

Omaha Bowlers Seventh in Doubles; Nebraska-Bellevue Foot Ball Game Here

GOSSIP FOR THE SPORT FANS

Boxers Violate the Rules of the Game in Recent Bout.

EBBETS, LIKES PUERTO RICO

Expert Thinks No Changes Necessary in Base Ball Rules, as the Game Is Still One That Thrills the Fans.

BY JOHN H. FOSTER.

At least there is one who will deny that the recent meeting between "Digger" Stanley and "Punch" Burns provided excellent food for argument and discussion. "Tom" O'Rourke and "Kid" McCoy, among others, have expressed an opinion that Stanley won on points.

Some rather good authorities seem to be inclined to believe that it was a draw in points, but who was on rough house work? Perhaps points in this respect do not count. Of course, if they do not, under the rules, but are the rules for effect or for ornament?

It is admitted that both boxers violated the rules. Some seem to be of opinion well justified, that it was not even a good exhibition of boxing. When the referee is required to box, he is not to be considered fashionable or fair boxing?

Are repeated violations of the second rule in the boxing code to be sanctioned? The rule is short and is very plain. It reads: "No wrestling or hugging allowed."

How often is it broken, and how many times was it broken in the bout between Stanley and Burns? It is possible under the rules to hug an opponent around the neck and pound him with the free hand?

Has the American idea of hitting with one hand free, and the other holding, improved what is commonly described as the "manly art of self-defense"?

These seem to be rather pertinent considerations in view of some of the rough and tumble exhibitions which have taken place in New York.

Leading Questions. Is it better policy to permit American boxing to degenerate into a scramble, in which the spirit of the sport shall be degraded for the sake of morbid desire to witness the application of brute force as contrasted to a display of skill? It has been generally understood that when these rules were formulated by the marquis whose name they bear he was interested in doing away with the very faults to which assistance is indirectly lent when two men wrestle around a boxing ring, each holding the other with one arm and "whaling" away with the free glove whenever an opportunity offers.

So far as "Digger" Stanley is concerned, it is not in the least inappropriate to say that his exhibition was a flat and bitter disappointment, coming as he does from a country which has boasted that its boxing is free of the faults which are severely criticized in Americans.

According to the English idea, of the spirit of American boxing, the "Digger" was as letter perfect as if he had been brought up in our own boxing circles, and that may be taken as it stands for American boxing.

Charles H. Ebbets, president of the Brooklyn Base Ball Club, disembarked after a pleasant voyage through the West India islands. His latest port of call, prior to arriving in New York, was San Juan, P. R.

At Ponce, Mr. Ebbets was introduced into service in a twelve-minute contest as umpire. "I have discovered," he remarked upon his arrival home, "that there are more things in this umpire business than were dreamed of by Horatio or any of the other well known dreamers. At that I must observe that the ball players of the island treated me handsomely, not only as umpire, but as an active base ball club owner. They invited me to take the Brooklyn to Puerto Rico for a training trip, and it is a really delightful place for outdoor work, although it is out of the question to make the journey this year. I told them that after the season is over in the United States there might be a chance that Brooklyn would visit the islands, and play not only in the cities of Puerto Rico, but in other cities of the island group.

"There isn't a doubt that it would make a hit. They are very bit as enthusiastic about baseball throughout that section of the world—at least almost every bit—as we are in the United States. The sport is making great headway throughout all of that part of the globe."

Changes in the Base Ball Rules. At the present moment it does not appear that any change will be made in the playing rules for base ball in 1911. There is no aggravated demand for changes. There are some who believe that a few modifications might not hurt the game, but they are not insistent in clamoring that they shall be made.

So long as the great American public seems to enjoy thoroughly its base ball, and it will always do so unless all games become the games, for when "Tom" Smith goes home grumpy after his pet team loses, "Bill" Jones becomes hilarious to a degree which approaches Fourth of July morning. It is not incumbent on the base ball folks to remodel their present pleasant pastime.

If the game arrives at that stage, where it does not present sufficient variety to satisfy the most exacting, perhaps it will be necessary to modify the rules a little, but somehow there does not seem to be even the vestige of a present opinion that such a situation is likely to arise very immediately.

The old pastime looks as if it is fit to stand pretty well for another term of years with the same underpinning.

JAMES HENSLEY IS DEAD

Retired Fight Promoter Succumbs to Heart Disease While Standing in Barroom.

James Hensley, 45 years old, retired fight promoter, died in Ed Rother's bar room, 111 South Fourteenth street, at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon. Heart disease is believed to have been the cause of death.

Hensley came to Omaha from Des Moines three years ago. Since that time he had not been actively engaged in any pursuit. He lived at the Lyons hotel. Hensley was unmarried.

A sister who lives in Virginia and his business associates in Des Moines have been notified of his death. The coroner has taken charge of the body.

South Omaha Bowling Record.

Name P. W. L. Pct.

Omaha 12 4 80

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Aviator McCurdy Circles Morro Light

Man Who Recently Crossed Straits of Florida Rouses Enthusiasm of Cubans.

HAVANA, Feb. 6.—With practically the entire population of Havana looking on, J. A. McCurdy, who recently crossed the straits of Florida in a biplane, made a spectacular flight today from the hill grounds at Camp Columbia to Morro light house, which he circled and returned.

The official time for the round trip was sixteen minutes, twelve seconds. The estimated distance was eleven miles. The prize for the flight was \$5,000, offered by the city. This, however, is open to competition until February 25.

A great reception was accorded McCurdy this evening at the Alhambra theater. Vice President Alfredo Zayas presided and presented McCurdy with the purse of \$5,000 given by the Havana Post for his flight from Key West to Havana.

When the Detroit Tigers come to Omaha for two exhibition games with the Rourke players on April 3 and 4 the opening of the season will be but a short distance away. The Tigers will be divided into two divisions, Omaha getting the second section of the former champions.

Two days hence the veteran Tigers will be in Hot Springs working out—just a month earlier than they went into camp last year. February 25 the youngsters will hop various railroads headed for Monroe, La., where they will be joined a day or two later by Manager Jennings and the veterans.

There is a much different sentiment in the jungle this spring than there was last year. At that time the Tigers, stricken and weary, had been by the acquisition of Delahanty and Tom Jones, figured the race a mere picnic for them.

When the Tigers all get together for the first lecture of Instructor Jennings at Monroe, there will be thirty-four of them, besides the manager, three of whom will be pitchers. Really there are eighteen pitchers on the Tiger staff, but five of them, Hardin, Omlaw, Parnell, Renfee and Skeels, will go to minor-league farms instead of south. Six of the pitchers are veterans or near-vets—Mullin, Donovan, Willett, Summers, Works and Stroud. The latter is the only one-year man on the list.

Many Youngsters. The Cubs are Lafayette, who went south with the Tigers two years ago and pitched a league game or two before being side-tracked; Louder, Peasley, both of whom appeared on the slab long enough to get knocked out; Cavitt, Covington, Lively and Mitchell. Cavitt, Mitchell and Peasley are southpaws. Peasley seemed to have some ability in the parts of games he appeared in last fall, but lacked confidence to back it up. The other two are unknown except to the scouts who recommended them. The same may be said of three of the right-handers. Cavitt, Covington and Lively.

There will be more games on the training schedule than ever before. The veterans will have seven early road contests in March, the first being exactly a month after the veterans begin their timbering up at Hot Springs. On March 15, New Orleans will be tackled on their home grounds. The Tigers will stay there the 16th, then to Mobile St. Patrick's day, for three days. After that, a day at Montgomery and one at Jackson. The schedule of the trip north is as follows:

First Squad.

March 25—Birmingham, Ala.

March 27—Memphis, Tenn.

March 28—Louisville.

March 30—Evansville, Ind.

April 1—Indianapolis.

April 2—Columbus.

April 3—Cincinnati.

April 10—Dayton.

Second Squad.

March 24—Shreveport, La.

March 25—Waco, Tex.

March 27—Dallas, Tex.

March 29—Oklahoma City, Okl.

March 31—Wichita, Kan.

April 1—Lincoln, Neb.

April 4—Kansas City.

April 7—Peoria.

April 8—Quincy, Ill.

April 10—St. Louis, Mo.

Denver Fans Want News of the Team

McGill Says He Has Players Satisfactory to Himself—Big Leagues May Help.

James McGill, manager of the Denver Western league team asserts that when he secures one more ball player he will have his team complete, and he also avers that it will be as good as any team in the league. Another outfielder in all he says he needs.

McGill says that he has three third basemen, but we have heard of only one possibility so far. This man is Sped Kelly and he is a holdout. Yobe, the former Kansas City infielder, has been mentioned in connection with the place, but the grisly owner declines to say whether or not he will wear a Denver uniform.

Denver fans are not aware of who all these star players are, for they say that the only announcement of satisfactory players are for first base, second base, one outfield position, one catcher and three or four pitchers. Lindsay and Lloyd will be back in the game. Cassidy in right field and the batters are Olmstead, Elman and Kinsella.

It is barely possible that McGill intends to start the spring training season with those men already on the roster and wait over the others who change their mind about signing between now and March 25. By this time the big leagues will have looked over their material and will have thrown any number of players on the market. The magnate will fill the gaps with these players.

Stanton Defeats Pierce.

STANTON, Neb., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Friday evening the Stanton high school basketball team defeated the Pierce high school team in a fast game played on the local floor. The feature of the game was the fast playing of the Stanton team. Score, 25 to 22.

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FLENNERS LEAD IN FIVE-MEN

Chicago Carries Off Largest Amount of Prize Money.

STORZ RANK 28; METZ NUMBER 31

History of Chicago in Singles and Doubles and Seiler of East Liverpool in Doubles Likely Winners at Finish Today.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—In the two-man prize list No. 1 went to F. Neal and M. Sprague of Omaha, 1,315, 10%; No. 18 went to F. Conrad and N. Denham of Omaha, 1,190, 8%; No. 31 went to L. R. Hammond and W. E. Anderson of Omaha, 1,152, 5%.

COLISEUM, ST. LOUIS, Feb. 6.—Chicago teams carried off the lion's share of the prize money in the five-men team division of the American Bowling Congress tournament, which closes here today. Final games, resulting in very mediocre scores, were rolled last night.

First money, amounting to \$100, goes to the Fleenners of Chicago, who piled up a score of 2,924 on January 25, and never were headed. The record of the Fleenners shows the mark of the Chicago, also of Chicago, who won the honors of the Detroit tournament last year, by forty-four pins. The Brucks No. 2 of Chicago, landed second money, amounting to \$75, with a score of 2,821.

The victory of the Fleenners has given Chicago seven championships teams within the last ten years. Chicago won the honors in 1905, Grand Rapids in 1907 and New York in 1902.

Five teams tied for tenth place, each having a total of 2,730.

Five-Men Winners.

Following is the list of the thirteen high winning teams:

Pine Rink, Chicago, 2,924, 10%.

Brucks No. 2, Chicago, 2,821, 8%.

Seng Springs, Chicago, 2,792, 4%.

South Chicago, Chicago, 2,782, 4%.

Commonwealth, Chicago, 2,772, 4%.

Queen of Nelson, Louisville, 2,768, 4%.

Jolly Fat Men's Club, Wash., 2,758, 2%.

Sprague Machine Co., Ind., 2,750, 2%.

Rosewood, Chicago, 2,740, 2%.

Indians, Indianapolis, 2,730, 1%.

Lipman, Chicago, 2,730, 1%.

Indians, Indianapolis, 2,730, 1%.

N. C. T. V., Cincinnati, 2,730, 1%.

Omaha landed two teams in the prize list, Storz's Triumphs landing twenty-eighth with 2,730, and Metz's team got 2,730 for thirty-first place and 5%.

High score of the competition last night went to the Old Dutch team of Louisville, which rolled 2,803. The mark, however, places them far down in the list of leaders. Bauer's Giants of Peoria, Ill., were second with 2,801.

Doubles and Singles.

H. W. Buckett and W. E. Crocombe piled up the top score in the doubles, topping 1,233 pins, which placed them in fourth place. Wm. Brown and G. H. Strang of Fort Wayne, Ind., were second high with 1,191, while Dave Woodbury and Charles Collier, noted Chicago bowlers, were third with 1,164. Crocombe rolled the highest total in the doubles, scoring 245 in his last game.

Seven scores above the select 600 class were made in the individual events. W. A. Spencer of Chicago, leading with 621, he started off sensationally in his opening game, getting 345 pins, but fell off to 213 in the second, and finished with 151.

Second high score in the singles went to Frank Seidler of Fort Wayne, who scored 610, while E. Berger of Chicago was third with 598. Earl Shepherd, Kansas City's star bowler, was fourth with 583, totals of 213 and 211 in his first two games boosting his mark.

It is expected that the present leaders will carry off the top prizes, although none of the marks are a congress record. The 681 record of James Blouin of Chicago in the individuals appears safe, although Blouin's total is twenty-four pins short of Thomas Haley's record made last year in the Detroit tournament.

In the two-man team events, W. M. Hartley and Al Seiler of East Liverpool, O., with a score of 1,246, look like winners. Their record is fifteen pins higher than the total of Dalaker and Wetterman of Cincinnati, who annexed the honors last year.

Sunday's Marks.

Scores, singles:

W. A. Spencer, Chicago, 621.

F. Seidler, Fort Wayne, 610.

E. Berger, Chicago, 598.

O'Connor, Chicago, 594.

E. Shepherd, Kansas City, 583.

Adland, Chicago, 581.

S. Bangert, Chicago, 580.

Dave Woodbury, Chicago, 579.

M. Johnson, St. Louis, 578.

F. Baehr, Kansas City, 576.

Scores, doubles:

Buckett and Crocombe, Chicago, 1,233.

Grogaard and Strang, Fort Wayne, 1,191.

Woodbury and Collier, Chicago, 1,164.

J. Kinsman and M. Kinsman, St. Louis, 1,151.

Joseph G. Bangert and Peterson, Chicago, 1,132.

Kienker and Polet, St. Louis, 1,123.

Nichols and Scott, Kansas City, 1,122.

J. Leist and Kelley, Fort Wayne, 1,115.

Fennimore and Thuman, Chicago, 1,113.

Adland and Leonard, Chicago, 1,091.

Scores, five-men teams:

Omaha, 2,924.

Bauer's Giants, Peoria, 2,801.

Roseford No. 1, Roseford, 2,792.

Crescent, Canton, 2,782.

Butcher Bros., Springfield, 2,772.

Roseford No. 1, Roseford, 2,768.

Hemeler, Peoria, 2,758.

Muehlebach, Kansas City, 2,750.

Rockford No. 1, Rockford, 2,740.

Grande Peoria, Kansas City, 2,730.

Two Hundred Fifty Millions of Dollars Taken from Chicago

Commission on Submerged Land Ready to Make Report Concerning Chicago.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 6.—Land estimated to be worth \$250,000,000 has been "grabbed" from the public domain of Illinois by private interests, according to the report of the Chipfield commission on submerged lands, which is ready for presentation to the legislature.

This huge sum will be doubled, however, in the opinion of members of the commission, if the inquiry is extended to cover all navigable lakes, rivers and coast lines in the state.

Representative H. H. Chipfield of Canton, chairman of the commission, is of the opinion that the "made land" which has been improperly taken by private corporations and concerns can be recovered to the state.

According to the report about 420 individuals, corporations and clubs are occupying made land along the Lake Michigan coast line and the Chicago river alone.

The report says that 1,316 acres have been taken illegally from the Lake Michigan coast between the Indiana and Wisconsin state lines. Of this number 1,087 acres, beginning in a section of the South Shore Country club's grounds and extending up the north shore to Evanston, have been taken within the Chicago city limits.

The Illinois Central railroad is charged with illegally holding 400 acres of this immensely valuable lake front land.

MISSOURI'S CAPITOL BURNS

State House at Jefferson City Struck by Lightning and Destroyed.

RECORDS GONE; LOSS ONE MILLION

House Papers Burned, but Senate Saves Documents—Convicts Take Part in Fugitive Fight to Save Structure.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 6.—The fire which destroyed the state house of Missouri last night was still smoldering today and it is thought the flames have reached the record vaults in the basement. Ten thousand copies of the revised statutes of 1892, which were stored in the basement, were removed today. Money, bonds and valuable state papers in the treasury vaults were taken out.

The legislature will meet in temporary quarters this afternoon and probably adjourn until Friday. Quarters for the state officers will be chosen by Governor Hadley and a committee today.

Loss, Million Dollars.

The total loss, including the structure and many records and state papers in the offices of the governor, secretary of state and treasurer, is estimated at \$1,000,000, with no insurance.

Lightning, which struck the cupola of the dome shortly after 1 o'clock, spread the flames to the roof of the house of representatives on the north side of the structure and, in less than a half hour it was apparent that the entire building was doomed.

Because of the inadequacy of the water pressure the fire could not be reached, and no aid could be rendered for some time by the local fire company.

Governor Hadley personally directed the fight against the flames, which, because of the age of the building, rapidly gained great headway.

Convicts Aid in Fight.

The penitentiary fire department was immediately called to the scene and the convicts worked heroically, scaling walls and taking dangerous chances for their lives.

The local military company was called out and formed a tordon around the building, driving spectators from dangerous positions and removing records from the different state departments.

The fire soon spread to the roof of the senate chamber on the east side, where the efforts of the firemen proved unavailing to check it.

Legislative Records Burn.

The records of the present house of representatives were destroyed, while those of the senate were saved. In the state treasurer's office more than \$20,000 is in the time vault, supposedly fireproof, and may be saved when the debris is cleared away. There was no insurance.

The historic capitol was erected in 1833 at a cost of \$500,000 and in 1887 was remodelled at a cost of \$250,000. While it was built of stone, the roof was covered with much inflammable material, which fed the flames and which spread rapidly with the falling of the dome into the main part of the structure.

The legislature will determine tomorrow whether to continue its session here or elsewhere in the state. Some of the members favor continuing the session here, where smaller buildings have been offered by the business men, while others are for the removal of the legislature.

The loss of the records practically necessitates the work of the present session being done over.

At midnight a part of the Sedalia, Mo., fire department, which arrived after a run of sixty-four miles on a special Missouri Pacific train, joined the local forces in an effort to save the records in the basement of the building, the cement floors over which are believed to be intact.

Governor Hadley announced at midnight that he would grant pardons to several convicts who risked their lives to save state papers.

ECKERT WILL CASE IN COURT

Circumstances Under Which Document Was Signed Related by Witnesses.

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—Circumstances under which General Thomas T. Eckert, former president of the Western Union Telegraph company, signed the will which his elder son, James C. Eckert, is contesting, were related today in surrogate's court. The contestant claims his father was of unsound mind when he made the will now offered for probate, which cut off the older son with \$50,000 and a life interest in \$100,000 and left practically the entire residue of the estate said to be valued at \$3,000,000, to his second son, Thomas T. Eckert, Jr.

It is also alleged that General Eckert's signature to the will was obtained by fraud and undue influence exercised by Thomas T. Eckert, Jr. and H. C. Page, General Eckert's secretary.

Japan to Investigate Plague.