

RENDEZVOUS IS TORN DOWN

Famous Wigwam Near San Francisco Being Dismantled.

HOME OF MANY PUGILISTS

Some of the Biggest Governors the Country Has Ever Known Received Much of Their Training There.

By W. W. NAUGHTON. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 28.—Who has not heard of Croli's Gardens, Alameda, in its day the most popular training camp for pugilists within a score of miles of San Francisco?

The place referred to had gone, however, before it was known as Croli's. It was called Neptune Gardens thirty years ago, and it was a favorite Sunday lounging place for people from the San Francisco side of the bay.

There were skating rinks, shooting galleries, dancing pavilion, and what not, attached to it in those years and not the least of its attractions was the well-known that was drawn in stables from a thousand kens. The Alameda folks resented the idea of catering to San Francisco's Sunday thirst and love of frivolity and by a vote, or church wardens or something, Neptune Gardens was doomed.

Down through the years the buildings and the fountains and the stately disappeared piecemeal and Croli took hold first in time to save a few stables and a garish structure, all peaks and angles, known as the Wigwam.

Revises Memories. A few days ago, a crew of carpenters was busy dismantling Wigwam and when the old line sports heard of the fact pugilistic memories of the long ago were revived.

Why, fight fans of several generations have crowded into that Wigwam from time to time to watch champion ring men prepare themselves for ring struggles that are famous in the history of the game.

By the same token, many of the stars of the boxing arena who trained in the Wigwam have passed to the beyond. Let me recall a few of the names. Jack Dempsey, Tommy Warren, Paddy Duffy, Peter Jackson, Joe Gans and Joe Dixon.

The writer was one of those who had old recollections called by the passing of the Wigwam. I saw Tommy Ryan train there for his match with Jack Havin of Boston at the California Athletic club a good quarter of a century ago.

Havin, I remember, had trouble with his weight. He was a protege of Tom O'Rourke, and it was necessary to keep him in the Turkish baths for several hours on the day of the bout. Poor Jack had nothing left but his pluck when he took the scratch and that did not save him from a merciless prodding.

Just as far back in the annals of time I saw Paddy Duffy of Boston train at the Wigwam for a go with Tom Meadows of Australia, one of the best writers the world ever saw.

A Peculiar Fellow. Meadows was a peculiar fellow. He knew a boxing ring as a billiard champion knows a green table, but there were odds of things he didn't know. He had to make weight for Duffy and he decided the best way to accelerate reduction was to starve himself.

One day over at Joe Diev's, where he trained, he boasted that all he had eaten in twenty-four hours was an apple.

"You'll be weak," someone remarked. "Don't you believe it," he answered. "If I can only make the weight I'll lick him sure."

The apple diet did for Meadows, who after a few rounds was too feeble to keep his arms up. Both Meadows and Duffy are dead now. I saw Mike Conley, the Kansas slant, fight Croli's for his match with big Joe McAuliffe, and I saw Peter Jackson train there for his bout with Jim Jeffries. Jackson was on the down grade then, although he was still as proud as Lucifer and resented any suggestion that he was scarcely the Peter of old.

At setting time up at the Olympic club Gene Yagocurt, a friend of Jeffries, grabbed Peter's hand and said: "Peter, Jeff told me to give you his best and tell you not to be downcast."

Jefferson snorted. "You tell Jeffries to mind himself," he retorted. "Just let him give me a return match and he will be the one that will be downcast."

Globe Girdling Ball Players Visit the Pope



The around-the-world Giants and White Sox posed in St. Demacius Court at the Vatican, Rome, after being received in audience by the Pope.

HATS OFF TO J. A. GILMORE

Rises from Obscurity to Biggest Figure in Base Ball.

PROMOTING THE FEDERALS

Noted Booster for New League Tells of Trials and Tribulations He Has Been Through.

By FRANK G. MENKE. NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—It seems to be "hats off" just now to James A. Gilmore, society and club man, cotton leader and happy-go-lucky, who in a trifle more than two months has risen from obscurity in the sporting world to be the biggest figure in base ball.

Gilmore's meteoric rise, in face of seemingly unsurmountable obstacles, not only has surprised and bewildered Organized Base Ball and the great army of fans throughout the land, but it has amused his life long friends in Chicago.

Gilmore is little more than a "kid." He's only 28 and never until he took charge of the Federals' fight, was he called upon to show the stuff that was in him—never before had he been pitted against real foes who could furnish him a real fight. True, he made a success in the coal and ventilating business in which he is engaged in Chicago, but in both these instances the business came to him without the necessity of a real struggle—without forcing Gilmore to call upon his wonderful diplomacy and his wonderful fighting spirit.

Toward the end of the 1912 season when the Federal league was in sore financial straits, one of the officials of the league called on Gilmore, explained that the organization was face to face with bankruptcy, but assured Gilmore that if someone could get back of the organization, interest capital and push things along, the league might amount to something in 1914.

Fan All His Life. Gilmore studied over the proposition. He has been a fan ever since he was a kid. Base ball afforded him one of his greatest pleasures. But the business end of the game was new to him. He looked the situation over from every angle and then, against the advice of his friends, who told him he was "crazy" to attempt a fight on the strongly entrenched forces of base ball, he gave his decision.

"I'll get back of the Federal league and make it a success," he said. He got back of it and pushed—pushed so hard that he has shoved the organization to the point where it stacks up right now as a more formidable foe of Organized Base Ball than was the American league when it made its fight on the lions, then the base ball power, about thirteen years ago.

"I knew that the first thing the league needed was men who had money," said Gilmore, in telling the story of the successful fight of the Federals.

"The first man I took my proposition to was Charles Weeghman, the Chicago restaurateur. I knew that he had tried several times to get 'hot' of a minor league franchise, but he had never succeeded. He spent a long time figuring it out and finally announced: 'I'll take the Chicago franchise and back the league to the limit of my bankroll.'"

Talks to Money. "Then I jumped over to St. Louis and talked with Otto Stifel, the millionaire brewer, who, like Weeghman, was an ardent fan, and who had yearnings to become a magnate. I outlined my plans for the Federal league, told him what I expected to do, and then, as a clincher, I told him that Weeghman was 'in' with me. That decided Stifel, and he agreed to take the St. Louis franchise."

"From there I jumped to Kansas City, and when it was learned there that such good business men as Stifel and Weeghman thought the Federal proposition good enough to invest in, I had little trouble interesting sufficient capital there. It was the same in Indianapolis and in Baltimore. The interesting of capital in Buffalo and Pittsburgh was not such an easy matter, but it finally was accomplished. There remained but one more club to complete our circuit, and, listening to the pleas of certain interests in Toronto, I decided to award a franchise to that city."

"But I made that decision only because it seemed that it would fall in my plans to put a team in Greater New York. I had secured an option of grounds, both in Brooklyn and New York City, but I couldn't get the necessary backing."

The latter part of January, I went to Toronto in an effort to straighten out affairs there. I didn't like the Toronto situation but the time for the opening of the season was drawing near and it seemed to be Toronto or nothing.

OMAHA PLAYERS SIGN AND ROURKE IS HAPPY

(Continued from Page One.)

turn out like Pat Ragon, to be world-beater. The main backstop, however, is yet to come. His arrival is not an uncertainty, because Cleveland promised the receiver to Rourke and that means Rourke will get him. And he will come with the added experience received on the training trip. Whoever the next man may be, he is now ready to sign, and will have to be on the road of the Western leaguers a bit when he arrives.

Ebelen Clesman, the clever little south-paw, closed up a gap Thursday when he signed up after some little procrastination. Clesman agreed to Rourke's terms and is ready to fight to the last ditch for the Omaha marines. Accompanying Clesman will be Clesman's brother, a right-handed twirler. Ebelen says his brother is some pitcher, and Rourke has agreed to give him a chance. If he should make good it will be another feather in Pa's hat. Here's hoping.

Look Like Winners. Ormsby and Brady from Wisconsin will be here, as will Stevenson from New Orleans. All three should prove to be winners. Stevens, who last year during the short period he was here showed that he was a comer, will be back. The school master should do good work for the Rourkes this coming year. Alexander, younger brother of the great Grover, has signed and may prove to be a good pitcher. That is doubtful, however, and not to be depended on. If he lives up to the expectations of Grover, who recommended him, he will be the star of the staff, but Pa is not so hopeful as all that. Then, of course, there is Hicks. As Hicks has been training with a prize fighter all winter, he should be in tip-top shape and should easily be able to return to his favorite pastime of fanning heavy sluggers.

Have Not Signed Yet. Of the old players, Kane and Justice have not signed, but both are through with Omaha and it makes little difference whether they return. Wallace has not been heard from all winter. Pa regrets that Wallace is not in, but it can't be helped. Although Wallace signed the register slip when the contract was made or somebody else did it for him, Rourke is not positive where Wallace is located. If he could find out definitely he would endeavor to get the youngster back. Wallace is probably unwilling to come to Omaha because of the unwelcome reception he received when he came here, a young and inexperienced player. It is regrettable that a young ball player should be so accorded in Omaha, where real sportsmanship is classed as a virtue.

The boys will congregate here in two weeks to start active training. Unless the snow plays havoc with the diamond, some practice games will be played before the end of March. By the time the season starts Omaha fans will have had sufficient opportunity to see just what kind of a team represents them this year, and from present indications it will be some team.

in suspending play—rule 74, section 3—it is provided that "time shall not be called by the umpire until the ball is held by the pitcher standing in his position," to which the committee has extended the pitcher's position to the batter. It was a difficult rule for umpires to enforce.

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How Star Pitcher Got Help from Mates in Winning Games

(Continued from Page One.)

him was "Reb" Russell of the White Sox. He was furnished with an average of 2.5 tallies per conflict and frequently had to deny his adversaries a run in order to pull through a winner. The Phillies did not hit heavily behind their star, Grover Cleveland Alexander, getting for him in each combat only a trifling more average of runs than the Sox supplied to Russell. When Nap Tucker twirled, the Superbas were not in the fence breaking class, though once they did make twenty hits behind him.

Van Greent got an average of 4.30 runs per game from the Naps; Al Demaree, an average of 5.99 from the Giants; Joe Wood, and average of 3.50 from the Red Sox; Eddie Plank, an average of 6.61 from the White Elephants, and Bert Humphries, an average of 6.66 from the Cubs. Of the ten star twirlers named, Alexander got the best support and Greg the worst, while Rucker had the most double plays behind him and Wood the fewest. These figures give further information on the subject:

Table with 4 columns: Club, Runs, Hits, Avg. D.P. Includes teams like Cubs, Athletics, Red Sox, etc.

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MAN WHO PUT MURPHY INTO AND OUT OF CUBS.

(Continued from Page One.)

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CHESS

Twenty opponents lined up to try their skill at chess against Frank J. Marshall, the United States champion, in his exhibition of simultaneous chess given before a large gathering at the West Side Young Men's Christian association in New York a few days ago.

Rules of Tournament—Contestants must reside in Nebraska or Iowa. Solutions must be mailed within two weeks after appearance of problem. Tourney consists of twenty-six problems and the contestants who solve the greatest number shall be declared winner.

Interested Reader: The problem in the issue of December 28 was a misprint, as the diagram shows only seven white pieces, while the problem calls for eight.

Solvers of Murray Marble's problem, who sent solutions after we had given our copy to the printer, are H. D. Laney, G. E. Cypher and W. R. Ellis.

Alechin of St. Petersburg and Niemoswitch of Riga emerged on even terms, each with a score of 13 1/2 points, from the Russian National Chess Masters' tournament, which has been in progress at the rooms of the St. Petersburg Chess club, with eighteen experts engaged.

The result is of interest to the western world, because the winner of first honors is entitled to enter the International Masters' congress to be opened in St. Petersburg on April 20, in which Marshall, Capablanca, Tarrasch, Rubinstein, Bernstein, Schlechter, Janowski, Blackburne, Burn, Gunsberg, Duras, Teichmann and Maroczy are to play. It will be necessary for Alechin and Niemoswitch to play off the tie.

The "Garden of Allah" company has come and gone, and none of the club's trophies are missing; neither does the scrap of any Arab grace an Omaha wigwam. The advance posters of the "Garden of Allah" pictured from fifteen to twenty sons of the desert in connection with the snow, and everyone anticipated great doings at the club. Harry Reed had reserved the smallest Arab for himself; Martin Sitera had engaged to play four or five simultaneously provided they spoke Esperanto; J. G. Fort had spoken the fiercest-looking of them all for his opponent, and everything was in readiness for a bloody conflict and no quarter.

It turns out, however, that not all Arabs are born chess players; moreover, that this particular gang had not been chosen for their skill at the royal game, but rather for their ability to manage a camel, and that of the entire number only one knew how to play chess—and he had been sent east before the company arrived in Omaha.

Following is the score of another game that Banks dropped during simultaneous play in Omaha. In the interest of brevity we have "called the game" after Banks made the fatal move. His opponent, Moore, is a new member of the club:

Chess board diagram showing White and Black pieces and their positions.

White to move and mate in three. Peppé a Holdout. Ashley Pope, the pitcher traded to Victoria by San Jose, is a hold-out. Ashley is bucking on a salary proposition.

Lajoie Delayed. Napoleon Lajoie will not be able to go south with the rest of the Naps on the special training trip by reason of his home being under quarantine, due to his wife having diphtheria.

How to Avoid Perils of Impure Blood. A Searching Internal Blood Bath Insures Proper Elimination of Causes of Most Ill Health.



As the Tub is to Outward Cleanliness, so is S. S. S. to Inward Purity. Whenever men gather together in city club or country place there is certain to be someone who knows what was accomplished by S. S. S. It is usually some stubborn case of an indolent blood eruption, or some skin affliction that long detained to a special school.

This means that impurities absorbed by the skin are checked and made harmless by secretions selected by nature to remove this peculiar service. It also means that the digestive system will soon adjust itself to temporary derangement by the innate power of elimination.

This is considered only fair, because often the scabrous and headless runner would have pushed headlong into an

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