

### TEXAS PROMOTER SLIPS ED SMITH NEAT TRIMMING

#### Ed Is Offered Five Hundred and Expenses to Referee Go in Houston, But Never Collects a Sou.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—There are mighty few men in the sports game any wiser or harder to bamboozle than Ed W. Smith, the veteran Chicago sports writer and referee. And that is what makes it all the harder to understand how this came to happen to Smith.

Smith's fame as a referee is by no means local, so when a promoter at Houston, Tex., lined up a wrestling match between Strangler Lewis and Wladek Zbyszko he sent for Ed to come and officiate. He promised Smith his transportation and \$500. "That looks good to me," soliloquized Ed. "I'll just take Mrs. Smith along, visit New Orleans and blow a part of that \$500 having a nice little outing."

Accordingly Ed arranged to take a week off, packed his grip and, with Mrs. Smith, boarded a southbound rattler.

Thus far all this looks regular, but here is where the sad part comes in. Smith neglected to get his transportation in advance and did not exact any guarantee from the promoter that this as referee would be paid. He just assumed that everything would be on the level and that he would get his money when the match was over.

For some reason Zbyszko declined to wrestle and Charley Cutler was substituted. The substitution apparently killed the show, for when the eager fans were all in and the money counted it was found that the gross receipts were about \$700. Lewis was guaranteed \$1,000 and demanded his money before he would go on the mat. The promoter would not come across and there was no wrestling bout.

#### Nary a Sou.

The wrestlers, of course, were left flat, but not nearly as flat as Smith, for they got a little expense money. Ed did not get a nickel, not even his transportation.

Ed proved he can absorb punishment, however, for he went through with his original program and treated himself and Mrs. Smith to a fine little tour of the sunny south. It will be some time, however, before he goes refereeing without seeing the color of the promoter's coin before he starts.

#### West to Be Treated.

Now that boxing has been interred in New York through the repeal of the Frawley law, fans who inhabit the region lying west of Harlem are expecting an opportunity to glimpse Benny Leonard and some more of the shining lights of pugilism in action. With the game pulled under them in Gotham, Western fans reason that the boxers will have nothing more profitable to do than to follow Horace Greely's advice and come west.

Fans of the western states do not criticize Leonard and the rest of the topnotchers for staying in New York and the extreme east while the easy money was available. Leonard undoubtedly has made more since he attained the crown by staying in or near New York than he could have made by barnstorming about the country, and the same is true of others of lesser note. Now that the game is deceased in Gotham, however, the fans toward the sunset side of the continent expect the champions and near champions to come their way.

With New York closed, Wisconsin looks like the best bet for the boxers, and some high-class bouts should be staged in Milwaukee, Racine and other Wisconsin boxing centers. The game there is conducted under sanction of law and is supervised by a very smooth-working boxing commission.

#### Chicago is Lucky.

The fight centers of Wisconsin are near enough to Chicago to draw considerable patronage from the Windy City. Chicago contributes its share to bouts held in Wisconsin as they are now, and with a better class of scraps would send more fans to the boxing shows of the Badger state.

There are also several cities in Ohio where boxing thrives and when the middle west is farmed out the Pacific coast invites those who care to dabble in the four-round game for the very liberal purses offered.

### Joe Finds Managing Wrestler is No Cinch

Joe Stecher has discovered that a successful wrestler does not always make a successful manager and has tired of trying to conduct his own business affairs, 'tis said in reports from Dodge.

Joe Coffey, veteran wrestling impresario of Chicago, who has been mixed up with mat affairs in the Windy City for many years, is said to be the man Stecher has chosen to become his manager.

After the Stecher-Plestina match in Omaha Labor day, Stecher and Joe Hetmanek, who had served as Stecher's business agent ever since Joe won the championship, parted, and Stecher announced he would handle his own business.

### CROWD OF 10,000 AIM FOR FUNSTON-DODGE GRID GAME

#### Omaha Committee Hopes to Add \$20,000 to Army Athletic Fund; to Improve Creighton Field.

A crowd of 10,000 and total receipts of \$20,000 is the aim of the Omaha committee making preparation for the foot ball clash between teams representing Camp Funston and Camp Dodge at Creighton field December 1.

The committee, headed by Vincent C. Hascall, is making extensive plans for this game. Creighton field will be almost completely remodeled. It is expected improvements to the field for this game alone will total more than \$1,000.

Seats are to be erected on all sides of the field. A huge grandstand seating 3,000 will be erected on the east side of the field and bleachers seating 1,000 each will be built on the north and south sides. Additional grandstand will be added to the stands on the west side of the field. The total seating capacity will be 9,000.

#### Commercial Lads Laugh at Proposed Post-Season Game

Commercial High players are disposed to ridicule Coach Stewart's suggestion that Omaha Central High play West Point for the state title.

#### Gun Club to Hold Big Turkey Shoot Sunday

The Omaha Gun club will hold its regular shoot on the grounds at the east end of the Douglas street bridge Sunday afternoon, the change being that this will be a turkey shoot for turkeys, geese and ducks. A scheme has been devised whereby new shooters will have a chance at the poultry.

#### Benny Leonard to Fight Kirk Before Denver Club

Denver, Colo., Nov. 17.—A permit for the boxing match between Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, and Sailor Kirk of Denver for Thanksgiving eve here was granted by Dewey C. Bailey, city manager of safety, despite several protests filed against the exhibition.

#### Mack Wheat Runs Indoor Base Ball Game at St. Joe

Mack Wheat, second string catcher of the Brooklyn Dodgers, has gone into "business" in St. Joseph, Mo., where he has opened an automatic base ball game for the winter.

#### Hal Chase Tries to Sell Oil Stock to His Friends

Hal Chase has interested himself in an oil venture in Kentucky and is trying to sell stock in the concern to his friends among the fans. He tells them there's millions in it.

#### East Goes Crazy Over Omaha Lad Playing on Newport Naval Eleven

Jimmy Gardiner, former Omaha high school and Nebraska university foot ball player, is being called "one of the best line plungers the game ever knew" in the east where Jimmy, now in the service of Uncle Sam, is playing fullback on Cupid Black's Newport training school eleven.

### SPORT TO RESUME NORMAL LEVEL IN ANOTHER SEASON

#### Panicky Feeling Which Followed Declaration of War Expected to Be Relieved Within the Year.

By JACK VEIOCK.  
New York, Nov. 17.—After a year of war, if peace does not come before that time, the United States should drift back to its normal level as a lover of sports.

This is the opinion of a good many men well up in different branches of sports, particularly base ball.

When the realization of what war really meant dawned on the people of these great United States of ours there was a tendency toward that panicky feeling which comes with the knowledge of a big undertaking and its cost.

People everywhere were inclined to lean toward retrenchments up and down the line. Manipulators boosted prices in nearly every direction and a good many folks predicted that sports, particularly professional sports, were doomed to take an indefinite rest.

But a returned confidence is already felt up and down the sports Riado. Base ball men in the major leagues have agreed that a discontinuance of the great national pastime is not demanded, and they are planning to go ahead just as they have for the last 15 or 20 years, governing their activities according to the conditions under which they will have to operate.

#### Majors Must Continue.

Base ball in the major leagues must be kept alive, they say, and since government officials, from President Wilson down, have recommended a continuance in the various branches of sports, they feel that they have the government behind them.

An instance which illustrates the panicky condition brought about when war was declared can be found in the action of many colleges in calling off foot ball schedules and deciding to discontinue all varsity sports. Yet the colleges came back to foot ball this fall, and they are going to carry on sports, only along a greater line than ever before. It is sports for all now, instead of sports for a highly developed few.

In Canada, shortly after England entered the war in 1914, sports suffered for a time. But within a year they came back as strong as ever, and Toronto furnishes several illustrations of this fact.

Toronto was the best paying town in the international league this year, and a sports writer from the big Canadian city recently offered the information that sports are just as lively in all branches now as they were before the war commenced and this despite the fact that between 50,000 and 75,000 of the flower of Toronto's young manhood has crossed the water to fight with the English and thousands of other Canadians in France.

#### Omaha Gun Club Seeks New Quarters; May Buy

The Omaha Gun club must seek new quarters.

#### Illinois-Bred Pacer Has Earmarks of Real Winner

The Illinois bred pacer, Directum J., which this season took a record of 2:05 1/2 and then was sold to one of Tom Murphy's patrons, looks like one of the best things in sight for the 1918 campaign, as Murphy worked him in 2:02 1/2 during the Lexington meeting the last fall in 1:00. Murphy tries all additions to his string to their limit before naming them in important events, and it is seldom he has one finish back of the money.

#### Buckeye Husky Wrestles Marin Plestina—Flowers

Marin Plestina, Omaha wrestler, had a match at Canton, O., the other night. Herman Gessler of Akron, O., was the victim. The Omaha grappler toppled Gessler over in 24 minutes for the first trip and 25 minutes the second time.

#### Townsend Quintet Opens Season With Bennington

The Townsend basket ball five of Omaha opens its season Tuesday when Manager Don Moore leads his quintet to Bennington for a game with the team at that point.

#### East Goes Crazy Over Omaha Lad Playing on Newport Naval Eleven

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### Zbyszko As He Looked for Few Minutes He Wore Khaki



WALDECK ZBYSZKO. ©INTL

### That's All, Sherlock; Reason for Husker Defeat at Michigan Is Out

#### Two Explanations Tell Why Stewart's Men Were Walloped at Ann Arbor, Although There Is a Suspicion the Wolverine Eleven and One Hurrury Yost May Have Had Something to Do With It.

Two explanations for the defeat of the Cornhuskers in that fatal game with Michigan on Ferry field at Ann Arbor have come to Omaha gridiron fans.

William B. Young of Omaha, actuary of the North American Life Insurance company, saw the game at Ann Arbor. Young is a Michigan grad, but when he left for Ann Arbor he fully expected to see his alma mater go down to defeat.

#### OMAHA GRAPPLER DISTURBS QUIET OF CHI MAT MEN

Marin Plestina Violates All Rules of Windy City Wrestling by Offering to Meet Anybody.

Marin Plestina, Omaha heavyweight wrestler, is disturbing the peace and calm of Chicago wrestling circles.

#### Diplomatic John McGraw Wishes Hug Well in N. Y.

John McGraw, diplomatic and courteous, paid Miller Huggins some fine compliments upon the latter's appointment as manager of the Yankees.

#### Iowa Supplies Ambulance Unit With Gridiron Suits

The University of Iowa has supplied its ambulance unit in the training camp at Allentown, Pa., with foot ball uniforms and other athletic equipment.

#### Dave Shean May Be Held As Matty's Lieutenant

All major clubs have waived on Dave Shean, but he may still stick around the big show. The latest report from Cincinnati is that he is to be made a sort of assistant manager to Christy Mathewson.

#### Old-Time Diamond Star Breaks Into Racing Game

Mike Mitchell, former outfielder with the Cincinnati Reds and elsewhere, is a bookmaker at the Latonia track, near Cincinnati. He always did have a weakness for horse racing and finally got in the inside of that game.

### CADDOCK TO MEET ZBYSZKO; MATCH WILL BE IN OMAHA AS SOON AS EARL IS WELL

#### Carl Marfisi Completes Negotiations for Championship Bout; Will be Caddock's First Important Start Since He Acquired Title; Date Still Undecided Owing to Champion's Illness.

Eari Caddock, world's champion wrestler, will wrestle his first big match since he won the title from Joe Stecher here last April, in Omaha.

Arrangements have been completed by Carl Marfisi, well known Omaha sportsman, for a match between Earl Caddock and Wladek Zbyszko, to be held in the city. The date of the bout will be selected as soon as Caddock's physical condition justifies his participation in a titular clash.

### BIG ELEVENS TO REST THIS WEEK

#### No Games for Nebraska and Creighton This Week; High School Conflicts Only Are Scheduled.

Nebraska and Omaha foot ball fans must content themselves with high school foot ball this week. No university or college games are carded.

The Cornhuskers spend this week in rest before tackling the powerful Syracuse eleven Thanksgiving. Creighton also takes a rest before clashing with Wyoming university on turkey day.

#### Wilbur Cooper Makes Neat Record With Pirate Crew

Just how good a pitcher Wilbur Cooper of the Pirates is is illustrated by the fact that the star of the Smoky City team's staff turned in seventeen victories this year.

#### Hempstead Favors Earlier Start and Earlier Finish

President Harry Hempstead of the New York Nationals is said to favor the 140-game schedule, but he wants an early start and an early closing.

#### Tigers and Giants May Play in Spring, After All

Though it was announced from Detroit that there would be no exhibition series next spring between the Tigers and Giants, such as was played last spring, it seems that John McGraw, now that Comiskey has decided not to play, wants to tackle the Tigers again, and a series may yet be arranged.

#### Benny Kauff Is Slicker; Referees Grid Battle

National commission rulings may prevent Benny Kauff and his teammates from cavorting on base ball diamonds after the close of the season, but Benny is one of the resourceful ones. He is acting as a referee or umpire or something like that with a professional foot ball team in Ohio and his fame as a ball player is proving a good boost for attendance at the foot ball games.

#### Johnny Tillman to Give Share of Purse to Red Cross

Johnny Tillman, the Philadelphia boxer, is the originator of a scheme to help out Uncle Sam through boxers might copy with credit. Tillman is the sole support of a widowed mother and sisters. For this reason he cannot get into the big fight himself. Visiting the Philadelphia office of the American Red Cross the other day, he pledged himself to contribute to the organization 5 per cent of every purse he receives during the continuation of the war.

#### Cooper Passes Up South To Sell Life Insurance

Southpaw Wilbur Cooper of the Pirates is making his home in Pittsburgh this winter and is selling insurance. Last winter he spent his time in Florida and expected to go south again this winter, but the offer made him by an insurance company was so good he decided to take it and he is said to be making good at the new game.

#### Hoblitzel Takes Place of Brother at Dentist's Chair

First Baseman Dick Hoblitzel's brother, who was a dentist in Cincinnati, joined the United States army, and Dick has taken over his practice, thus disposing of the report that Dick himself would go into the army.

#### Thanksgiving Rifle Shoot Expected to Break Records

Entries for the annual Thanksgiving turkey handicap shoot, to be staged on the East Omaha range next Sunday by the Omaha Rifle club, will break all records, according to officers of that organization. More than 40 marksman have signed up to participate. A number of interesting events have been planned according to Secretary E. Ray Allen.

### News Notes of Interest to Western League Fans

The latest Western league gossip is that Frank Isbell, disappointed at his Wichita venture, will become Jack Holland's partner at St. Joseph. Izzy would manage the team and Holland take care of the finances. Holland's return to St. Joseph is practically a cinch as Jack has announced he will stick to the Mizzou village despite his seeming unpopularity there.

Tex Jones, veteran first sacker, is a prospective purchaser of the Wichita franchise, report says. Jones recently became little short of a millionaire owing to fortunate ventures in oil. Wichita is his home town so the chances are there is an element of truth to the report. Jones recently bought \$10,000 worth of Liberty bonds, which is going some for a ball player.

The Central association has a grouse against the Western. Be it remembered, the Central aviated in the middle of the summer. Western league clubs signed a few of the Central stars. Des Moines, for instance, got Payne, Higgins, Shanley and Murphy. Now Des Moines has reserved these players. So has the Central association. President Ford of the latter league believes the Western should pay for these athletes if it intends to keep them. The Western, having obtained them for nothing, is disinclined to see the justice of this view.

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