

BILLY NOLAN TELLS OF NELSON'S FIGHT

Before Sailing for Europe the Manager of Battling Nelson Opens His Heart.

FIGHT PLANNED IN SALT LAKE.

Nolan Was Resting Here When He Saw Goldfield Paper With Account Of Plan for Big Offer.

Before he sailed for England, a few days ago, Billy Nolan gave out for the first time the interesting circumstances connected with the matching of Battling Nelson and Joe Gans, for the now famous fight at Goldfield.

While resting up at Salt Lake, reading the papers, just prior to my contemplated trip to San Francisco—as I had already given my promise to Eddie Graneley to match Nelson against Gans, the contest to take place before his club, providing the inducements were equal to what I could secure elsewhere—in glancing over a number of dailies, I happened to run across a Goldfield issue. The heading that caught my eye was "Will Wager \$5,000 that Jack Clifford Can Beat Nelson." I had heard considerable about this fight club had offered Jimmy Britt and Terry McGovern a \$10,000 purse, and it read that negotiations were on to bring off the match at some future date. At this time I had no idea of fighting Nelson in the desert country, especially Gans, as he had fought before me, and I knew that the latter could easily dispose of him, if a purse would be put up with the side bet. I was satisfied to let the Gans match lay over, as I could get it at my own time. So I wired a message to the Goldfield sporting editor: "Nelson will meet Clifford for the side bet and a purse." Back came an answer: "Party will not put up a side bet."

RAISED THE ANTE.

About an hour after, while Nelson and I were dining in the hotel, another wire from there read: "Will give you \$15,000 purse for a finish contest with Gans," signed Tex Rickard. "Here is some guy looking for some cheap advertising," and did not give it serious consideration. After a couple of hours' delay another telegram reached me from Rickard urging an answer.

In reply I answered: "Can get more than that in Frisco." He wired back: "Will give you twenty thousand." My telegram was sent collect and paid, so I began to give the queries some thought, and inquired from different well known sporting men in Salt Lake if they knew Rickard. None ever heard of him, and still another wire came and finally I answered: "Will expect more than twenty thousand for Nelson's end. If you want Nelson thirty thousand is my lowest figure." The message was flashed back: "Will give you thirty thousand for a match with Gans."

WIRED HIS ACCEPTANCE.

I wired Rickard my acceptance, and he sent me transportation expenses, and I proceeded to Goldfield account. The latter tried in vain to land the match for Frisco. It was too late, my word was given and so it went to Goldfield. Nelson followed a few days later, after filling some theatrical engagements that were already booked for him. For two weeks the Frisco press unmercifully branded the contest as a fake, and made little of it, and the stories were indignantly denied by both sides, the result being that it became the best advertised pugilistic affair ever held in this country, when one considers that Fitz and Corbett battled for less than \$15,000, while Nelson and Gans drew close to \$70,000 in Nevada.

"As to Nelson's future movements, I have him booked up with theatrical engagements for an indefinite time, and you can depend on it that Joe Gans will be his next opponent.

"Much has been said and written in reference to the weight question of a second match. If the match is ever fought the same weight as the men scaled at their last engagement will prevail. Gans can make that notch easily in that dry, high altitude.

WOULDN'T IT BE POSSIBLE.

"As an evidence Nelson scaled 128 easily there, while it would be life and death to have him make it on the sea level. Gans must be given credit for being a shrewd proposition. He has been claiming since the battle that he had such a hard time making the weight. The truth, and positive truth, is that Joe Gans did not even take a run on the road for two days before the battle. I will take my oath to this fact, as I had a man at his quarters for the last week of training, who did nothing else but tab the colored man's movements. Knowing that a fighter trained like this the last few days of his training, can any one familiar with the game give credence to the report that it was a difficulty to make the lightweight limit. Gans, realizing that coming encounter, is trying to get a

price against himself by again claiming to have to accept Nolan's terms—that oft-repeated cry that was raised so often.

"Now a word to some of those who have been on the other side of the fence, criticising my actions in reference to match-making: What I have done in the past I will do again, and try to obtain for Nelson every little advantage I can get, the same as the real estate dealer, who will try to get as much for his property as he can. When Nelson battles it is for a purse that amounts to a great deal of money, and the same amount of care must be exercised to get the big end of it as in any other business. I don't wish any one to be misinformed. Nelson is in the business for the coin. The sport and it comes after the money, and the bigger the end Nelson receives, my bank roll is also enlarged, and why should I not try to get all I can? Do you know anyone that would not?"

BASEBALL ISN'T THE SAME OLD GAME.

"Baseball ain't w't it used t' be," says the old chap who now never even asks what the score is.

No, it "ain't." In ancient times the batter asked for the sphere just where he could hit it—and the slabman tried to place it just in the line requested by the fellow at the plate.

So different now—you can't get it where you wish it—and the pitcher endeavors to throw to any other place than where it is desired, says the Detroit Evening News.

The rules in older days must be the reason why Casey never struck out—and when he did fan three times it was because the speed of baseballs had increased; the curves went around his neck instead of over the plate. Then there was a time, especially in the south, when the balls were rubber. Yes, rubber—not like the kind thrown into the game by Charlie Frank, but just solid rubber. But then every one had a chance to punch it with the bat and knock it a mile.

The boys who lived in and about Atlanta during and after the war are able to testify how they used to steal beneath railroad passenger cars in the dead of night and chisel rubber from the spring bearings. This was carved into a ball. That was before the days of the palace car, which now have giant iron springs instead of rubber.

"Talk to a pioneer who engaged in the national sport 40 years ago. He will tell you that the players secured a field four or five times as large as the fields in which the game is now played. When the batter struck the ball it would go half or three-quarters of a mile. On many occasions the ball was lost in the woods. It was nothing then to secure a home run. Sometimes the ball was batted far enough into the distance to allow the runner to make three or four home runs.

Scores: Why, in the older days (according to antirevolution players) they were something like this: "150 to 125," "160 to 75," or "50 to 40." The bats were long, keen hickory sticks cut from a small sapling. A batter could reach several yards with the bats just like a cattle driver with a lengthy whip.

AN ACCIDENTAL GAMBLER.

New York, Dec. 25.—"I became a gambler through accident," said "The" Allen the other day. Allen is the gambler whose place has been raided 125 times in the last eight years, and whom Theodore Roosevelt, then police commissioner, called "the most notorious outlaw in North America" four or five years ago. He has fought the police in almost every court in the state, and has always been victorious. He has been charged with innumerable offenses, up to murder, but has never served a term of imprisonment. He is the man Dist. Atty. Jerome has selected as the target, by active assault upon which he hopes to rehabilitate himself with the public. "My old father was a minister," said Allen to a group of friends one day, "and was too busy in good works to save enough money to provide for his family after his death. So I had to go to work as a kid. That was long before the Civil war. One day I was employed to carry a suit of clothes to old Gen. Winfield Scott, who then made his headquarters at the Astor House. Another kid tripped me up, I fell, and the suit splashed in the mud. I carried it up to Gen. Scott, but that veteran didn't receive me in a spirit of Christian courtesy. He sent me back to the tailor with the suit, along with a few precepts for my own use. Old Bill Dancer, then the richest gambler in the United States, had seen the whole thing. When he saw me come out of the Astor House with my cheeks blubbered with tears, he took pity on me. He went along to the tailor, explained the matter, and paid the cost of having the suit cleaned. Well, I naturally looked to Dancer as a sort of demigod after that. I kept up the acquaintance, managed to do him a number of small services, and finally he made a protegee of me. I've been a gambler ever since."

RYAN AND KELLY.

Precocious Pair Are Matched to Fight For Largest Purse.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Tommy Ryan and Hugh Kelly were today matched to fight for the middleweight championship of the world, the fight to take place at any time within four weeks from signing of articles. It was agreed that the fight should not be for less than ten rounds, and for such number of rounds between ten and a finish fight. The fight is to be held before the club, offering the largest purse by Jan. 5. The purse is to be divided 50 per cent to the winner and 40 per cent to the loser. The agreed weight is 125 pounds, ringed.



PHYSICAL DIRECTOR BURTNER.

Who Leaves the Y. M. C. A. to Accept a More Desirable Position in the East. The departure of Mr. Burtner from Salt Lake will leave a decided vacancy in the ranks of the athletes. In addition to having charge of all the Y. M. C. A. classes since the new building at State and First South streets was opened, Mr. Burtner has served as an official in many football and basketball games, as well as starter at the University field meets. He is responsible in a large measure for the growing interest in athletic development in Salt Lake.

GANS REMAINS HEAVY FAVORITE.

The Colored Boy Easily Makes Weight for Tonopah Fight.

HEAVY TRAINING IS OVER.

Both Men Now Confining Themselves To Gymnasium and Light Road Work.

Tonopah, Nev., Dec. 25.—Joe Gans and Kid Herman have completed the more serious work in connection with their training and from now until the day of the fight their exercises will consist of the lightest road and gymnasium labor only. There will be no more boxing in either of the camps and just enough exercise will be indulged in to taper off.

Gans weighed but a fraction over 133 pounds at the conclusion of today's efforts and gave out the statement that he will easily make the requisite weight of 132 pounds two hours before entering the ring.

Herman gave an exhibition of fast gymnastic work this afternoon. He is below the 132-pound notch and if anything will aim to increase rather than decrease his weight.

The fighters and their managers were officially notified by Manager Stipley of the Casino Athletic club today that they would be required to weigh in at 1 o'clock on New Year's day and that the lightweight battle will be promptly made.

ASCOT EVENTS.

Mud Horses Scarce at Los Angeles and Favorites Take the Events.

Los Angeles, Dec. 25.—Mud horses were scarce at Ascot, which accounts for the events with the exception of the second and last races. The first race, the Nappa, was won easily by Woodhorse, in the last, though off next to last took early command and won as he pleased. Weather cloudy, track sloppy.

First race, six furlongs—Sir Caruthers, 104, McDaniel, 11, 1 to 2, won; Dicky, 104, 2 to 1, second; Sam, 107, 4, third; 13 to 1, third. Time—1:10. Judge Denton, Taylor, George, Hill, Konomo, Stossel and Susan Christian also ran.

Second race, six furlongs—Succed, 107, D. Riley, 120, 1, won; Re-on, 112, second; 5 to 1, second; Leglock, 107, K. O'Brien, 10 to 1, third. Time—1:18. Elizabeth F. and Agora also ran.

Third race, five and one-half furlongs—Proulx, 103, Koerner, 1 to 5, won; Fracuello, 86, Hart, 5 to 2, second; Dr. Crook, 88, Archibald, 10, 10 to 1, third. Time—1:05. Nappa, Kunsam and Agira also ran.

Fourth race, one mile and fifty yards—J. B. Demaree, 115, Harris, 7 to 1, won; A. Muskoddy, 107, Riley, 2 to 1, second; W. H. Car, Fischer, 9 to 5, third. Time—1:40. Miller also ran.

Fifth race, six furlongs—El Paisano, 109, Kent, 7 to 2, won; Rovers, Mitchell, 109, Koerner, 10 to 1, second; Harry Rice, 87, McDaniel, 10 to 1, third. Time—1:13. Seedcake, Desmaignes, Remember, Pinta, Henry Mc, Vindicta and Song of the Sea also ran.

Sixth race, one mile—Woodhorse, 107, Preston, 5 to 1, won; Wina, Krogan, 11, 2 to 1, second; Adonia, 104, Koerner, 9 to 2, third. Time—1:45. Marpessa, Precias and Mosko also ran.

AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Tony Faust Easily Took the Fallen Leaf Handicap at Emeryville.

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TOMMY MURPHY AFTER CORBETT.

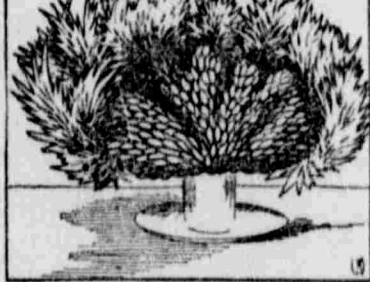
Tommy Murphy, who will fight "Young Corbett" in Philadelphia on Jan. 5, is regarded with great favor by many who have seen both in action, yet reports from the camp of his husky opponent indicate that he will have to fight every inch of the way.



any other explorer. When he was within about 200 miles of the pole gales broke up the ice pack, the provisions were destroyed and the party was obliged to make a precipitate retreat. This expedition is unique in the fact that no lives were lost.

A WONDERFUL GROWTH.

The seven pineapples on a single stalk herewith pictured were taken from a garden in southern India. Each of the seven pineapples was found to be perfect, having a distinct core. On



the top of the composite fruit there were forty-two suckers. This sort of nature has attracted the attention of horticulturists all over the world.

An ostrich yields about three pounds of feathers yearly.

From out the ashes of the east, She looms a wondrous sun, And all the splendors of her worth Are only just begun; Rocky Mountain Tea, Z. C. M. Drug Dept. 112-114 South Main Street.

MUSIC TEACHERS.

All who desire to consult the list of the representative professors and music teachers of Salt Lake should read the "Musicians' Directory" in the Saturday "News."