

JIM COFFROTH, FIGHT BOSS

San Francisco Promoter Turns Up as One Man Trust.

HAS OLD COMBINE OFF WATCH

Controls Two Only Available Places for Daylight Meeting and Proclaims His Attitude Flatly.

By W. W. NAUGHTON.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—San Francisco—that is sporting San Francisco—is partial to open air fights. The average citizen—meaning always the average sporting citizen—loves to sit on the bleachers on a box bathed in the glorious sunshine which prevails here all the year round, and watch a pair of fellow men trying to put dents in each other's physiognomy.

Until certain disgruntled politicians in San Mateo county discovered that a "knock-out" incorporated club was a flagrant illegal proposition, the meadows of the fair side of San Francisco's boundary line were a notable rendezvous for lovers of ring sport.

There on holiday afternoons a man who derives enjoyment from the spectacular side of fistuuffs could get his fill of excitement. He could occupy a comfortable seat, chew gum or munch peanuts, and join in the yelling.

When San Mateo "shut down" some were built an open air arena in the heart of San Francisco town—toward, on Eighth street near Howard. This place has been the scene of all the holiday fights within the past couple of years. The batch of promoters recently endowed with permits looked forward to using this arena extensively during the coming twelve months.

But they reckoned without the host, Jim Coffroth, who has paved the way for the reopening of the arena in the meadows of San Mateo county who has one of the four permits for conducting boxing matches in San Francisco, has secured a lease of the eighth street plant and has all his rivals at a disadvantage.

Very recently Coffroth declared himself, and that is what he said: "I will conduct night fights in San Francisco in the months allotted to me by the Board of Supervisors. I will put on holiday attractions in daylight hours in my arena at Daly City, which is the name of the burg in San Mateo county where my property is located. If any of the San Francisco promoters want to sub-lease eighth street for ordinary occasions—I mean for night fights—they can have it by paying me my price. I will not rent to them on holidays, however, as I will be running boxing shows across the line and do not want opposition."

Coffroth Controls.

What forced Coffroth to declare himself was the fact that a brother promoter named O'Connell, who controls the February date in San Francisco, announced that he would put Frank Klaus and a fighter named Petrosky in the ring on the eighth street arena on Washington's birthday.

"I guess he won't," said Coffroth. "I'll be showing myself on that date at Daly City."

When O'Connell heard this, he began to hunt about for another location, and it is now told that he has rented one of the local skating rinks and will adhere to his determination to make a Washington's birthday fight of the Petrosky-Klaus affair.

If he does so and Coffroth puts on a boxing show at Daly City on the same date, it will probably be the beginning of the end so far as pugilism in California is concerned.

But O'Connell is not the man that the public expects to see Coffroth become particularly unpopular with. Eddie Graney, the old-time referee, is one of the new bunch of promoters in San Francisco, and the enmity which exists between Coffroth and Graney is something that age cannot wither.

The two sporting men were friends in the old days. They became members of the notorious "Fight Trust" of 1906, the other members being Morris Levy and Willis Britt. There was a split-up over the question of leadership, Graney and Davy taking sides against Coffroth and Britt, and, as a result, the affair made neither profit nor progress. Bad blood was engendered and in the case of Coffroth and Graney there has never been a resumption of friendly relations.

Gets Best Days.

When the game of politics was being indulged in here prior to the naming of the lucky promoters by the supervisors, Coffroth was slated for permits for the months of March, July and November. This would have given him St. Patrick's day, Fourth of July and Thanksgiving day. Whether he would have made use of the holiday dates in the city is a question, but the chances are he would have "played" on ordinary nights during the months named and would have put on holiday attractions at Daly City.

Then the program was changed. There was a division of opinion among the members of the police committee and the supervisors, and as a result Graney was awarded the March, July and November permits. And now Coffroth has declared himself in respect to the eighth street arena, the only rooftop pugilistic plant in San Francisco at present.

It all presages war. It is said that Graney intends building an arena of his own for use on holidays, and that he is more interested in thwarting Coffroth than in making profit out of the match handling industry. The rusty hatchet which has not been used to any extent since 1896 is to be sharpened up and sharpened until it will shave hair from a billiard ball, and, unless something at present unforeseen occurs to prevent the war of the promoters, a continuance of pugilistic pastimes in the far west is seriously threatened.

Isbell Sets Date for the Des Moines Players to Report

Members of the Des Moines base ball club will be required to report for preliminary practice by Manager Frank Isbell about March 3, almost a month in advance of the opening of the season. The new club owners propose to have the team in first class shape when the bell rings for the opening, and are of the opinion that at least three weeks of hard practice is necessary for that purpose. The pitchers and catchers may be required to report a few days in advance of the other players. Isbell will have nine hurlers and six receivers from whom to choose his battery men unless some are traded or otherwise disposed of before the call is sent out for spring reporting. Rogers, the Thru-I recruit, and Faber, secured from Pittsburgh, are regarded as fairly certain of winning places on the starting staff, with the others to be picked from among the prospects and veterans of last year's team.

Middleweight Muddle a Nice Mixture

By MONTY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Oh such a muddle in the middleweight muddle! Should Stan Ketchel's ghost pay us a visit, the horror would be all his. Middleweights to fight in him, middleweights to left of him, middleweights in front of him would boister and blunder.

The ghost would cry out in his anguish for the days that were, he would wish for the body in which he lived and in which he could tear through the whole dinged and dented crowd, laying low at least one with every punch.

About the only kind of punch ever noticed around the present day crop of middleweights is the sort that is served in a cut-glass goblet, with a cherry, a slice of pineapple and a chunk of orange floating on its placid bosom. And about the only kind of cleverness visible to the naked eye is of the reverse English variety. Flashiness?—yes—Cleverness?—no.

Just now we have a boy in this town who hails from St. Paul. Mike Gibbons is his name. In his first engagement here he seemed a gem of purest ray serene. Walter Coffey, the much vaunted "man with the wallop" from the coast, did a semi-Brooks in every round of his encounter with Gibbons. What they did to Mike in St. Paul when he made a shuttle trip back there to receive congratulations is a deep and dark mystery. He returned and tackled Jack Denning, who was suffering with a bum knuckle on his right hand. Mike was no more to "curley woff." He was lucky to last the ten rounds against the one-handed man. Then what does Denning do? He plays punching bag for Coffey.

So here's the size-up of these three—Gibbons beats Coffey, Coffey beats Denning, Denning beats Gibbons. Looks very much as if somebody or other pulled an Abe Attell.

Each of the trio has a peculiar little specialty all his own, as compared with the others. Gibbons has shiftiness—possibly it should be called cleverness, but not probably so; Coffey has a fairly-fair left in either arm; Denning can take lots of punishment. Each member of the trio is an unbalanced chap. Make a combination of them, with Denning's ruggedness, Coffey's wallop and Gibbons' shiftiness and you have an imitation of Ketchel, the last of the real middleweight cocks of the walk. The word imitation is used advisedly. No imitation is as good as the genuine, and this imitation is like all the rest. It wouldn't have the hitting power of the "Michigan Assassin." It wouldn't have his ability to assimilate punishment. It wouldn't have his wind and endurance, it wouldn't have his speed and footwork, it wouldn't have his brains and most of all, it wouldn't have his courage. Ketchel could show something just a little better in every department of the game. So much for the newcomers that have appeared before Gothamites recently.

Billy Papke, considered the logical successor to Ketchel's corner until his succession of defeats some time ago, beginning with Australia Dave Smith and ending with Salome Burke, seems to be doing for. During certain periods of Ketchel's career he met a real fighter when he encountered Papke, but at other times the "Illinois Thunderbolt" was as a kitten in his hands. Ketchel's work was always good, whereas Papke's was only occasionally good.

NEW YORK TO PURGE BOXING

Barring of Attell and Others Will Have Salutary Effect.

MONEY'S WORTH IS DEMANDED

The Status of Professional Boxing is in Precarious Condition at This Time in that State.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The action of the New York State Athletic Commission in barring Abe Attell and Danny Goodman from the boxing arena for a period of six months should have a salutary effect upon all those who cater to the ring-side clientele. It is a straight warning from the commission that the usual methods and procedure in favor with the leading boxers and their ilk will not be permitted in the future.

Now that it has been demonstrated that boxing is in charge of a body that does not fear to use the powers deposited to it by the state, a general improvement in the standard of the sport may be expected. There is no denying the fact that



Middleweights who would be eligible for an elimination tourney for the title vacated by the death of Stanley Ketchel over a year ago. On the left is Billy Papke of Kewanee, Ill., who has not been any too successful in proving his claim to the championship. Sallor Burke of New York (center), who defeated him in New York several months ago, would prove one of the strongest men in such a tournament, while Mike Gibbons of St. Paul (at the right) would also have a good chance of "copping," although he



Papke has often been accused of possessing the body of a lion and the heart of a lamb. However, he did not have anything to his credit that proved conclusively his right to the championship. Nevertheless, he essayed to circumnavigate the globe, billing himself as the one and only leader of the middleweights. It was during this tour that he first came to grief.

Johnny Thompson and Dave Smith both boxed him in Australia and Papke resorted to the excuse of blaming his poor showing on the antipodean climate. But when he got back on home

the state come demands for its repeal. The Frawley law was passed with the understanding that it was to permit boxing exhibitions before bona fide athletic clubs. Instead the law has been used to stage prize fights and to promote professional matches.

There is truth in both statements, and it behooves both the commission and those whom they are supposed to govern to observe both the letter and the spirit of the law if they expect boxing to continue under the sanction of the state. That it is popular with the public is proved by the receipts of more than \$250,000 in gate money in the first three months after the Frawley law. That it is better to permit boxing under the present law and a fearless commission rather than a return to the "club membership" plan of evading the code no one will deny.

COURSE AT MILLER PARK TO BE GREATLY CHANGED

The Miller park course of nine holes will be considerably improved upon this spring and Custodian Melvin will be a busy man as soon as the members of the club can get away on Saturday afternoon. Hole number one will be completely altered.

SCOUTS MUST HAVE KEEN EYE

Some Lack Perception in Estimating Young Material.

STOCK'S CASE IS IN MIND

He Was Picked from a Losing Nine, but Scout Noticed that He Always Knew What to Do with the Ball.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Sometimes it is a small matter which induces the scout for a major league team to recommend a base ball player to a major league manager. True the personality of the scout is likely to have something to do with it.

There are some major league players who the scout for the last two or three years who lack keen perception in estimating the possibilities of young players. The man who is doing his best in the minor leagues must do a very good best to convince the scout that he is worth having.

Probably that scout isn't worth so much as a scout as his employer thinks he is. It doesn't take sudden brainstorms nor a very discerning intelligence to tell first-class ball playing from second-class ball playing, even if it happens to be going on in a minor league circuit, so the scout who can see deeper than the surface is likely in the long run to be of more assistance to his major league club than the scout who can only pick out the player who is sure to finish on top in the minor league averages.

There is a young player who is to go to MacIn with the Giants this year who was recommended not so much on his ability as a member of the Fox du Lac base ball club, which finished at the bottom of the race of the Wisconsin-Illinois league in 1911, as for the reason that the man who took a look at him one afternoon happened to observe that Stock, the player in question, knew what to do with the ball when he had it.

All Players Are Not Stars. There are some major league players who to this day are not wholly sure on that score. They need a warning voice to tell them what to do when there is a quick move to be made. Frequently there is a pinch in a game when the observant ball player catches some unwary chap off third base instead of throwing the ball over to first, where everybody expected that it would be thrown. That one play might win a championship.

This scout, who had his eyes on Stock last season, discovered that one thing in which he excelled was handing the ball to the right man, and as he is young and was doing fairly well, in fact quite well with a talent club, he told the New York people that it would not be a bad idea to go after him on general principles.

Stock played in 119 games with the Fox du Lac club. He was at bat 647 times, made fifty-seven runs, 117 hits, stole twenty-eight bases and found himself the proud possessor of fourteen sacrifices and a batting average of .268. That's not so bad for a boy who is not out of school. In the field he had 211 putouts at shortstop, 575 assists and sixty-two errors. His fielding average was .967, which could be better without demanding too much of the doctor.

He may get an opportunity to play with the Giants this year. Players never know what is going to happen when they join the Giants for the spring training trip, but possibly he will have an opportunity to play with a better team than that with which he was connected in 1911, and if he shows any class as a ball player he is directly on the road to promotion in the New York club, for sooner or later McGraw will add him to the roster if the championship material is there.

DENVER PLAYERS SLOW TO SIGN CONTRACTS

But three members of the Denver 1912 team have sent in their signed contracts, and one of that number is Jack Hendricks, who will manage the team. Denver was among the first of the Western league clubs to send out its contracts and it is feared that a few holdouts will result this year.

Reider a Holdout.

Ira Reider, outfielder of the Pueblo club last year, is a holdout. Reider declared that he had declined to sign a Wichita contract because of a \$50 cut in his monthly salary.

MAT LEADERS TO WRESTLE

Mahmout and Westergaard to Have Bout at Auditorium Friday.

HOKUF AND WASSEM MATCHED

Local Heavy Men to Go to the Mat for a Finish—Gillan Presents Some Strong Preliminary Bouts.

Much interest is being taken in the wrestling match Friday night when Jess Westergaard and Yussif Mahmout, the big Turk, meet in a finish match at the Auditorium. The main preliminary between Oscar Wassem and Bill Hokuf, who will wrestle to a finish, is also attracting a lot of attention.

Mahmout has been seen in two finish matches in Omaha and is well known to the lovers of the mat game in this city. In 1910 he wrestled to a finish with Raoul de Rouen in which the latter won. Last fall Mahmout wrestled with Asbell, Frank Gotch's training partner. Mahmout won the match. Two weeks ago Mahmout appeared for a week at a local theater. He took on all comers and distinguished himself as some mat artist. The big Turk and his manager, Emil Klank, have been making all kinds of claims for the marvelous ability of the big wrestler and now the public will have an opportunity to see what the big fellow is able to do against a man of Westergaard's caliber.

There is no doubt but what the match will be pulled out on schedule time Friday night, and there will be no postponement as the contracts call for the principals to be in Omaha twenty-four hours before the time set for the match or forfeit a certain amount of money posted by each grappler.

Olympian Tryouts On Stanford Field

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 10.—Conceding the athletic track and field at Stanford university to be the fastest on the Pacific coast and one of the best in the United States, the committee of the Pacific Athletic association, which will have charge of the Olympian games tryouts, has recommended that they be held here. The date set for the competition to decide places on the team has been fixed as May 18. The officers are of the opinion that the athletes of the western states should have every possible chance to make records which would compare favorably with those of the aspirants for the team in the east and middle west. In deciding to recommend Stanford as the place for the tryouts the committee was of the opinion that any idea of making the tryouts provide funds for sending the team to Sweden should be given up and that the financial end should be handled in another manner. To assist in raising funds for the American team, however, it was decided that a big indoor meet be held at the Auditorium in San Francisco on February 21.

Omaha Golfers Are Stick Collectors

William Clark of the Field club is perhaps the foremost golfer in the city when it comes to a collection of clubs, possessing over 900 sticks. However, his active collection, or the number of clubs which he uses to trim other golfers, is twelve. One of his sticks has a history. It is a "half goose neck" putter and was given the Omaha golfer by Carnegie Clarke, who is now the open champion of Australia. The Omaha Clark has used the club on courses from Florida to California during the last five years and avers that it is the luckiest stick in Omaha.

J. W. Tillson is also a collector of sticks. The most interesting stick in the whole collection belongs to Mrs. Tillson. It is a Homewood putter with an extremely short handle of the model that is rapidly becoming antiquated among golfists all over the country. James H. Adams of the Field club has a public which is classed as one of the new Omaha "lucky sticks" and with which he would not part. He also has eighteen other clubs, including a driving iron he has used for six years.

Two of the Lightweights Who Won Out Lately



One-pound Hogan, on the left, and Tommy Murphy, the lightweights who were battled twenty rounds to a draw at San Francisco on January 31. Murphy, the son of Harlem, New York, was favored by many of the fans present to have deserved the victory, as he was the aggressor a little more than Hogan and was far the cleverer, although the Pacific coast boy had lots of steam behind his wallops when they did land.

HOW HE CURED HIS CATARRH

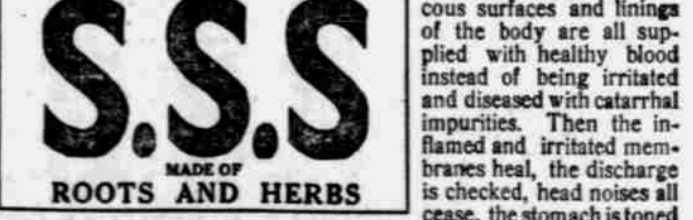
I had all the symptoms which accompany Catarrh, such as mucous dropping back into the throat, a constant desire to "hawk and spit," feeling of dryness in the throat, scabs forming in the nose, sometimes causing it to bleed and leaving me with a headache. I had thus suffered for five years, all the time trying different local treatments of inhalations, suns, douches, etc., with no real good effect. Of course I was greatly discouraged. As soon as I heard of S. S. S. I commenced its use as you advised and after using it a short while noticed a change for the better. I continued to take it believing the trouble was in the blood, and S. S. S. finally made a permanent cure for me.

JUDSON A. BELLAM, 224 Randolph St., Richmond, Va.

The symptoms Mr. Bellam describes in his case of Catarrh are familiar to everyone who suffers with this disease. For five years he had endured discomfort and suffering and was greatly discouraged as one treatment after another failed to cure him. When at last he realized that Catarrh is a blood disease, he knew that the former treatments had been wrong, and only a blood purifier like S. S. S. could produce permanent good results.

Catarrh comes from impurities accumulating in the circulation, and as the blood goes to every portion of the body the catarrhal matter irritates and inflames the different mucous surfaces and tissues causing an unhealthy and inflammatory discharge, and producing the other well known symptoms of the trouble.

S. S. S. cures Catarrh by cleansing the blood of all impure catarrhal matter, and at the same time building up the system by its unequalled tonic effects. It goes down into the circulation and removes every impurity. In other words S. S. S. cures Catarrh by purifying the blood so that the mucous surfaces and linings of the body are all supplied with healthy blood instead of being irritated and diseased with catarrhal impurities. Then the inflamed and irritated membranes heal, the discharge is checked, head noises all cease, the stomach is toned up, throat is no longer clogged with phlegm, but every annoying symptom is corrected. A special book on Catarrh and medical advice free to all who write.



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