

Bringing Up Father

Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



Judgments

WHILE the Western league salary limit has been reduced, in line with the practice in some other minor leagues, that affords no excuse for poorer teams than some of the brethren have had for the last two or three years. Already we hear of plans for increasing strength in Denver, Lincoln and Sioux City. McGill is quoted as saying that he is determined to restore the flag to the Colorado city and is scouting around for the strongest team he can get. He expects to have Jack Coffey back as short and as manager, Pittsburgh, as might be expected, having decided not to deter Jack. Coffey is a good player and a good fighter and this must be said in justice to him, that he was averse to going to Pittsburgh in the first place, expressing a preference for the managerial berth at Denver. Lincoln has laid hands on Matty McIntyre to guide its ship for 1915. The task, he as well as his critics realize, is a big one, calling for almost a brand new team. What has been done in this direction we cannot say at present, except that Mr. Bourke is said to be diligently on the lookout for the right material. If Tipple does not return to us—and there is small chance of it—we are left with the necessity of getting an entirely new staff of pitchers. Krueger and Seaburg were behind the bat when the season closed, Krueger filling in at right field with a faithful effort at doing his best. The team's success, of course, demands a new catcher. With Schilmer sold to Pittsburgh—a secret that finally leaked out—first is vacated and so, we might say, is every other infield position. Marty Krug, Joe Bell and Artie Thompson are on hand for the outfield, albeit Krug may be returned to second base. Chase and Wallace, both of whom have had chances and failed, are still retained as first and second basemen, but fans hope Krug, Joe Bell and Artie Thompson are class for these positions.

While Comiskey upset precedents in going to the minors—class B at that—for his new manager, let no one suppose that the Old Roman acted entirely on impulse or without knowing his mind. He has been watching Clarence H. Rowland produce winning teams and major league stars for several seasons. His employment of him to lead the White Sox, therefore, seems to be the result of long deliberation and by no means a plunge in the dark just for luck. Howland is 35 years of age, a very healthy, likable hand, and has turned into the first fast company such men as Vin Campbell, Yeach, Doyle and others. Comiskey figures that a man who can mould the corner lot boys into major league material ought to be able to handle that material after it is rounded off into finished form. The novelty of putting a class B man over such stars as Eddie Collins and a few others Comiskey will have in 1915 loses none of its attraction, however, because the new manager is a live one. There is this to it, South Side fans will be the first to discover the worth of Rowland and if he makes good with them, the rest is safe, for Comiskey is deterring to those loyal old supporters, who have followed him through so many losing battles, in disposing of Calahan and Kid Gleason and overturning almost his entire team.

Batting averages in the Western league go to show the uniformly inferior class of pitching more than the natural hitting for 1914, we believe. Thirty men closed the season hitting .300 and more. Thirty others batted from .260 to .285. That is a larger percentage than any other league can muster. The team averages run from .223 by Lincoln, last, up to .296 by Denver, first. The idea of a team averaging virtually .300 at the bat is amazing. Omaha came in fourth with a batting average of .273. The league, indeed, had some hard and consistent hitters, but in had on the whole the weakest line of pitching we have known for fifteen years. This is not our observation alone, it is the view of all who gave close attention to the progress of events last season. Omaha, to be sure, contributed its share and more to the sum total, or rather, the net remainder, of poor pitching and yet it was not a vast amount worse than the rest of them, with one or two exceptions.

Somebody suggested that the distance of the bleachers from the diamond is a big factor in the diminished crowds attending Rourke park for the last few seasons. Possibly, but we will lay to this, that a live, winning home team could be spotted with the naked eye at a much greater distance and would be without much thought of the proximity of seats and players.

Boston's hopes for continued supremacy rest, just now, on Johnny Evers' recovery. To which end Stallings and all are pulling for Johnny to act on his phy-

HAWAIIANS PLAY BASE BALL

Honolulu Boasts of Having a Dozen Regular Teams.

FOOD of the Sport and Play It Islanders of Every Nationality Are with All the Avidity of Regular Americans.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 26.—As an American possession, it is natural that the Hawaiians should have taken most kindly of all the Antipodean countries to our national game—base ball. They seem to have taken it with their Americanism, play it cleverly and have developed an army of "fans" which would do any American possession credit. Honolulu, the capital city of the group of islands, has a dozen regular teams, half of which can play as good stiff game of the best amateur variety. The mixed nationality of the inhabitants finds a genial blend in the delights of the game, and members of the English, German and French colonies alike play base ball with all the avidity of the born American. The true enthusiasts at the sport, outside the American-born contingent are the Chinese. They are an athletic-loving lot and play the game with much skill and thorough understanding of its fine points.

This the University of California team found when they made a visit to the Hawaiian Islands as the prize for winning the amateur championship of the Pacific coast. In the city of Honolulu alone they played with eight different clubs, which were considered by the athletic critics and authorities of the island competent to meet them, winning six of the nine games in which they participated. Their most successful opponents were the team of the Chinese Athletic union, made up entirely of full-blooded Chinese.

Many See First Game. Fifty-five hundred people saw the first game between the Chinese team of the boys from the Berkeley institution, which the Chinese players won by a score of 6 to 4. Lei Tan, leader of the Chinese team, who plays at shortstop, worked his players so well that they seemed the strongest in both attack and defense. So related were the Hawaiians over this victory that at second game played, a week later, over 7,000 people were on the grounds to watch the game, which went to ten innings.

With the score 5 to 5 at the end of the ninth, the Californians went to the bat, and by heavy hitting and clever base running, put two runs to their credit and apparently had the game "staked." But the Celestials had plenty of sand, for they came back at the Berkeley boys, and four players in a row, all under 20 years of age, piled up a slashing single, a three-bagger, a bunt and a two-bagger, and before the side was out had scored the three runs necessary to win, by a score of 8 to 7. The Chinese spectators came to the game prepared to see their fellow-countrymen win, and the successful team, when the winning run was scored, was greeted with a salvo of 20,000 firecrackers, as well as the cheers and other characteristic demonstrations of a true base ball "fan."

Captain Lei Tan of the victorious team is known in Honolulu as the "speed demon" and holds the Hawaiian record of 19 1/2 seconds in the 100-yard run, and the broad jump record for the islands of twenty-three feet. In the two games against the University of California he had twenty-four chances for put-outs and assisted playing at shortstop and at the second bag, and accepted every one of them. He visited his country both in 1912 and 1913, playing third base on the Honolulu Chinese team which toured the country.

FORD COUPELET AND SEDAN CARS ARE IN GOOD DEMAND

That the new Ford couplet and sedan will give a considerable boost to the Ford production toward the coveted 300,000 mark, is evidenced by the way in which automobile buyers all over the country are taking to them. The orders already placed prove the theory of the Ford sales department that there exists a large demand for cars of this type. Cars which possess all the ease and luxury of the expensive kind and at the same time the dependability and economy of the Ford. A large number of both the sedan and couplet have been sold to Omaha purchasers and it is expected that the local Ford average, which is unusually high, will be maintained by these new cars in comparison with any of the larger cities of the country.

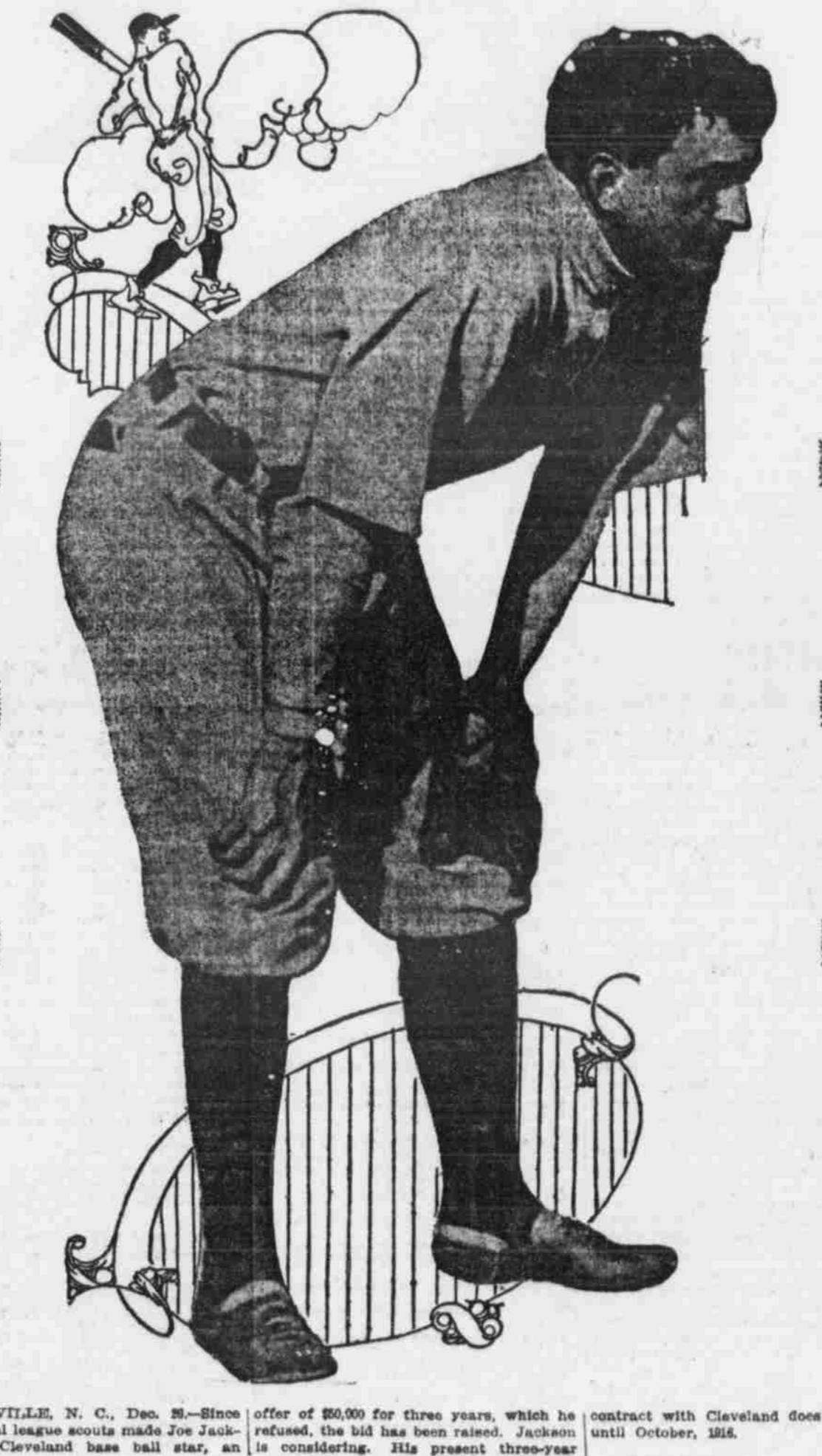
McClain's orders to spend the remainder of the winter, when he is able to travel, in a mild climate. Evers is more than ever the "keystone" man of the team.

The Federals, however, will gain prestige with the public in proportion as they refrain from the practices they condemn in Organized base ball.

Up to last accounts Walter Johnson still had his John Hancock on both contracts, waiting for the judge's decision.

Up to last accounts, "Wild" Bill Donovan was managing the reincarnated Highlanders. Don't know who is by now,

Federals Make High Offer to Cleveland Joe Jackson Star



GREENVILLE, N. C., Dec. 26.—Since the Federal league scouts made Joe Jackson, the Cleveland base ball star, an offer of \$50,000 for three years, which he refused, the bid has been raised. Jackson is considering. His present three-year contract with Cleveland does not expire until October, 1915.

MAY ABOLISH SOUTHERN TRIP

Major Leagues Are Retrenching Against Unnecessary Expense.

SPRING TRAINING AT HOME

Magnates Think that This Branch of Exercise Can Be Accomplished Much Cheaper at the North.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Southern training trips for ball clubs in class AA leagues and below are likely to be unusual occurrences in the future, instead of being the regular thing. A few years back they were just as common as the fact that the expense bill was running up into the thousands seemed to be forgotten. "To make a long story short, we came back to open the playing season and I guess we had one player who could be called 'in shape,' according to the manager of the team for ball players. I know that we did not have more than one player. Well, it cost us just \$5,000 for the jaunt which several of the players treated as a joy ride. When I come to think it over I regard that trip as a waste of \$5,000. In the major leagues the practice is all right, because there is often the opportunity to get the money back in exhibition games, which is not possible for minor leagues. Then, again, a major league club can easily make up the deficit for a trip such as ours, while minor league clubs cannot toss away such sums of money. Unless conditions change somewhat there will be several class AA and A clubs training next spring in their own ball yards. A club could have trained in Canada and come home almost as fit as my team was a year ago."

According to Jimmy Archer's friends, he was anxious to join the Federals, even going so far as to have lawyers look over his Chicago contract. His contract with the Cubs has another year to run, and he was told that it was binding. The Federal league agents, however, signed him to a Federal league contract for 1914.

Majors in Federal League Improve in Batting Averages

A comparison of the averages for 1914 and 1913 show that most of the major league players who jumped to the Federal league last winter or spring improved their hitting in the independent league over the figures earned while with the Organized Ball leagues. This is not true of all the players, several of whom entered a slump soon after joining the Federals. The following averages for 1914, as compared with the same players' hitting in the big league in 1913, tell the tale:

Player	Federal League	Amer. Major Leagues
Chase	.304	.287
Yerkes	.323	.287
Crandall	.312	.266
Laporte	.311	.283
Murphy	.311	.282
Oakes	.311	.285
Mullin	.306	.268
Hoffman	.301	.259
Wilson	.297	.280
Zinn	.297	.287
Gelder	.293	.248
Brudwell	.292	.263
Doolan	.286	.216
Harden	.286	.236
Brudwell	.284	.280
Knabe	.283	.263
M. Brown	.282	.264
Dolan	.282	.252
Suggs	.282	.272
Hendrik	.282	.272
Seaton	.282	.272
Falkenberg	.280	.259
Carmitta	.280	.259
Ford	.278	.243
Green	.278	.243

Chronicle Constipation Makes Life Miserable. Dr. King's New Life Pills regulate your bowels and relieve the engorged liver. See All drug-gists.—Advertisement.

Accident Out of Ordinary

As a contrast to the disappearance of No. 22 the accident to Gray Sloop, who started as No. 17, is rather out of the ordinary. In starting the race the riders, owing to the large field, were lined up five abreast and were sent off at intervals of one minute between each five. The writer's number was 18, and he was, therefore, placed in the same squad with Gray Sloop. During the few moments' interval, while waiting for the starting gun, Gray reached over and grasped my hand and wished me the best of luck. After the crack of the starter's gun I saw no more of Gray Sloop, and many times during the long race I wondered in what position he was riding. At the supply pits for oil and gasoline the attendants carefully kept the news of accidents from the riders, so it was not until the race was over that I saw Gray Sloop. No. 17, had given his last good wishes to No. 18, for on the second lap of the race he met his death.

Semi-Pro to Sox

Second basemen Charley Magnus of the Cincinnati Shamrocks has been offered an excellent contract for 1915 by the Chicago White Sox. With the contract came an order from Charlie Comiskey to report (February 1) in time to join the Sox on their training trip to California. Magnus will probably sign, though he is hesitating about giving up a good job in Chicago. He is a fast youngster and will have a fine chance to make good, if he decides to join the Sox.

Herzog Picks Loud Duds

The first thing Charley Herzog did after signing to manage the Reds again was to order a set of the handsoome sweaters ever seen in base ball. With their race over, the Reds promise to cause a sartorial sensation when they show up in the spring. Speaking of sartorial novelties, the Giants have decided to abandon their machine-woven sweaters and wear a coat style of sweater that is to be black trimmed in bright red.

RACER'S LIFE INTERESTING

Motorcycle Speed Boys Get Much Enjoyment from Game.

CHAPPLE HAS EXPERIENCES

Sometimes He Looked Into the Very Jaws of Death and Escaped Them by the Narrowest of Margins.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Like many other popular sports, motorcycle racing develops some interesting situations and anecdotes that never reach the knowledge and ears of the general public, says Arthur Chapple. During my experience of eight years in the racing game throughout the United States many little incidents have occurred which would bring both tears and laughter to those of a sentimental nature. The first thought of the average spectator at a motorcycle race meet is the dangerous character of the profession, and upon second thought one wonders why on earth the riders earn their living trying to end their existence. I am qualified to give some inside information on the dangers that confront a motorcycle speed merchant. In nine cases out of ten a rider's first smashup isn't very serious, and this leads him to the belief that the risk of fatal injury is greatly magnified.

High Speed an Advantage. Another element not apparent to the spectator is the fact that the high speed attained in racing is to a great extent an advantage in case of a bad fall. For instance, the velocity at the time of the fall will carry the rider through the air in a gliding motion, and, providing, of course, that there are no obstructions, he hardly is able to tell the exact moment he strikes. I have had some very bad falls, in which I have piled up on top of three other riders and their machines, but the only injuries received were a collection of slivers from the track and burns from the hot motors. To the spectator it looked as if we were all dead in a mass of jumbled machinery and fire, but I can honestly tell you that we were all busy trying to keep the motors from beating us to the running board of the track. There is very little time to shut off the motor in case of a fall, and the whirling rear wheel is a bad thing to try and hang on to.

There were several interesting incidents connected with the recent 300-mile road race at Savannah. One of them in particular was very amusing. During the latter part of the event, after a number of serious accidents had put many of the riders out of the race, it was suddenly discovered that No. 22 was missing, and had not passed the timers' stand for some time. Telephone messages around the course failed to reveal the whereabouts of No. 22, and there were immediate rumors that he had either hit a tree and was, perhaps, lying at the roadside unconscious, or had run off one of the numerous curves along the Tybee and perhaps had landed in the river and drowned. After a long search by couriers on motorcycle No. 22 was discovered in one of the many colored settlements that lined the course, eating a genuine southern dinner that the old colored "mammy" had cooked for him. After nearly four hours of constant racing at high speed No. 22 had acquired an appetite that all the prize money in the race could not satisfy.

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Only Fifteen of Nationals in .300 Class of Hitters

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A comparison of the official batting averages of the National league for the seasons of 1913 and 1914 develops some interesting and puzzling features. Notwithstanding this increase in the total number of batters enrolled in the records, but fifteen of the 1914 hitters hammered their way into the .300 or better ranks, while in 1913 the select list included twenty-three names. Cravath of the Philadelphia club hit .541 in 1913, and .389 in 1914. Viox of Pittsburgh dropped from .317 to .285; Zimmerman of Chicago, from .313 to .296; Lobert of Philadelphia, from .300 to .275; and Wagner of Pittsburgh, from .300 to .252. This was the first time since 1897 that Wagner dropped below .300, but this was not surprising in the case of Honus, for, like other batting heroes of the past, Wagner was at last forced to bow to the all-powerful arm of Fathes Time. For the period from 1897 to 1913, inclusive, Wagner had a grade average of .341. His highest mark was .390, made in 1900, and his lowest, .300, made in 1913. Another peculiar feature is that three of the .300 or better players who figured in the 1900 or better class for both seasons increased the averages, while all around them the heavy hitters were dropping below their last year's performance. Jake Daubert, the champion batter of the league for 1913 and 1914, fell from .350 to .320, but he was the exception to the general rule of the quartet. Beals Becker raised his 1913 average of .315 to .325; Zachary of St. Louis, from .300 to .305; by batting .319 in place of .301, and Sherwood Magee moved up from .295 to .314.

Wedding Gift Comes Late

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wood were surprised at Parker's Glen, Pa., by the arrival at the home of the bride, who was married in a solid silver tea set, a belated wedding present from Tris Speaker of Hubbard City, Tex., and of center fielder Harry Park, Boston. Speaker was with the around-the-world tourists last winter when his first wife, who was married in the big box which contained the colonial service was a little note to the effect that "he is better than never." The service is the work of a Boston silversmith.

Dreyfus Is Stabbed

When told by a Chicago scribe that President Dreyfus of the Pittsburgh National league club denied that Ketchey had jumped, President Gilmore took out Koney's contract and permitted the scribe to look over the genuine. Koney himself wrote to Pittsburgh scriber stating that he had jumped, yet Dreyfus insists that he has not.

Bagby to Brookfield

A New Orleans dispatch said: "From an authoritative Federal league source it was learned today that Pitcher Bagby of the Pelicans will sign a two-year contract with the Brooklyn Geds within the next few days. A scout left Brooklyn last night to visit Bagby in Florida and secure his signature to a contract."

EXPECTING NEW CHAMPION

Outlook in Boxing Circles is for a New Middleweight Star.

LIBERAL OFFERS ARE MADE

Promoters at New Orleans Are Encouraging Some Catchy Purse for the Boxing Element of the Country.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—It appears certain that 1914 will not see a middleweight champion, but there is every reason to believe that one will be elected early next year. Just at present Mike Gibbons and Jimmy Clabby are marking time, waiting for the holiday season to press before getting together. Word comes from New Orleans that this match is a fixture for that city. The newly organized Arena Athletic club with a large capital stock and financed by some of the leading business men of the city will stage the bout some time next February. The new club, built for the express purpose of holding championship fights, will seat 10,000 persons. It was erected at a cost of \$25,000 and within fifteen minutes' ride of the heart of the city.

Julius Gerson, a big wholesale merchant, is president of the club, J. H. Pearce, who owns a string of theaters, is vice president; Dominick Tortorico, prominent promoter, is secretary, and M. Michaelis, a well known sporting man, treasurer. It is said that the club, in order to forestall Tom McCarey, who threatens to break into the game at New Orleans, has made a liberal offer to the fighters and that they have practically accepted. New York will have reason to regret missing the big middleweight event if it proves to be as good as it looks on paper. However, it is perhaps better for boxing in general if it goes to the Crescent city, where twenty rounds and decisions are permitted. If held in New York it would mean that the boxers were out for the money only, and no definite result could be obtained here. In that case both men might be afraid to take chances and the result would be most disappointing. But with a decision at stake there will be no reason for stalling.

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Another element not apparent to the spectator is the fact that the high speed attained in racing is to a great extent an advantage in case of a bad fall. For instance, the velocity at the time of the fall will carry the rider through the air in a gliding motion, and, providing, of course, that there are no obstructions, he hardly is able to tell the exact moment he strikes. I have had some very bad falls, in which I have piled up on top of three other riders and their machines, but the only injuries received were a collection of slivers from the track and burns from the hot motors. To the spectator it looked as if we were all dead in a mass of jumbled machinery and fire, but I can honestly tell you that we were all busy trying to keep the motors from beating us to the running board of the track. There is very little time to shut off the motor in case of a fall, and the whirling rear wheel is a bad thing to try and hang on to.