

## HORSEMEN TALK OVER MILE TRACK

Will the Legislature Make Necessary Appropriation for Them?

### COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED.

Meeting Held During the Week at Which the Matter Was Discussed By Horsemen.

During the week there was a concerted action on the part of a number of local horsemen toward securing a mile track at Agricultural park, and it really means that the first step toward preparing Salt Lake for a berth in the new western circuit, has been taken. That is something the horsemen have had their hearts set upon for many months, and when word came from Fittie to the effect that the circuit was now practically a reality, the horsemen decided it was time to act. As stated by this paper last Saturday, the mile track proposition is the only material difficulty for the horsemen to surmount in securing a place on the circuit. Horsemen throughout the northern circuit have been eager every summer to bring their animals down here but they have unanimously clamored for a mile track. This week the following named horsemen met and discussed the matter: Mayor Thompson, H. C. Lynch, Hal Brown, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Shores, R. McKenzie, Walter Wildman and Mr. Forsythe.

And besides these, there are many others who are deeply interested in the scheme and may be counted upon to render all the assistance possible to the furtherance of the project.

It is now known for a certainty that the directors of the D. A. & M. society are heartily in favor of building a mile track, and are agreed by this paper last week, if the appropriation asked for is made, the track will be built as quickly as possible. It is understood that, in addition to the work of the horsemen, members of the society are using their influence with legislators to make a liberal appropriation for the purpose of constructing the track so badly needed. The horsemen and directors of the fair will act together in the matter. A committee, composed of the following, was appointed to meet with some of the fair officials and present the matter to the committee on appropriations: Dr. Stewart, J. C. Lynch and Hal Brown. The horsemen propose to work hard for the measure, and it may be expected that within a few days, it will be up to the Legislature.

### LAFONTISE AND CLIFFORD.

Meeting Between the Two Not Likely To Take Place.

It is not likely that a contest between Mose Lafontise and Jack Clifford will be arranged. The former has been hot on the latter's trail ever since Jack left the city for Montana. Lafontise has been trying very hard to clinch a match with Jack and has even posted a forfeit of \$100 to meet the champion of former Champion Wade. Mose would like Clifford to agree to meet him, weigh in at 140 pounds, but Jack would be all kinds of a greenhorn to do so, and he realizes that fact as well as does anybody else. Clifford fights at 135 and to meet Mose on those terms would be giving away seven pounds to one of the hardest men in the country. Clifford meets Lafontise's proposition with a counter offer to meet him if he will come down to 135, but of course Jack knows that Mose could not make that weight and be strong.

### BOWLING CONTESTS.

Harmonie Crowd Pushing the Brunswick People for Honors.

The race for the championship in the league bowling contests now going on in the city, assumed a most interesting stage during the week when the Harmonie team took the lead. Brunswick, into camp and tied them for first honors. It is the first time during the present series that the lower State street team has been able to drag the leaders down a peg, but they did it in the right style and they have given other teams notice that they were in the race to win the championship if possible. But the Harmonie crowd is not the only team in the league which shows improvement. The fact is, they are all improving wonderfully and it is this fact that makes the contests more interesting as the close of the series draws near.

### MCKENZIE GETS TOMBSTONE.

Favorite Local Horse Will Again Appear on Local Track.

Tombstone, a speedy animal well known here, will undoubtedly appear on a local track next summer. Mr. R. McKenzie sold the animal to parties in Denver some time ago, and recently Mr. McKenzie learned that the horse was for sale again. When the sale came off an agent for McKenzie was present and purchased the horse back. It is the intention of the owner to fit the horse for the track again and enter him in local harness events. On Decoration day four or five of the fastest horses in the city will be run in a match race and McKenzie will try to have Tombstone entered for the event. The horse has many admirers here as at one time he was regarded as being the fastest horse in the city. At California park he established a mile record of 2:15 1/2, and although the record was made about four years ago, it still stands. The horse will be brought from Denver immediately.

### COULD MAKE WEIGHT.

George Dawson Says Fitzsimmons Could Make Middleweight Limit.

George Dawson, the boxing instructor of the Chicago Athletic association, who has trained Bob Fitzsimmons for his last three fights, confirms the Cornishman's claim that he can reach the middleweight limit. Dawson says Fitzsimmons is actually a middleweight. "When he fought Jeffries last July Fitzsimmons weighed 145 pounds," said Dawson today. "When he began training for the fight he did not weigh over 135 pounds, and he reduced slowly and easily. He could have fought lower, but 140 pounds was his best natural fighting notch."

"The lowest weight Fitzsimmons ever made while fighting under my training was when he met Rublin at New York in 1900. Before that fight he weighed only 155 pounds. It was not his best weight, however. He was just getting back into the game after a long rest, and was not quite sure of himself. He seemed to worry a great deal about the fight, and this kept him down."

"After he whipped Rublin all his confidence came back, and when he fought Sharkey, less than two weeks later, he was in prime shape and weighed 160 pounds. As to what he has weighed for other fights I have no knowledge. Unless he has grown suddenly larger since the fight with Jeffries last summer I think he can do the middleweight limit without difficulty. I certainly think he can make 160 pounds and be at his best."



FANCY BAG PUNCHING.

The above cut shows Prof. Walter H. Orr, who, undoubtedly, has claim on the title of champion fancy bag puncher of the world. Orr has met and defeated all the alleged champions who have been willing to enter a contest with him. Besides being remarkably clever with the bags, he is somewhat of an inventor. The drum-shaped platform from which the bag is suspended, is called the "musical drum." By the arrangement of wires and bells on the upper side of the "drum" he manages to get a few bars of rag-time out of it. He does this by punching the bag so that it comes in contact with portions of the platform immediately beneath the wires and bells. Orr has given several exhibitions of his work to the newspaper men and to pupils of his gymnasium.



KNEE-PUNCHING FEAT.

This cut shows Prof. Orr performing on what is called the "floor platform." The platform is drum shaped but it is fastened to the floor and is trimmed with flags and bunting and varied colored electric lights. The bag is fastened into a swivel by a spring but the performer has to be very fast in his work in order to keep the bag in motion. When going at full speed it presents a novel and interesting sight. Besides these two platforms, he has an electrical storm scene, and bags constructed for foot work and for the knees, two of which he keeps going at the same time.

### TO COMPETE ABROAD.



MISS ANTHONY AND MISS HECKER.

Miss Genevieve Hecker, champion woman golfer of the United States, announces her intention to compete abroad next summer for the championship of Great Britain. The above snapshot shows Miss Hecker and Miss Anthony, America's two best woman golfers.

## CORBETT TO CLAIM CHAMPIONSHIP

If Jeffries Refuses to Accept the Fort Erie Club Offer.

### THEY ARE LIKELY TO FIGHT

Champion Claims He is Anxious to Fight a Finish Fight with Jim At Carson City.

After Jim Corbett and James J. Jeffries get through jabbering about terms, they are likely to come together and accept the offer of the Fort Erie club for \$25,000 and then fight it out. For many months the former has been challenging the latter. While Jeff and Fitz were in Salt Lake recently, the champion said that just as soon as they got east he would accept Corbett's challenge. Instead of doing so, he has met Corbett with a counter proposition—he wants to fight to a finish. Jeffries friends think Corbett should jump at the opportunity. But there are two sides to the question. In the first place, Jeffries did not win the title in a finish fight, and in the second place he should be willing to give Corbett the same chance as he gave Fitzsimmons.

When Jeff was in Denver that was his constant complaint. He would say: "I want to have a finish fight so they can't say I won the title at one of those pink tea affairs. If I fight one battle to a finish I will be all right and there will not be a dot on my record. As matters stand now I never fought a finish fight in my life."

While all that may be true still, many ring followers are wondering if the champion is not afraid to meet Corbett under the same conditions as he (Jeff) won the title from Fitzsimmons. "Jeffries simply cannot avoid meeting me this time. The offer of the Fort Erie club is too big for him to turn down," says Corbett. "He thinks he can lick me, and if he can he will make a lot of money, for I won't split the purse with him, like he has had to do in all of his fights. I will sign an agreement for the winner to take 75 per cent of the purse. That ought to satisfy him. If I lose I don't want any of the money. The 25 per cent would just about cover my expenses."

"What I want is a chance to fight him under any old conditions. I have \$2,500 scribbled money up with Al Smith already, and I will make it \$5,000 any time he wants to put up a like amount. His talk about betting me \$10,000 on the side is nonsense, for he could take that money and lay it off so as to be able to pay me for the fight. He is an odds-on favorite in the betting should we get together."

"I do not see how he can avoid meeting me. He must fight some one, and there is no one who has a better right than me to look for a chance. He has whipped all of the other heavyweights two times each, and there is no one left for him to take on."

"If he means to fight at all he must fight now. Everything he wants he can have, if he does not accept the chance I will claim the championship, as I will have a right to."

"What excuse can he have for not meeting me? A champion must defend the title, and if he does not do so he is not the champion, he is a pretender. I feel that I can whip him now, and I think he feels it, too. I am going to force him to get into the ring with me if I can, and I do not see why he should turn down this offer of the International Athletic club. Their deposit of \$1,000 shows that they mean business, and no matter how long he would hold off no one would offer a larger sum."

"There has never been but one fight for \$25,000 or more—the one between Sharkey and myself—and even Jeffries cannot turn up his nose at that amount. 'Any time will suit me. I am ready to go on tomorrow. I believe I will get a chance at the title this time. Jeffries will either have to fight or get out. I want him to fight.'"

### CHOYNISKI'S TEMPTATION.

"I have never been a party to a fake fight in the 13 years that I have been before the public as a boxer," said Joe Choyniski the other day. "The last time I met Jim Hall I was offered \$3,500 to lay down three crisp \$1,000 bills and one \$500 bill was placed in my hands on the night of the bout to allow Hall to win. I was told that my share, even if I won, would be only a trifle over \$50, but I threw the money aside and declared myself that I would win if it were possible. I knocked out Hall and left the ring with a clear conscience."

"They say that I had an understanding with Fitzsimmons when I nearly knocked him out in London. I didn't meet Fitzsimmons before the bout and there was no understanding whatever. 'I remember when I knocked out Jim Hall in New York before the Maspeth club in 1896, there was some talk that Hall laid down. Connolly can tell you whether that fight was a fake or not. He was back of Hall, and I'll bet Jim never took a harder punching in his ring career than he did that night. In the early part of the contest I was bleeding profusely, and to the crowd it probably appeared that I was outclassed, as many of the spectators were yelling to have the bout stopped. I was not getting at Hall's head or face with my blows, but I was driving in some wicked punches on his body, and this draining on Hall's side finally weakened him and I knocked him out in the thirteenth round.'"

### WHEN BOXING STOPPED.

Ed O'Malley, the Chicago fistic authority, has made a canvass of the fight promoters and the scappers, and discovers the following changes of vocation of the Windy City fistiana: Sid Hart—Back to the bucket, paste and three-sheet posters. Young Mowatt—Me to the ding-a-ling-a-ling and punching holes in transfers.

Jim Driscoll—Under a spreading chestnut tree for me, as usual. Jack Root—Think of taking to the vaudeville in a musical knockabout turn. Abe Jacobs will be my backer. Charley Essig—Am sick and tired of the fight game and intend to study the art of handicapping horses. They say it can be learned with close study and patience. Oh, what packages of joy would come to me if I could pick only a few winners.

Tom Hanlon—Back to the fiddle with me. There is room for an Irish virtuoso in America—in fact, it is the chance of my life. I intend to write a fantasia on "Casey the Piper" and dedicate it to my friend Smiley. I could not resist the temptation. Have on the anvil my first attempt entitled "Lou Lou! I Love You, Lou!"

Harry Stout—No matter how painful it is, I intend to go to work.

Mike Schreck—Back to Cincy and a living death.

Sammy Phillips—Will juggle fruit on street corners and sing any song that attempts to get familiar with the monkey fruit.

Don Donnelly—It's an ill wind that

Licks no one good. I shall go back to my old profession of piano moving. Buck Montgomery—Me with a silk hat and brass buttons in the forefront of aristocracy. Otto Siefert—Back with me to putting curves on pretzels. Charles Peterson—Will become a modisto. Billy Rotchford—Me to the old men's home.

### SHARKEY AND CHAMPIONS.

Says Jeffries Could Have Whipped John L. Sullivan.

While Tom Sharkey was at French Lick Springs, Ind., W. H. Blodgett asked him:

"Sharkey, whom do you consider the best all-round prize fighter since the days of John C. Heenan?"

"Jeffries by long odds, and then some," quickly answered the pugilist. "I believe the Jeffries of today could have whipped John L. Sullivan in his prime, and that is saying a good deal."

"I think the best middleweight that ever lived is Tommy Ryan of Syracuse, and George Dixon had all the featherweights beaten to a standstill."

"You have a sort of hankering to get at Jeffries again?"

"Well, I should say so. It will be the happiest moment of my life when I can put on the gloves with him again. And after I get through with Jack Munroe Jeffries can meet me and we will let the world judge which is the better man."

"What do you think of Fitzsimmons?"

"Fitz can lick any middleweight that is fighting."

"If it is a fair question, how much money have you made out of the prize ring?"

"Well," and the big fellow laughed down in his throat, "that is a matter I don't rush around to the newspaper offices with, but I have no reason to be ashamed of it. Jeffries and I split 75 per cent of \$24,000; I got \$22,000 in the Corbett fight, and about \$20,000 on the side. Take it all together, I suppose I have cleaned up in the ring since 1892 about \$125,000."

"Then I was in the show business, and I pulled out from \$500 to 1,000 a week. Besides, I am in the liquor business opposite Tammany hall, so I am a sure winner in that."

"How much do you consider yourself worth, financially?"

"Well, as a lawyer would say that is a leading question. But I'll say that if I turned all I have into cash, and put it with the money I have in the bank, the pile would figure up a little more than \$500,000. You see, I keep mine. No booze, no actresses, no wild life for Tom Sharkey. When a man in my business begins that it is suicide in the first degree."

"Poor old John L.," suggested a bystander. "If it had not been for those things, I suppose the pugilists will have to bury him."

"No, they won't," quickly answered Sharkey. "If it comes to the point where a collection has to be taken up for his funeral, there won't be any collection. I will pay it myself. I am his friend just as much as if he were worth \$10,000,000."

Sharkey is 29 years old, has given 50 knockout blows, and has traveled in every part of the globe.

Sharkey, as soon as prosperity struck him, bought his parents a \$10,000 home in Ireland. Every Christmas he gives his father, mother and two sisters each \$1,000, and twice a year brings them to this country and gives them a taste of high life in New York.

"How do you like the show business?" and at the question he chuckled again.

"Oh, there is a good deal of fun about it. It has been a good one. I was in New York and a manager said to Tom O'Rourke, my manager, that I would make a hit on the stage, and, of course, I was ready to go into it. So he sends out for 24 women, rehearses them all day Saturday until 3 o'clock at night, and then the 'Jolly Grass Widows' opens in Boston for a week, and my share was \$500."

"Corbett seems to be doing well in the show business?"

"He's dead sure of \$750 a week," spoke up McCormick.

"What are you talking about, Jack?" interposed Sharkey. "You can't tell me anything about the show business. I've been in it. These \$20,000 extravaganzas cost about \$250. And that's about what Corbett's getting in a week. Not a cent more. He isn't worth it."

### ALPHONSE AND GASTON.

The secret is out. For several years the general public have been trying to locate the originals of the characters of Alfonse and Gaston, made famous by Cartoonist Oppen. But of no avail. Last week, however, quite unexpectedly the real Alfonse and Gaston appeared on the horizon in the person of Young Corbett and Jack Munroe, the Butte miners.

While exercising at a New York gymnasium Corbett and Munroe met, and decided to box two friendly rounds for the benefit of some newspaper men present. It is said that the young Denver boy showed up great and imparted much valuable information to the miner.

First Round—Now, Jack, I will lead for your face with my left and you must block it. So get ready.

Munroe—Pray, dear Kid, let her go. If you hit me I won't kick.

Corbett—I have not the heart to hit you, dear Jack, unless you try and defend yourself.

Munroe—Just go ahead, but I wouldn't have you hurt your hand on a big fellow like me for the world.

Corbett—And I wouldn't black your eye for the world, dear Jack.

Munroe—Now lead with your left and I will receive the blow.

Corbett—Couldn't hear of it. You must duck when I lead.

Munroe—All right, Kid, we will duck together.

Corbett—No, you duck first.

Munroe—I insist that you duck first. Just then the bell rings, announcing the end of the round.

Round Two—Corbett—Now, old pal, I will swing for your head.

Munroe—No, I insist that I swing for your head.

Corbett—Couldn't hear of it. I will swing first.

Munroe—Pray, let me swing first.

Corbett—Let's go out to Central Park and swing together.

Munroe—I am with you, dear Kid.

(End of the round.)

In an interview after the bout Young Corbett stated: "Munroe is a very likely chap. He is strong as an ox and has the tricks of the game at his fingers' ends. He ought to prove to be a very dangerous man in the ring, and I look for him to be the next world's champion. It's no longer a surprise to me how he managed to defeat Jeff at Butte."

No doubt the public will be greatly interested in the sayings of Corbett and Munroe.

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