers and Frank Quinlan are among the amateurs who have trained and been developed there, while McGonigal, the five-mile champion; Tincler, the Irish distance runner; Walter Christie, the 100-yard man; Thompson, the unapproachable sack racer, and hundreds of other athletes of great ability have used these gymnasiums, especially the Charlesbank, of which I started to tell you.

A few years ago the city of Boston bought a swampy piece of land on the bank of the Charles river, and by filling it in, planting trees and shrubbery and building walks and fountains, made a very pretty park of about twenty acres. At each end of this park they have built a five-lap cinder track, inside of which are quoit grounds, jumping boxes and all the paraphernalia of a first class gymnasium and training ground. The men's gymnasium is surrounded by an iron fence, and on the walks outside are hundreds of people at all times of the day watching the young aspirants for athletic honors at their work. The track from 9 a. m. until noon is reserved for the use of wheelmen; from noon until 9 p. m. the foot-runners and jumpers have their innings and there are plenty of them, too, for all the boys in Boston and vicinity seem to want to excel in some branch of athletics. Mr. Bowler, the genial superintendent, gives lessons twice a day in gymnastic movements. He also oversees the work of the older athletes, taking care that none work too hard or long, a very important part of an athlete's training being to not overtrain.

At the corner of the grounds a stairway leads from the enclosure to the building, an ornamental two-story affair, on the top floor of which is a small office for the superintendent. The rest of the floor is devoted to bath rooms for the athletes. There are about 400 lockers, the use of which may be obtained by request from the superintendent. He also supplies you with towels and there are six shower baths, with hot and cold water attachments. You will be surprised to learn the use of this gymnasium is free to all, the city paying all expenses of keeping it up, even furnishing clean towels to any one who wants to bathe. No doubt the people, as a body, are amply repaid by the health and happiness which the habitues of the institution gain from its use.

The working force of the gymnasium comprises a superintendent and two assistants and three caretakers of the grounds. There is also a woman's gymnasium connected with this and in East Boston another one for men, all of them maintained by the city and under the supervision of the Board of Park Commissioners. So for once, you see, old fogy Boston has gotten ahead of us hustling westerners and we would do well to copy this idea from them, both for the sake of the health judicious exercise gives a sedentary people and the pleasure it gives the spectators, who would during open hours always be numerous. Many more people visit the Charlesbank than any of the other parks in the city, I am sure, while the number of crack athletes developed there, with the experience gained in training them, is not the least of the benefits derived. It is also the most practical sermon that could be devised on the healthiness of judicious exercise, and the athletes themselves form regular and temperate habits which stick to them through life.

IRWIN KNIGHT.

DOINGS IN WHEELDOM.

The League Assembly and Other Matters of Interest to the Pedalers.

The national assembly of the League of American Wheelmen adhered strictly to the program mapped out by the leaders. The slated ticket went through without friction. Regarding race control the decision was in favor of continuance, as had been predicted. In this respect the league is like the man who had the bear by the tail and was afraid to let go. If the opposing organization, composed of men who control the tracks and are out for the money there is in the sport, continues in the lines planned the close of the year is likely to see the bear fattened on the meat of the league. The only change made in league rules was an amendment giving professionals representation in the assembly.

Bicyclists throughout the world will be glad to learn that the wheel will occupy an honored place at the Paris exposition. Nowhere in the world are there more enthusiastic wheelmen than the members of the famous Touring Club de France, and they have not been slow to avail themselves of this opportunity to draw the attention of the civilized world to the modern wheel with all its latest improvements.

A committee was appointed some time ago to see about the construction of a building in which the wheels could be exhibited, and about the selection of a suitable site, and now the news comes that an admirable site has been granted by the authorities in charge of the exposition and that on it a stately building will be erected within a very short time.

The site is near the Eiffel Tower and close to the entrance of the Champ de Mars. Any one who knows Paris will see that no better site could have been selected. All the visitors to the exposition, whether they are interested in bicycling or not, will be sure to pass by this spot and cannot help being attracted by the artistic edifice that is to be reared in honor of the ubiquitous wheel.

The counting of the votes which were to decide whether the national meet this year was to be held in Boston or Buffalo resulted as was expected for the last two months. The vote was most decisive, and showed that there was not the effort made by Buffalo that was expected at the time of the last meet, which was held at Indianapolis. At that time Boston was almost unheard of, so intensely enthusiastic were the Buffalo adherents. But a few weeks later came the trouble with the outlaws, and Buffalo furnished all the leading actors in the insurrection. To this cause alone is due the defeat of the Bison city, for its league officials were plainly in sympathy with their outlaw brethren and the other states would not support a city with such views.

Now that Boston has the meet, after working for it for five years, it may be expected that it will furnish the league with one of the best gatherings in its history. Boston will furnish other entertainments aside from the racing, and in so doing will receive the hearty support of the city authorities, who have already donated a fund for the purpose of entertainment, and promise more. There will be a one-fare rate for the round trip to the meet, and an excursion on the same basis to the world's championships at Montreal immediately after the close of the Boston meet. The many places of historical interest in the vicinity of the city will be visited and the usual smokers, receptions, excursions, etc., will be on the program.

Ah, well, what a rapidly moving world this is! Not to forget that it has become so as much through cycling as anything else. Last week, relates the Wheel, the Creeks, Cherokees and Delawares to the number of more than 10,000 left Vinita, in the Indian territory, for new homes which they have bought in Mexico. They go there because dissatisfied with the rule under which they have lived with the other Indians, essentially that of the white man, and intend to restore their old form of tribal government. The like of this has occurred more than once. Parts of tribes have accepted land in severalty and consented to abide by the laws and take up the manners of the whites, while the other parts insisted upon living and governing themselves after their traditional fashion. This movement of the Greeks, Choctaws and Delawares is backward, so far as it goes, a return to savage life, but observe the curious fact that they take with them 2,000 bicycles, products of fin de siecle civilization, on which ride princes and princesses, not to mention grave bishops on the round of their episcopal duties. If there were herds of buffalo in Mexico the Indians would hunt them on wheels. A spectacle it will be, that of the chiefs and warriors coming on them to the councils, pedaling furiously over the prairies of Guadalajara and Sonora instead of dashing over them on horseback, as their fathers might have. Try as he will, the Indian cannot escape the toils of civilization in which he has been caught; he has been tangled up with cycling and, like every one else who has gone through the same performance, is fast forevermore. Indians starting back toward savagery on bicycles is a sight characteristic of the time and when they have restored their tribal system one may expect to hear of the formation among them of the "Man-Not-Afraid-of-a-Bump" and such like clubs, with colors of green and old gold. Why not?

In politics it has long been a famous cry that "as goes Pennsylvania so goes the union." If this holds good in pedaling as it is alleged in politics, then it must be conceded that not only is cycle riding on the wane, but carriage riding and even walking is on the down grade. The report of Captain Louis M. Chasteau of the Fairmount Park guard shows that during the year 1898 there entered the park 233,918 single teams, 71,816 double teams, 511 four-horse teams, 1,116,529 bicycles, 11,296 equestrians, 1,459,186 pedestrians, 7,914 one-horse sleighs and 1,535 two-horse sleighs. These figures showed a decrease of 32,755 vehicles, 418,861 pedestrians and 196,974 bicycles.

More varieties of chainless machines are to be found on the market this year than ever before and they are cheaper. It doesn't seem to be quite clear whether the novelty of chainless wheels or the high price asked for them has been responsible hitherto for the comparatively small demand for machines of that sort. With the reduced price, that question should be settled without much difficulty. Wheelmen desire to learn all about the merits of new bicycles before adopting them and if they become convinced that chainless machines are superior to those with sprockets they will ride the former without hesitation.

Whether a rider prefers a chainless wheel or one of the other sort, it is safe to say that a better bicycle may be bought today at a fair price than could have been had at any time in the past. The task of selecting a good mount has become easy and, among the large number of new models in this city, the most fastidious rider may be sure of finding one that will please him.

Judge Simpson of Reno county, Kansas, differs from the usual Kansas judge in his possession of a plenitude of horse sense. As an evidence of this Judge Simpson has handed down a decision of much interest to cyclists in Kansas. A man whose team became frightened at a cyclist and ran away, throwing the driver out and breaking his arm, sued the wheelman for damages, but it was disallowed by Judge Simpson on the grounds that bicycles have become so numerous that any roadhorse should not become frightened at them. If a horse is so timid as to become cycle shy, then, Judge Simpson says, he should not be allowed on a public thoroughfare. A statement which is ripe with both law and logic.

The Bicycling World claims to state authoritatively that the bicycle saddle trust will consolidate eight concerns, the capitalization being $2,000,000, half of which is in preferred and half in common stock. The preferred stock will be for the appraised value of the plants and the common stock for the good will.

CHESS.

The Nebraska Chess association is reported to be in a prosperous condition. There are now twenty-eight members in good standing, located in various parts of the state, and twenty-three of them are engaged in the present tournament, playing in three sections. The games have started off well and promise some interesting situations.

The following is the forty-ninth game completed in the Nebraska Chess association correspondence tournament between M. F. Winchester of Dannebrog and A. Powell of St. Edward. Notes by F. F. Wilcox of the Chicago Chess and Checker club.

White—Winchester.	Black—Powell.
1—P to Q 4.	1—P to Q 4.
2—P to K 2.	2—P to K 3.
3—Kt to K B 3.	3—B to Q 3.
4—P to Q B 4.	4—P to Q B 3.
5—Kt to B 3.	5—Kt to B 3.
6—P to K R 3 (a).	6—Q Kt to Q 2.
7—P takes P.	7—K P takes P.
8—B to Q 3.	8—Q to K 2.
9—Castles.	9—Kt to K 5.
10—Q to B 2.	10—Q Kt to B 3.
11—K to K (b).	11—P to K R 4.
12—Kt to Q 2 (c).	12—Kt to Kt 4.
13—P to K 4.	13—B to B 5.
14—K to B (d).	14—Kt to Kt 5.
15—P takes Kt.	15—P takes P.
16—P to K Kt 3.	16—Kt to B 6 (e).
17—P takes B.	17—R to R 8 (ch).
18—K to Kt 2.	18—R takes R.
19—Kt takes Kt.	19—P takes Kt (ch).
20—K takes P.	20—Q to R 5.
21—Kt to K 2 (f).	21—Q to R 6 (ch).
22—Kt to Kt 3.	22—B to Kt 5 mate.

(a.) By this move White loses time and we do not see that it has any object.

(b.) Another move whereby White again loses time. Kt to Q 2, would compel Black to exchange, or play Kt to Kt 4, from whence he can be driven by P R 4, followed by Kt B 3, giving a strong, defensive position.

(c.) This move blocks White's B and still further cramps his game.

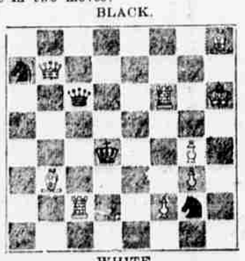
(d.) Now Black offers the sacrifice of a piece for a powerful attack.

(e.) Obviously Kt cannot capture Kt, for P takes Kt and Black anounces mate in five moves.

(f.) P to B 5 would have prolonged the game for some time, and White might have won eventually, through the strength of his two B's, provided that Black did not accept the perpetual check.

Problem No. 58, by Loyd; eight points for correct solution. White to play and mate in two moves:

BLACK.



WHITE.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

The Central Labor union and the Central Labor Federation of New York City have finally amalgamated under the name of the Central Federated Unions of New York as one city central labor body.

Southern labor papers express the opinion that the Augusta and Enterprise, Ga., textile operators in returning to work will contribute much to the relief of the situation and pave the way for an ultimate settlement.

A. J. Read of Oakland, Cal., a member of the local Printers' union, is a candidate for labor commissioner of California. Louis Hausen of St. Paul, Minn., member of the local Woodworkers' union, is a candidate for the appointment of state factory inspector of Minnesota.

Brigadier General Ludington, quartermaster general of the United States army, has determined to hereafter prevent the manufacture of clothing for troops under the sweatshop system and will award contracts only calling for such clothing as the firms will be able to make with their own facilities.

The executive council of the International Typographical union has sent out circulars to its subordinate unions asking the endorsement of a proposition to levy an assessment of 5 cents per capita on all members to meet the recent assessment made by the American Federation of Labor on national and international unions.

The insurance commissioners of the state of Massachusetts have decided that the practice of the labor unions of that state to insure their members against sickness, death, loss of tools, loss of work, etc., is illegal. It has been the opinion of the unions that, inasmuch as they were acting in a purely charitable manner, the state law did not affect them, which compels incorporation. The unions do not desire to become incorporated, chiefly because association of labor are voluntary and as their work does not partake of a commercial nature.

St. Louis, Mo., woodworkers are up in arms because so much sash, doors and blinds are shipped there from Bloomington, Ill., where that craft is not organized.

If all Rhode Island were a cottonfield, its climate and soil most favorable to the crop and its cultivation the best that man can devise, it could not begin to furnish raw cotton for the mills of Robert Knight, the cotton king of the world. The Natick mill, for instance, is the largest in the world. Walk around it once and you will have traveled more than half a mile. It is seven stories high, contains 100,000 spindles and 3,200 looms and gives employment to 1,200 operatives under one roof. As a child of 8 Knight worked his cruel fourteen hours daily in one of the Sprague mills for $1.25 per week. On January 1 of the present year Robert Knight became sole owner—his brother having died last year—of twenty-one mills, containing upward of 425,000 spindles, 12,000 looms, employing between 5,000 and 6,000 operatives and directly or indirectly furnishing the means of livelihood for 25,000 persons.

IMPIETIES.

An eloquent Detroit preacher tells this among his early experiences in a rural parish: One of his parishioners was very ill and finally sent for the minister, who found the man rather reticent, and finally asked if there was anything he could do.

"Parson," was the answer, "sleep would make me well, but the doctor can't make me sleep. I wondered if you'd preach me that long sermon I heard last July."

A visitor in a Cleveland school, noticing a bright little colored girl, said to her: "Do you go to church, little girl?" "Yes'm," was the quick reply. "I'm a vehwy conscientious chu'ch goah." "You go every Sunday, then?" "Yes'm—twice a day, and Friday evenin', too, mos' gen'ly." "Where do you go?" "I 'tend de chu'ch clost by my house. It's the mos' conven'ent." "How do you like your pastor?" "He's a vehwy good man. He preaches sich strong sermons. I's 'fraid we's gwine to lose um, though." "What makes you think so?" "Well, everybody says dat jest as like as not he'll mos' likely go back again to barberin'."

Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia is one of the most genial prelates in the American Catholic church. At the reception given in his honor the other day, says the Record, he noticed many children with their parents. Accompanied by her father, a little girl was seated somewhat apart from the others and the archbishop, seeing her, said with great gravity: "You are with your father, and, as I am his spiritual father, am I your grandfather?" This created a general laugh. A little later on the archbishop indulged in another pleasantry. At the conclusion of the ceremonies at the temperance reception the archbishop gave his blessing and remarked: "Now, Bishop Prendergast will give you a bigger blessing." As the bishop arose and stretched his massive form to its full height the audience quickly comprehended the archbishop's little joke and the audible smile that went around compelled the bishop to wait a few minutes until the proper degree of dignity had been regained.

The daughter of a Methodist minister created consternation the other day, relates the New York Sun, by walking into a book shop and saying meekly:

"Do you give clergyman's discount on playing cards?"

"On what?" demanded the salesman.

"On playing cards."

"Clergyman's discount, did you say?"

"Yes."

"Well, we've never been asked for it," with peculiar emphasis, "but I suppose—"

"Because I'm a clergyman's daughter," said the young woman, "and I always get a discount."

"Oh, very well," said the salesman, trying to keep a sober face.

The young woman bought the cards, paid the price, minus the clergyman's discount, and went out of the store. The joke was considered the best of the season among the book salesmen. But the Methodist girl tells it rather apologetically, and says she has done better. She has a fondness, it seems, for having fun with herself. The other day she had some without any previous intention. She went into another book shop, this time for some pens. A stupid, half-grown boy trundled himself forward to wait on her.

"I'd like some pens," she said briskly.

"What—kind—uv—pens?" with half-shut eyes and heavy jaw.

"Pigpens!" flashed the girl, and, whirling around, she was out of the store in a second.

She says she didn't mean to do it, but the temptation was too strong, and she has been chuckling ever since at the expression which came over the boy's face.

She is always bringing home some choice bit of humor from the various prayer meetings, aid societies and Epworth League meetings which she attends. One which she gathered in at a missionary meeting is of especial interest to persons of the Episcopalian persuasion. It was a home missionary meeting and a woman from a small town was giving her experience.

"We ain't done much durin' of the past year," she said, "but we're a-hopin' for success to crown our labors in the end. They's lots of Episcopalians in our town, and by the grace o' God we mean to put our hands to the plow an' see 'em all brought to Christ before another year rolls 'round."

Case of Destitution.

Chicago Tribune: At the counter of the department store she stood with her slender purse in her hand—a young woman who had been reared in luxury and who still retained traces of her bringing up, as shown in her general bearing and in the fit, not to say the texture, of the garments she wore.

"I cannot afford it!" she exclaimed, and there was a tone of bitterness, almost of resentment, in her voice, as she laid the rich cloak down and picked up one of humbler appearance.

The sleek salesgirl behind the counter merely shrugged her shoulders and said nothing.

What were the trials, struggles or longings of genteel poverty to her? What, indeed!

"No, I can't afford it!" repeated the fair young customer, opening her purse and counting the contents. "I'll have to take this one. I'd buy the other one if I had enough dough, but I'm shy about four plunks."

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Rev. P. T. Pockman, pastor of a Baptist church in New Brunswick, is forming a sort of ministers' labor union, the object of which is to protest against the holding of funerals on Sunday, because on that day most ministers have about all the work they can attend to.

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