



THE WORLD OF SPORT

With the disbanding of Parson Davies' "Wicklow Postman" company John L. Sullivan bade farewell to the stage. For the past six months the ex-champion, in every section of the country, has enlivened each performance with a three-round bout with Paddy Ryan, after the falling of the curtain on the play proper. Five nights out of six, however, the ex-champion of the world has been so much under the influence of liquor that the bout has been little more than a farce, calculated to bring out groans, hisses and ironical ejaculations from the audience rather than applause. Between high eating, high drinking and lack of exercise, the "big man" has taken on flesh to such an extent that he now finds it necessary to abandon even his apology for boxing. What he will now do for a living he does not himself know, nor do any of his erstwhile associates. Financially as well as physically, he is "dead broke." There has been some talk of setting him up in the saloon business in Chicago, but so far it has not taken on any definite shape.

The Louisville '96 Meet Club expects to eclipse all former L. A. W. national meets with the one to be held there in August. Preparations are being made to take care of the crowds of spectators that will throng Fountain Ferry track during the races. Prizes valued at \$3,000 will be given to the winners of the races. On the first day \$300 will be given in merchandise to amateurs and \$538 in cash or official medals to professionals. On the second day \$270 will go to the amateur and \$609 to professionals. On the third day \$310 will go to amateurs and \$586 to professionals. Only medals cast from L. A. W. dies can be offered as prizes. The program of races will not be changed, but two or three match races may be added, and it is possible an invitation race may be arranged, open to Sanger, Cooper, Bald, Hamilton, Johnson and one or two others. Prizes in such a race would be \$500 or more.

The club of wheelmen that will go to Louisville from Omaha this year will begin the work of advertising Omaha for the national meet two years from now. About forty wheelmen will be in attendance from Omaha and they will no doubt start the wheel rolling in the right direction. With the Trans-Mississippi exposition, the state fair and the L. A. W. national meet, to say nothing of the horse racing and baseball, Omaha will be "right in line" in '98. It is not probable that Lincoln will be represented at the races this year.

Great interest is centered in the big Springfield, Ill., race meet to be held July 3 and 4 at Washington park under the auspices of the Illinois Cycling club. F. G. Barnett, who holds the two-mile competitive world's record, has sent in entries for the principal professional events. Among the features of the meet will be an amateur two-mile handicap tandem race, sextuple race of one mile and a quarter, and exhibition contests between fast pacing and trotting horses and professional bicycle riders. Lee Richardson has been engaged and will give exhibitions each afternoon in trick and fancy riding.

Derby day has come and gone, and Prince Lief is king. Byron McClelland's chestnut colt won the national derby last Saturday in record-breaking time from a field of the best three-year-olds on the turf. Fully 25,000 people saw the performance and it took nineteen bookmakers to handle the

money on the races. Prince Lief finished in 2:34, with Ben Brush a close second, closely followed by Ben Elder, Ramire, Don Carile, Argentina and Captive in the order named. The prizes were \$15,000, \$2,500, \$1,500, \$1,000. The name "derby" as applied to a horse originated in England, and was used in honor of the Earl of Derby, one of the first patrons of the sport in the old country.

"We will show you races on a track that already has a credit of twenty-two world's records; we will show you not only the biggest, but the best field of racing men ever gathered together in the west; we will show you runs and roads that cannot be excelled anywhere; we will give you a series of entertainments that will make you remember Peoria, as it is remembered by thousands today," etc., etc. All this at the Peoria meet, June 25, 26, 27. This will be the thirteenth annual meet of the Illinois division and two of these dates are taken up by the national circuit races. From all appearances it will be a great meet.

Harley P. Davidson, who created a new record for the unpaced competition quarter-mile by riding the distance in twenty-six and three-fifths seconds at Rochester, is one of the best short-distance men on the American tracks. He is a Canadian and a member of the Royal Cycling club of Toronto. He has been prominent since 1894, when he began to establish records, many of which still stand to his credit. The best of his racing has been done in the United States, though he holds more Canadian records in both A and B classes than any other rider. Davidson is not a sprinter alone. He has some distance records to his credit, and all around is one of the fleetest, nerviest riders on the path. Davidson's first appearance in the record list is at the quarter-mile distance, for which he established the class A standing unpaced record in 0:28 1-5 at Waltham in September, 1894. In the Canadian distance riding he holds the records from six miles, which he rode in 14:26, to twenty-two miles in 54:21 2-5. Davidson will probably soon join the national circuit and will rank up with the best of the circuit riders.

It is no longer a secret that A. J. Balfour, M. P., has accepted the presidency of the National Cyclists' union. The right honorable gentleman has been in correspondence with the general committee on the subject, and, although at first disinclined to accept the position, fearing that he would not be able to devote the necessary time to it, he ultimately acceded to the request of the committee. His name will come before the next council meeting for formal ratification.

It is said that Bruno Faulhaber, who is entered in the Pullman road race July 4, will be made a professional before that date. If this is done Faul-

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