

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD AT HOME AND ABROAD

CORBETT-NELSON BATTLE TUESDAY

Coming Fight Means Fame and Fortune to the Winner.

DENVER LAD THE FAVORITE

But the Great Dane Has Many Admirers Who Are Confident He Will Be Returned the Winner.

Next Tuesday night! That's the night for fight fans, and the place is San Francisco. The thoughts of every Salt Lake Register will be centered on the big event in 'Frisco on the 29th.

"Young Corbett" and Battling Nelson, both red hot favorites to lovers of the game will clash in a twenty round Marquis of Queensbury tele-a-tete.

While it can not be said that the battle will be one with championship trimmings, yet it is just about as important as any match that could have been made among the little fellows. No title is involved—not now; but the final outcome may mean a new champion.

If Corbett loses, he is a "dead one." There is no need of mincing terms. What he lost to Britt he will have no opportunity to regain—at least not for some time to come. If Corbett wins, he will be matched with Britt for the December date, and the two will draw a house that may be in excess of \$40,000. The Denver lad is not nearly as strong financially as he might be, and this chance to recoup lost fortunes is of vital importance to him. More than that, too, Corbett has a chance to win from Britt and get back his title of champion of the 120-pounders. If he does that, his earning power will be increased to an almost unlimited degree.

The situation with the battling one is similar to that of Corbett in that it means everything to him to win. It will not hurt him as much to lose as a defeat would hurt Corbett. Even if he is beaten he will be able to get other matches, and will remain a good drawing card.

He has a mighty good chance to beat Corbett. His rise in the flat world during the past two years has been little short of phenomenal. For a long time he fought around Chicago, where they have six-round bouts. He did not make much of a showing because to do so he must go the distance. The longer the fight the better for Nelson. He is about the toughest proposition living at 120 pounds.

"No man in the world at 120 pounds ringside can beat Nelson," is the way Teddy Murphy put it in a letter to the sporting editor of the "News." Murphy has great faith in the Great Dane, and believes he will beat Corbett. Nelson rapid rise began in this city when he met "Spider" Welch at the Salt Palace in March last.

By decisively winning from the tough pe-baker, he stamped himself as a factor that had to be reckoned with. Gregains saw his possibilities and gave him a chance in May with Martin Canale, the Pull River lad who kept Britt busy for 25 rounds. Another knockout late in the battle, and Nelson's stock had risen 50 per cent. Morris Levy, always on the lookout for a money-maker, got Hanlon and Nelson together in July. The battling one from Illinois accomplished the San Francisco boy's undoing in the 18th round—the same period, by the way, that Eddie

fell before Young Corbett's crushing haymakers.

Fight critics the country over have hailed Nelson as a coming champion for the past few months. His defeat of Aurelio Herrera in Butte, Montana, on Labor day simply added to his popularity, until now he is in a position to strike at the title of his division. It can be easily seen that if he wins from Young Corbett, he is in a position to get just about anything he wants in the way of matches. Matchmaker Corfioth has promised a match with Britt to the winner, and that's something to strive for. Besides the prize of this trial bout pales into insignificance. Here is what "Wally" Young on the

time, while Corbett is undoubtedly going back.

Both men have been working assiduously since they went into training. Corbett was overburdened with weight when he started in, and he still has some seven or eight pounds to remove. Nelson has never weighed more than six pounds above the figure since he went to Larkspur, and at present is only three pounds above it. Murphy will keep him at this weight until two days before the fatal night and will then dry off the surplus poundage. Billy Roche will referee the battle.

Corbett will, without doubt, be the

WANTS TO FIGHT BOWKER.



HUGH H. GOVERN.

Hughey McGovern has ambition. Hughey wants some good, kind, sporting gentleman to bring Bowker over from England and give him a chance to fight him. Bowker is willing to meet McGovern, if Hughey will come to England, and Hughey won't. Neither will Bowker come over here unless someone else puts up the expenses.

Chronicle has to say about the coming battle:

"Neither Nelson nor his manager, Ted Murphy, whose careful work has had more than a little to do with the advance of the Dane, is overlooking the possibilities of the battle. I was talking to the 'boy manager' the other night about it, and he said that if Nelson wins the two of them stand to make at least \$40,000 within the next six months."

"There's the Britt fight in December," said Murphy, "and that will bring us a goodly sum. Just what our plans will be after meeting Britt I can't say now, because they are unformed. But I figure that \$40,000 within the next six months is something to go after."

"How do you feel about Nelson's chances?"

"Confident, of course," was the cheerful little Celt's answer. "He's been bringing home the money all year, hasn't he? We will be willing to bet a little money on the result. I don't see why we should be otherwise than confident. The Dane will be better in this fight than he ever was in his life. He is getting better all the

favorite of the betters. His long and brilliant career in the ring, coupled with the feeling that many of the wise ones have about class, will make him a favorite on at least a 7-to-10 price. The sellers of pools will attempt to start the wagering at 8 to 10, but it can't stay at that figure long and may go as low as 6 or even below it.

"Those who do their figuring on form and who seldom take the short end of the betting will choose Corbett because of his record. Ask any of them why he likes the Denver lad and he will say: 'Corbett's got too much class for this fellow.'"

"Too much class"—that's the Corbett argument.

Nelson men, say: "Oh, I have a 'hunch' he will bring home the money again. He hasn't failed yet, has he?"

Then they show you in the "dope" where Nelson knocked out Eddie Hanlon in the 18th round, which was the round Eddie went down before Corbett. Nelson also knocked out Martin Canale, who stayed 25 rounds with Britt, who got a decision over Corbett.

Fact is, there is plenty of "dope" for everybody.

HOW JEFF WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

"Don't you know that confidence is as much to a man in a fight as condition or coolness?" said Jim Jeffries one night in Harry Corbett's cafe in 'Frisco as he sat around with a bunch of sports.

"You know a fellow who feels that he has it on the other fellow and continues to think so even though he does get battered a bit, is winning out in the long run. He doesn't feel that he is losing, and knows that the time will come when his superiority will tell on the other fellow."

"The time I was matched to fight Fitz in New York for the championship of the world, I was sure that I could lick him, yet they offered as much as \$4 to 1 against me. I felt that I could lick Fitz, yet I had a great deal of respect for him. The night I saw him in the ring he seemed to be surrounded by arms. I thought I could see his awful look, the deadly right, the terrible left and all the punches he was fabled for. I knew he had them, but thought if I could get my left on his body once or twice that he'd forget a lot of things."

"When we started, all I wanted to do was to keep away from his right. His left might be bad, but I was certain that if he landed me, I would land mine and the latter would do the most damage. He landed and I landed. I landed again and again on his body. In the second round, when I dropped him

to the floor, all fear of Fitz left me and I felt as big as a mountain. I was confident, yet cautious, and even when he came back before the count of 10, surprised as I was, I kept away and waited my chance. He couldn't believe that I dropped him, and kept looking at me in a queer way. I knew the power in my left and could tell by his expression after that knockdown that he thought it was pretty good himself."

"I banged that fellow harder than any one I ever fought, and it was wonderful to me the way he came back. I'll never forget the gameness he showed. Not until the eleventh round when I put him down for good did he keep away. He was dead to the world then and was so surprised at my showing that it was fully 15 minutes before he left the ring, and then he was in tears."

"I guess the rest of the sporting world was surprised, too, but I wasn't. I was willing to stand all kinds of odds for a few rounds. I knew that I could and I was just as sure that I'd land mine in a few rounds later. I did and won the title there. Every battle I have been in since I have felt certain of victory before the going rang. I never felt too sure though. You will always find me in great shape for a fight. When I'm too old to train then I'll retire. There's no use of a man getting in the ring in poor shape. I have always maintained that if a fellow is too lazy to train he is too lazy to fight and just watch the boys who shirk work in their training. No good man can stay on top unless he is in perfect trim the night he fights."

M'DONALD, THE KING OF REINSMEN.

Alta McDonald has driven more sensational miles behind trotters and pacers in 1904 than any reinsman ever did before him in the long history of the turf.

He is the only driver who ever drove two performers in one year to as sensational world's records as that held by Daniel, 2:02½, the champion pacing mare, and Maj. Delmar, 2:01½, the world's champion trotter, both performers without the wind shield.

McDonald virtually developed both

Daniel and Maj. Delmar. He has now had the latter three seasons, while when Daniel came into his care she only had a mark of 2:07½. With the aid of the wind shield he marked Maj. Delmar and Daniel miles 1:59½ and 2:00½, respectively. McDonald's marvelous record of extreme speed miles behind the cracks he has driven this season stands as a mark not likely to be excelled by any other driver for perhaps years to come.

He has driven Maj. Delmar in 2:01½,

MORE BATTING BY THIS RULE

New Way Discovered to Offset Foul Strike and "Spit" Ball.

SOME GOOD SUGGESTIONS

Proposed to Make Changes at the Home Plate—No Unreasonable Handicap On the Pitcher.

Of all the suggestions which have been made with a view to increasing the amount of batting in baseball without putting unreasonable handicaps on the pitcher, the one propounded by Sporting News, making the suggestion of raising the lower limit of a strike from the knees to the hip has provoked the most discussion, says an exchange. The complete argument in which the reform is proposed is reproduced, by request of many readers.

Legislation against the pitcher is the only method by which the universal demand for more batting can be met. A 300 batsman is a rarity and each season the number is less. The spit ball makes the pitchers who excel in this style of delivery practically unhittable.

Its advent has put a stop to free hitting, and players who for years have had the reputation of being natural batsmen, face the pitcher without courage or confidence. The standard of excellence in batting, fixed at .300 since the beginning of professional baseball, has declined until a record of .250 is considered creditable. The opponents of the foul-strike rule have fixed the responsibility for the falling off in batting upon that innovation, but players

do not give this explanation much consideration since the introduction of the spit ball. The necessity for legislation that will increase the batting is too apparent for argument.

The suggestion that the pitching distance be lengthened does not find favor. Among the objections to it is the additional strain on the pitching arm, increasing the danger of its impairment and necessitating less frequent work as a precaution. Another and most cogent reason against the proposition is that it would make base stealing a lost art, as the pitcher would be in a more advantageous position to watch and throw to first base.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

Some advocate the equalization of the number of balls and strikes, while others suggest that the present arrangement be reversed—that the batter be allowed four strikes and that the pitcher be limited to three balls.

The four-ball and three-strike system should be let alone and so should the pitching distance. The umpire's duties should not be made more onerous, nor should there be further restrictions upon the delivery of the pitcher, who has so far proved superior to all legislation that has been directed at him.

The spit ball has come to stay, and a book full of rules will not prevent its use. If the twirler is forbidden to spit upon his fingers, or the ball, he will conceal a wet sponge in his shirt or pants pocket, or find some other way to evade the law. The umpire's time would be altogether taken up in watching a pitcher if there were an anti-spit-ball edict.

Two solutions of the pitcher-batsman problem suggest themselves, one of which the Sporting News approves. One is the revival of the plan under which the game was played up to 1886, permitting the batsman to select a high or low ball. A strike could not be called unless a pitched ball passed over the plate between the knee and waist of the batsman, if a low ball were called for: between the waist and the shoulder if a high ball were demanded. Adoption of this suggestion would add to the difficulties of unprying and furnish opportunities for protests from players and patrons, a bad feature in any measure. The other remedy is more sweeping. It combines the best points of the first suggestion and has none of its bad qualities. If it is adopted by the magnates, the 1905 rule it would read as follows, the only change appearing in parentheses:

"A fairly delivered ball is a ball

pitched or thrown to the bat by the pitcher, while standing in his position and facing the batsman, that passes over any portion of the home base not lower than the batsman's (hip), nor higher than his shoulder. For every such delivered ball the umpire shall call one strike."

A POWERFUL CHANGE.

Restrictions of the limit of a fairly delivered ball to one-half of the space which has been allowed for many seasons will benefit the batsman in two ways. The limit of defense will be decreased one-half, and the spit and drop and low-curved ball will be practically done away with. But the loss of these deliveries will not put the pitchers, always alert and resourceful, at the mercy of the batsman, for, obliged to rely upon speed and change of pace, he will develop the first and perfect the other. The advantages from the spectators' standpoint will be manifold.

There will be free hitting, activity on the base lines and difficult fielding chances. The monotony of the game—frequent change of sides without the development of a play that enthralls—will disappear and every inning will have its feature. Patrons never tire of

attractive baseball, and the demand for shorter games came when the pitcher obtained the mastery and shutouts succeeded each other until runless innings palled on the people. Patrons will accept this innovation as readily as they did the foul-strike rule, and their satisfaction over the results it will bring will insure its popularity. The only objection that can be advanced against the proposed amendment to rule 21 is that it will bring more batting to the game—something that patrons have demanded and magnates have favored for plenty and practicability. It can be accomplished by the substitution of one word for another in two rules (21 and 32.) Its adoption would make the calling of balls and strikes easier for the umpire—he would have less space to judge—are those just above the knees. The pitcher's command would be to hold the batting in check. Indeed, it is within bounds to assert that the wildness of a pitcher is due to the rule he has under the present rules, for, relying upon the advantage of this latitude, he throws away many balls to tempt the batsman to strike at bad ones.

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Salt Lake City, Utah,

November 14, 1904.

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A Hay Fever sufferer writes: "I have been a sufferer from Hay Fever for over 20 years, and it seemed harder every year. The first night I used your Asthma Cure I was greatly relieved. It cured my cough after using a few times. I shall recommend it to all sufferers of Hay Fever." Mrs. Martha Simerson, Laingburg, Mich. Sold by all druggists at 50c and \$1.00. Send 5c stamp to Dr. R. Schiffmann, Box 25, St. Paul, Minn., for a free trial package.



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