

JUDGMENTS

WITHOUT attempting to fix responsibility for the disappointing career of the Nebraska football team during the last few weeks of the season which ended with the disastrous defeat on Thanksgiving day at the hands of a third-rate school, it may be suggested that something is radically wrong with Cornhusker athletics, and that the remedy should be applied vigorously and without delay. Given the student body the size of that at Lincoln, and the proper spirit among the undergraduates, no form of sport or athletics should languish and fall into the state that has marked the career of the football team. Whether Coach Cole be all his supporters or detractors say, the truth is that under his administration the team that has worn the scarlet and cream on the football field has been badly defeated under such conditions as are discouraging to the friends of the school, not to speak of the patriotic boys and girls who always want to see the home team win. For this result the coach must accept at least a part of the responsibility. If his troubles are due to causes other than his ability, he is entitled to have those causes removed by the athletic board. If, as has been publicly stated, the "frats" at Nebraska are responsible for the decadence of the prowess of the Cornhusker team, then the fraternities ought to feel ashamed. If their influence is to be along "frats or rid" lines, it is high time someone in authority were reading them a lecture on the necessity of giving loyal support to Nebraska, rather than to a fraternity whose general interests are not centered at the school. If Cole goes or Cole stays, this disturbing element must be removed by the establishment of a better sense of patriotic justice, or Nebraska will never have on the field a team that will rightly represent it. In the showing of hands that is certain to come, the whole matter ought to be considered as a whole for the season is all against Cole; the war between the "Greeks" and the "Barbar" may be at the bottom of it; but in all it is nothing of credit to the University of Nebraska.

If the news is correct that Murphy and Brush have secured holdings in the Philadelphia National League team, it is distressingly bad news. It is a violation of one of the cardinal principles of clean baseball for one man to be financially interested in more than one team in the same league, a principle that must be respected if the game is to endure as a strong, virile institution. Leaving out of consideration the personality of two such men as the Chicago and New York magnates, the system would be vicious, but it is doubly dangerous with men of this type involved. The National League could ill afford, just at this time, to accept the suggestion that is a blow to enlarge the powers of Murphy and Brush. The old organization needed rather to pull away from certain moorings that were undermining its stability, but instead of seeking safer havens, it has anchored in another treacherous port. If, as is being reported, the National League is to prove the evil of such a system, we might invite attention to the past history of the Western League. Murphy spent the last year making trouble for the National. If he has secured a footing in Philadelphia, as it seems he has, he may be expected to make trouble in the future, trouble that may really mean something to the league and baseball. He is even a more dangerous man than Brush, for his sordid lust for power knows no bounds.

Just as the baseball world gets ready to settle down into the comfortable consolation of feeling that the long-expected war with the outlaws is over, comes G. Tebeau and threatens a new spell of outlawry for no better reason than that the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues awarded a man who had signed with Tebeau back to the California Coast League, formerly the outlaws. It was necessary in the adjustment of the complicated questions arising through the outlaws' surrender to award and shift many players, and this was one case in hand. The fact, however, that it touches the interests of Tebeau makes all the difference in the world. Suppose, for instance, the player, Catcher Prames, had been a player Tebeau didn't value or care for, then what would White Wings have done? It's not the principle of the thing, but always to that that actuates Tebeau, but always the eagerness of an isolated case, with pure selfishness as the purpose to be achieved. Well, come on with your war, Cousin George. Our stomach is just about strong enough to eat you right now.

For the first time in thirty-four consecutive years Ned Hanlon is out of baseball. He has sold his Baltimore team to Jack Dunn. Few men ever attained as great and none greater distinction in the game than Hanlon. As player, manager and magnate he was always a brilliant success and he is one of the men whose work and influence have elevated the game.

The Sporting News is one medium of public expression not closed to personal felicitations between friends on the side of the grave. And this is well, too, for a sportswriter's obituaries are excluded in so many places.

Before Zbyzco and his manager go too far with that dream of bumping the public, they should remember that Gotch left Holler with a handicap once upon a time, but has persistently refused to allow him any further concessions.

Jimmy Austin has done pretty well for a beginner. At the end of his first season in fast company he has been speculating over who will be able to drag him away from New York. The St. Louis Browns are after him.

With their eminent proficiency in the use of spikes why couldn't Joe Tinker and Ty Cobb devise an effective remedy of their misuse, now that they must stay with us.

Gotch still finds time between certain calls to go out and pick up a little easy money. This Zbyzco fellow has got down to the two-falls-an-hour handicap class.

Possibly Ty Cobb may be able to save enough out of that increased salary to pay a 100 fine, anyway.

One benefit of the theater season is that it has shut off the Jeffries-Johnson wild machine.

Guess now we can talk baseball without being accused of leek majesty.

Spikes, like epithets, have been adjudged a necessary evil.

Heaven, Joe Villa, says Murphy, is a tin-horn job.

AUCTION BRIDGE FOR THREE

Bidding in the Absence of a Fourth Player.

WHERE RULES DIFFER SOME

One Point that Commands the Game to the Skillful Player—The Declaration and Dummy's Hand.

Auction bridge has become so popular on the other side of the Atlantic that the clubs have drawn up special rules to provide for a contingency that they might have foreseen from the start—the adaptation of the game to three players when they cannot get the fourth to make up a table for the full rubber.

While auction bridge may not be quite as good a game for three, as it is for four, it has one point which will recommend it very strongly to the player who is above the average. This is that the responsibility for the result is placed on the line depends entirely upon the individual and is not interfered with by any partner.

It is quite true that the partner of the declared has nothing to do with the play on the hand, but in straight bridge or in auction for four players he gets in his hands and makes it play better. There is probably no game in the world in which a bad partner can do you so much harm as in auction bridge.

It is always at the moment in which you are trying to make the game as expensive as possible for your opponents that the steps are taken to make the cost of the experiment of you. After you have bid them up to four in diamonds, which you know they cannot make, and have admitted dropped them at that point by refusing to go any higher than the three of hearts, which you bid when they were full of mistakes, you are to help you and bids four in hearts, on which the adversaries simply slaughter you.

In three-hand auction one thing is certain. No matter how bad a player may be at the table or how badly he may declare or how he may play, it is his bid that declares it. If it is the highest bid, he will play it himself and alone. If it is not the highest it does not matter what he bids, as it is not a contract that anyone will be called on to fulfill.

The rules of the game differ in some respects from those of four hands. The deal is made in the usual way, but the first hand is dealt to the left of the dealer, and the second to the right. This makes no difference, as thirteen cards are dealt, one at a time, to each of the four positions at the table, whether there is any one sitting opposite the dealer or not. No change is made in the positions of the players until the final declaration is settled.

The deal is made to the left, and the dealer in each hand must make an original bid of at least one in spades. Each player in turn has an opportunity to bid higher, to double or to pass, dummy's thirteen cards lying untouched. The player bids on his own cards without any idea of giving information to any partner who might do better, as the player sitting opposite him will not be his partner unless as opposed to the declaration of the third player.

There is no new deal if a player makes a declaration out of turn, because he is not giving information to any one but his adversaries, each of whom scores fifty points penalty in the honor column and proceeds as if no irregular bid had been made.

There is no limit to the number of times a player may increase his bid, provided he is overcalled by some other player in the interval; but if a bid is not overcalled the bidder cannot change it in any way.

As soon as the highest bid is determined, the thirteen cards dealt for the dummy are placed opposite the dealer. If there happens to be a player sitting opposite him, that player moves into the vacant seat, taking his own hand with him. Dummy's cards are not exposed until the eldest hand, to the left of the dealer, has led.

They get it not the point. The thing to count is the tricks taken by the declarer. If he has bid to get two by cards and wins five tricks only he falls by three. Many beginners at this game make the mistake of reckoning that as the adversaries get two by cards they get two tricks penalty, which is all wrong.

Every game counts 100 points to the winner of it, and the first player to get two games gets 200 points for winning the rubber, so that if the player wins two games in succession, he gets 400 points bonus; 100 for each game and 200 rubber points.

Honors are scored according to the number held by the individual player who scores them, instead of by partnership holding, as at bridge. The declarer counts the honors in his dummy, of course, but his adversaries score their hands independently of each other.

Each honor is worth one trick in points, so that one honor in spades is worth 2; two honors in diamonds are worth 12, and so on for the other suits. If a player holds four or five honors in his own hand they count double, four in spades being worth 16 instead of 8, five in hearts 30 instead of 15. In no-trumps the ace is worth 10 points each, but four in one hand are worth 300.

At the end of the rubber the scores are balanced by the skat system, so that each player wins or loses to each of the others the difference between his score and theirs. Here is an example of the method, the final scores at the end of a rubber being shown in the top line:

| | | | |
|---|------|------|-------|
| | A | B | C |
| + | 1200 | - | 0 |
| - | 0 | 1200 | - |
| - | 0 | - | 1200 |
| - | 1472 | -142 | -1200 |

A wins from B the difference between 700 and 1,300, which is 600, so A is credited with that amount and B is charged with it. A and C are then compared in the same way and finally B and C are adjusted. The additions prove that A wins all the money, the losses being shared by B and C.

With regard to the tactics of the game they differ in no respect from any form of bridge when it comes to the play of the cards, but in the bidding for the trump there is a material difference from the four-player game. In three-hand auction the player who has the highest bid never tries to coax his partner to increase his bid or to go no-trumps by showing him your strength. You are strictly on your own account all the time.

To the beginner the confusing element in three-hand auction is due to the fact that the hand which is declared is not the hand which is played. If you get the declaration, it is always more or less of a mystery. When this form of the game is first tried good players rapidly arrive at the conclusion that they can credit the dummy hand with strength in the suits which are not named in the bidding if the suits are strong, and they never suppose that the dealer starts with one club, the dummy hand lying on his right. Second player goes one in diamonds and the third bidder cannot have anything in hearts or he would bid one heart to overcall one diamond instead of risking three in spades.

This looks as if the dealer could trust dummy for the hearts. Knowing that the spade suit will be on his right and the diamonds on his left, he can calculate the probabilities of succeeding with a no-trump according to his chances of stopping either of the declared suits and of finding dummy with the trump.

With a little experience at the game the sharp players soon begin to utilize this system of trusting dummy by turning it into a very fine bluff. When they have nothing at all in a suit they bid on it, so as to make the other players think it is not in the dummy.

HARD SEASON FOR THE LAYERS

Percentage of Winning Favorites Greater Than Ever Before.

RECORD OF RACES IN GOTHAM

In 817 Run in New York 894 First Choices Are Successful, Also 194 Second Choices and 87 Third Choices.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Judging from the results of the races run on the city's tracks in New York state this year the so-called bookmakers did not have much to spare in the struggle with the form players. Enemies of racing when attempting to point out the evil supposed to emanate from betting seldom fail to allude to "crafty bookmakers who are rolling in wealth because the public victimized by a brace game." It is cordially admitted by a fair minded turf advocate that racing is a hard game to beat, but it is also true that many acceptors of oral wagers during the recent campaign have lost heavily because of the remarkable consistency of what is known as "public form."

According to records of well known speculators who keep tabs on each year's business, the form displayed by public choices, last season, surpassed all previous ones in the number and percentage of winning favorites, second and third choices. There were 136 days devoted to the sport in this state, exclusive of hunt meetings, and in that time 817 races were run, including steeplechases. In those races 894 favorites were successful, a record breaking percentage of 89.4 per cent. Second and third choices won, making a total of 875 successful public choices, or an average of 83 per cent. There were 115 unplaced favorites and 121 winners at odds of 5 to 1 or more. Many of these long shots were heavily backed, too, so that the men who laid the odds and took the bets were evidently up against a stiff battle. Many of the winners being ahead of the game were unable to collect what was coming to them, but those who lost were compelled, as a matter of policy and custom, to make good every dollar.

Dope on the Game. Yet in spite of this remarkable manifestation of form it is a fact that numerous races were regarded as "queer" and some of the best looking horses were roundly scored for suspicious looking rides. The absence of organized bookmaking and the great falling off in the number of price makers at the tracks were said to be reasons why the horses ran more closely to the calculations of form students than in former years, but at the same time it must not be overlooked that many of the successful favorites were at such short odds that few persons could back them. The Peer, for instance, won a race at 1.10, while Lumbago, Jack Atkins and Colt, scored 2 to 1, with Eric Herbert quoted at 1 to 15 on several occasions. Some of these short priced favorites were upset, too, notably The Peer, at 1 to 12, when he indulged in one of this erratic performances.

The layers almost to a man admitted that the players displayed increased knowledge of the game. They asserted that in a majority of races no matter how many horses went to the post the play was centered upon two or three starters, and they were the only chance they had to win when these choices ran contrary to the way they were played or some unbacked long shot got home to upset the talent. The average price maker, therefore, will tell you that he had an un-usual year, all things considered, and that his prospects for another season are not particularly bright. The betting, as a rule, was rather light. There were very few big bettors, the speculation being, in a measure, confined to small fry operators or to the layers who wagered with one another. The inability to record wagers caused numerous disputes which could not be adjusted by the former methods of arbitration so that the entire system of betting was hardly satisfactory.

Details of the Season. The opening meeting at Belmont park which began on May 12, continued eleven days, which sixty-seven races were run. Thirty-six favorites were victorious, or a percentage of 54 while sixteen second choices and two third choices were also successful, with six favorites unplaced. The winning horses at 1 to 1 or better were Elfin Beau, 5 to 1; Waldo, 10 to 1; Deltan, 10 to 1; Mary Davis, 10 to 1; Raquet, 8 to 1; and Marcella, 15 to 1.

The following days at Gravesend there were eleven days in which thirty-three favorites, twelve second choices and seven third choices won, the percentage of successful favorites being 55. Then first choices did not finish in the money and the long priced winners were Black Chief, 23 to 1; Notsauga, 15 to 1; Royal Onyx, 12 to 1; Judge Ermentrout, 50 to 1; Prince Gai, 20 to 1; Lucella, 15 to 1; Bigot, 10 to 1; Maxana, 5 to 1, and Summer Night, 15 to 1.

The spring meeting at Sheepshead Bay consisted of fourteen days, with eighty-four races which produced thirty-nine winning favorites, a percentage of 46, fifteen second choices, fifteen third choices and twelve unplaced favorites, with these long priced winners: Dalmation, 15 to 1; Rockwood, 15 to 1; Notsauga, 5 to 1; Black Mate, 20 to 1; Chickasaw, 40 to 1; Tim Pippin, 10 to 1; Ida D., 15 to 1, and St. Dunstan, 5 to 1.

The racing during the Empire City meeting came in for some harsh comment, yet in ninety-six races run in sixteen days 41 per cent of the favorites, thirty-nine, got over the wire. There were twenty-four successful second choices, fourteen third choices and fifteen unplaced favorites. The long priced winners were Zephyr, 20 to 1; Fighting Bob, 15 to 1; Eschut, 12 to 1; Malibic, 20 to 1; St. Joseph, 20 to 1; Hark, 10 to 1; Superstition, 5 to 1; Str Neddam, 5 to 1; Ida D., 15 to 1; Tony Faust, 10 to 1; Frank Purcell, 20 to 1; Queen of the Hills, 20 to 1; Mauviote, 5 to 1; Camptaigner, 20 to 1, and Shapdale, 5 to 1. Fighting Bob, Eschut, Malibic, Hark, Superstition, Str Neddam and Tony Faust established shrewd persons to subject the layers to an athletic trimming.

Saratoga's Showing. The Saratoga meeting, the largest of the year, lasted twenty-four days. There were 144 races, in which 64 favorites won, a percentage of 42; also thirty second choices and fourteen third choices, while thirty-five favorites were unplaced. This meeting, therefore, with triumphant long shots, including Applaud, 10 to 1; Beauport, 5 to 1; Str John Johnson, 12 to 1; Beauport, 5 to 1; Bellwether, 15 to 1; Black Hawk, 10 to 1; Ryanline, 5 to 1; Louise Welles, 50 to 1; Rocky O'Brien, 40 to 1; Sir John Johnson, 10 to 1; Florio, 5 to 1; Glennacore, 20 to 1; Chor-master of Chesterbrook, 20 to 1; Quantic, 5 to 1; Wise Mason, 5 to 1; Rio Grande, 5 to 1; Achieve, 5 to 1; Spellbound, 5 to 1; Henderson, 20 to 1; Simple Honours, 5 to 1; McDonald, 20 to 1; The Wrestler, 5 to 1; St. Dennis, 20 to 1; Aunt Krassie, 10 to 1; Temple, 20 to 1; Aunt Julie, 15 to 1; Rio Grande, 10 to 1, and Robbin Around, 20 to 1.

The fall season at Sheepshead Bay showed a greater percentage of winning favorites than ever was recorded on an eastern track. Seventy-two races were run in twelve days and forty-three favorites, 90 per cent, landed in front. There were twenty-one victorious second choices, four third choices and seven favorites that finished in the rack. The long shots that swayed over the plate were Summer Night, 20 to 1; Raquet, 20 to 1; Queen Marguerite, 5 to 1; Woodcraft, 20 to 1; Campaigner, 5 to 1; Harison Maid, 12 to 1, and Livonia, 15 to 1.

In seventy-two races in twelve days at Gravesend, in the fall, thirty-five favorites got the money and hung up a percentage of 49 per cent. Seventeen second and nine third choices also scored, while seven favorites were unplaced. The long priced winners at this meeting were Huda's Sister, 15 to 1; Alice Baid, 12 to 1; Woodcraft, 15 to 1; Alankara, 10 to 1; The Fair, 20 to 1; Effendi, 10 to 1; King's Commoner, 20 to 1; Majestic, 10 to 1, and Affliction, 15 to 1.

Then came Belmont Park again with twelve days and seventy-two races, in which thirty-eight favorites scored for a percentage of 53, also twenty-one second choices and six third choices in front, with the favorites that got the money being Summer Night, 20 to 1; Raquet, 20 to 1; Royal, 10 to 1; Twilight Queen, 10 to 1; Bello, 12 to 1; Everet, 5 to 1, and Royal Captive, 5 to 1, provided upsets.

Jamaica's Twelve Days. In seventy-two races at the Jamaica meeting of twelve days thirty-four favorites, a percentage of 47, landed in front. Twenty second choices and five third choices also scored, with thirteen favorites out of the money. The long shots that went over the plate were Beauport, 10 to 1; Desirous, 10 to 1; May River, 20 to 1; Campaigner, 10 to 1; Queen Marguerite, 5 to 1; The Turk, 10 to 1; Practical, 12 to 1; Rockwood, 20 to 1; Harigot, 10 to 1; Mobility, 10 to 1; County Fair, 10 to 1; De Kalb, 15 to 1, and Far West, 10 to 1.

At Aqueduct in seventy-two races thirty-four favorites, eleven second choices and eleven third choices were first at the wire, the favorites that got the money being 47. Four favorites failed to get inside of the money and the successful long shots were Cindy, 10 to 1; Earl's Court, 20 to 1; Hang, 5 to 1; Hill Top, 15 to 1; Hoffman, 10 to 1; Raquet, 10 to 1; Hampton Court, 15 to 1; Shapdale, 12 to 1; Impudent, 5 to 1; Dan Dixon, 10 to 1; Wagon Wheel, 10 to 1; Patay, 5 to 1; Rockwood, 5 to 1; Star Bottle, 5 to 1, and Black Mate, 10 to 1.

The most sensational killing of the year was pulled off by John E. Madden with Hampton Court, when the colt was backed from 25 to 1 down to 5 and won in a gallop. Madden would not say how much money he cleaned up, but it was reported that the amount ran into five figures.

Among the price makers who were missing a greater part of the season were Leo Mayer, English Bill Jackson, Jim Murphy, the Cellas, Cole Ullman, Jack Sturges, Bill Cowan, Kid Weller, Frank Tyler and James Many. Many of the names were away, including John W. Gates, Charley Ellison, Joe Yeager, John A. Drake, Al Dryer, James B. Brady, Jesse Lewishon, Frank J. Farrell, T. D. Sullivan and C. E. Durnell.

STALLINGS SPENDS HIS MONEY

Has Twenty-One New Players, Who Cost a Fortune.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—The twenty-one new players who will be a part of Camp Stallings next spring cost the New York American would not say how much money he cleaned up, but it was reported that the amount ran into five figures.

The following table shows where each player came from and how much was paid for him:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Player and Club | Price |
| Johnson, Portland | \$4,000 |
| Flaher, Hartford | 2,000 |
| Parrell, Marion | 2,000 |
| Foster, Detroit | 2,000 |
| Woolf, Chicago | 2,000 |
| Roach, Lancaster | 1,500 |
| Daniel, Altoona | 1,500 |
| Carroll, Akron | 1,500 |
| Prill, Newark | 1,500 |
| Madden, Tulsa | 1,500 |
| Wanner, Hartford | 1,500 |
| Tiemeyer, Altoona | 1,000 |
| Woffel, Altoona | 1,000 |
| Channell, Fort Wayne | 750 |
| Lansig, Lowell | 750 |
| McMahon, Syracuse | 750 |
| Clum, Portsmouth | 500 |
| Revelle, Richmond | 500 |
| Walsh, Rocky Mount | 500 |
| Uplham, Akron | 500 |
| Total | \$25,000 |

Nelson Will Take On Welsh. NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Battling Nelson has finally consented to give Freddie Welsh, the English lightweight champion, the preference over the other fighters in a battle with him, and as soon as Welsh arrives here from England they will be matched to meet in a forty-five round fight at Jimmy Coffroth's opera club at Colma, Cal., for the lightweight championship of the world.

Welsh's victory of Summers, which gave him the title of champion of England, entitles him to a fight with me," said Nelson, "and on that account I have decided to give him the first chance when I have finished up my present theatrical engagement. He must fight me forty-five rounds, as I will not agree to any other distance." Freddie Welsh certainly made a bunch of money out of his recent victory over Johnny Summers at the National Sporting club of London. Besides winning the big end of the purse, Welsh also wagered enough money on his chances to send his winnings up to \$10,000. Welsh intends to sail for this country the second week in December.

HOW SHE CURED HER RHEUMATISM

I wish every rheumatic sufferer to know what S. S. S. did for me. I had been afflicted with Rheumatism for twenty years, sometimes being entirely laid up by it, and always lame in some part of my body. It grew worse until it was misery to attempt to walk at all; my right knee was nearly twice its natural size and was drawn up considerably shorter than the other one. A friend advised me to take S. S. S., which I commenced. I had tried so many things that I must say I had very little faith that it would do me any good, but was willing to try anything that promised relief. Before I had been using it long I was greatly encouraged, and continuing the medicine I soon found I was entirely cured. The lameness and soreness all left, and I can straighten, move or bend my leg as well as any one. I am sixty-five years old, but have had no symptoms of Rheumatism since S. S. S. cured me.

MRS. IDA M. PALMER.
No. 195 Fulton St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

The sincere and truthful tone of Mrs. Palmer's letter must impress every one who reads it. She had suffered with the agonies of Rheumatism for twenty years, and when she found a medicine that proved its worth by curing her, a humane interest in others who were suffering from the disease prompted her to recommend it.

Rheumatism is due to a diseased condition of the blood cells and corpuscles, brought about by an excess of uric acid in the circulation. This uratic impurity gets into the blood usually because of systemic irregularities, such as constipation, imperfect kidney action, indigestion, and other minor stomach disturbances. These common ailments prevent the proper working of the eliminative members, and thus a certain percentage of the refuse matter which should pass off is left in the system, to sour and form uric acid, which is absorbed into the blood. Then the corpuscles of the circulation which ordinarily furnish nourishment to the body, are saturated with the uratic impurity, which they deposit into the muscles, nerves, bones and joints. This causes inflammation and the pains, aches, and stiffness of Rheumatism.

External applications, such as plasters, liniments, hot applications, etc., cannot have any permanent effect on Rheumatism. Temporary relief from its pains is sometimes afforded by such measures, but the old cause is always at work in the blood, and as soon as the local treatment is left off every symptom will return.

There is but one way to cure Rheumatism, and that is to purify the blood—cleanse the circulation of the uric acid impurity. S. S. S. goes into the blood and attacks the disease at its head, and by removing every particle of the inflammatory uratic matter, and building up the blood to a healthful condition, this medicine destroys the cause and cures Rheumatism. When S. S. S. has cleansed the blood of the acid impurity, enriched and thickened the circulation, then the nerves are quieted, the muscles become elastic, the blood tissues are cooled, and the hot, feverish flesh is soothed and made comfortable. Nothing equals S. S. S. as a blood purifier, and for this reason nothing equals it as a cure for Rheumatism. Look on Rheumatism and any medical advice free.

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