

Up to the Minute SPORTING NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE.

FIELD TO HIMSELF Leonard Has Conquered All Good Lightweight Boxers. Billy Whalen Only One Who Has Not Been Licked.

New York, Jan. 19.—There never was a time when fewer promising lightweights were scintillating around the country. The men who are believed to have a chance to topple Benny Leonard from his throne as lightweight champion are all men who have been battling for years and years. There isn't a man who came out overnight.

Willie Jackson looked to be the sort of a man for a few brief moments, and then he flattered. Jackson's name is rarely mentioned now as a probable opponent for the champion.

There is just one good boy who comes to mind among those who haven't yet been given a look-in at the championship. He is little Billy Whalen, a St. Paul lightweight.

Whalen Hard Fighter. St. Paul has given so many high class fighters men to the name that it goes without saying Whalen is a plucky, hard-fighting little individual.

Leonard Wants Bouts. Leonard declares there is little fighting in sight for him now, for he has come to work as a boxing instructor at Camp Upton, Yaphank, L. I.

Willard Was in Texas. Deputy Sheriff, However, Found Him in a Chicago Cafe. Chicago, Jan. 19.—Anyone who questions Jess Willard's speed or footwork, listen to this.

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Five minutes later, Jess was brought to lay in a neighborhood cafe. "I wouldn't have ducked," declared Willard, "but I won't stand for being bullied by no dummy sheriff."

Mich. and Chicago Rivals Again. Chicago, Jan. 19.—Athletic relations between Michigan and Chicago will be resumed tonight, after a lapse of 12 years when the Wolverine basketball team met with Maroons in Bartlett Gym. Chicago is the favorite.

Basketball Results. Camp Funston 29, Neb. Wesleyan 19. Missouri 23, Wash. U. 22. Sp. Normal 29, Jewell 27. K. C. St. Iowa Aggies 29.

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PITCHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SLUMP OF BATTERS. George Stallings, manager of the Boston Braves gives the pitchers of today credit for the decrease in the number of .300 hitters in the two big leagues.

There are a number of reasons why batting has decreased," said Stallings recently. "The foul strike rule and the spitball have done their share in decreasing a part of the batting averages, but in my opinion, the best answer lies in the fact that the pitchers are smarter now than they used to be. They are pitching better ball and their pitch just as much with their heads as with their arms."

Sport Wheezes

Jack McBride, former Topeka tailor and sport enthusiast who is now in the Canadian army, complains that it is unable to get enough sport news from the old town papers to satisfy him. He says things must be "pretty dead" here.

And so they are, in a sport way. It must be admitted that just at present Topeka is not experiencing a spirit of dizzy sport activities. The winter baseball stove league has a fuel famine, there is no basketball other than what the churches and the C. A. afford and the town hasn't turned out a heavyweight contender for Willard's crown since Jack McGuire went into the army to take his training.

Of course, the war can be blamed for the lack of sport activities and poor old Mars will have to grin and bear this blame. But it must be admitted that there is something peculiar about the situation. War has not forced schools like Cooper college, the Emporia Normal school, Midland college and Baker university to abandon basketball and every one of these schools is located in a town much smaller than Topeka. Most of them are smaller schools than Westburn.

Nor has the war forced Joplin, Mo., Wichita, Hutchinson and St. Joseph to give up all interest in baseball. These towns are little larger than Topeka, some of them not as large, yet they are holding on to their baseball franchises and are finding time between Liberty loan campaigns, Red Cross contributions and recruiting for church and athletic activities to play next summer when the Western league opens. But Topeka, despite the fact that she could get into the league, has not made any effort to do so, and no one seems to be grieving because there are no boomers who are willing to try to put a deal that will bring a club here.

The only way to explain the graveyard quietness of the local atmosphere is by admitting that Topeka is undergoing one of the periodical spells that come to all communities when the red blood runs sluggish and the relish for real amusement refuses to assert itself. An evidence of the absolute lack of interest in things athletic is the failure of Lewis Hoffman to try to stage a wrestling match. When Lewis Hoffman is a lead pipe climber there isn't a spark of interest smoldering even among the North Topeka mat fans.

However, there is a slight indication that an effort is to be made to wake up the sport spirit in the action of C. L. Mitchell, Mayor House, Commissioner Porter and Fred Voland in getting behind the Jack Johnson-Todd fight to organize a club at which there will be mat and give amusements and attractions that will appeal to the young men who have surplus energy to expend. And the action of these men, prominent in the city's affairs, shows that they realize a wake up is needed.

Also, there is an indication the Washburn students intend to show the faculty they do not propose to allow Ichabod sports to die without a kick. They have already shown that they disapprove of the plan to drop basketball, and if they make their sentiments known in the right way there is nothing for the faculty to do but keep the sport going, even if money that could be spent for other purposes had to be spent for athletics. Washburn efforts to keep the reputation of being the sportsman school of Sportsville.

The withdrawal of students now in school because of the lack of athletic encouragement is not a desirable thing but its effect is small compared with the effect of a reputation of being "dead" in a sport way. Such a reputation would keep hundreds of students from coming to Topeka to get their advanced education. The majority of ex-Washburnites who want to see the school progress undoubtedly would willingly dig down in their pockets rather than see the school drop completely out of athletics. But many of them believe this should be unnecessary and that the school authorities should spend money other than that belonging to the athletic association to keep things going.

Just what is to be done regarding the naming of a successor to Dr. Kennedy is a matter of speculation. Whether or not his failure to make good by producing a football winner had anything to do with his resigning is something that the authorities probably will not let the world know. But if this did have anything to do with it, it is almost certain that an effort will be made to get someone one size to tackle the problem of building up sports at the college.

Those who are close to President Womer assert he is strongly in favor of athletics and that he personally has no desire to see the sports curtailed or cut off. They believe he will continue to try to get a man who will deliver the goods and that he will give athletic every kind of backer he can. Personally he gave Dr. Kennedy all the assistance he could, but, unfortunately, he was not in Topeka at all times when the sports curtailed and was unable to untangle some of the many entanglements and vexing problems the doctor had to contend with.

TOUGH TIMES FOR A. A. PITCHERS THIS YEAR! NO QUEER SHOOTS GO



The American Association pitchers are to have a sad time of it this season. Spitballs, shinedballs, emeryballs, and all the other queer deliveries will be strictly prohibited. Last season it was quite the other way and anything at all went. The A. A. pitchers made the batters most unhappy all through the race. This year the batters will have their revenge. Many of the pitchers who made the best records last season are so dependent on trick deliveries that they are sure to suffer this year when the fancy stuff in the box is tabooed.

PUBLIC WANTS FIGHT FULTON FAILS AGAIN

That Is Rickard's Opinion, But He Will Not Promote It. New York, Jan. 19.—The attitude of experienced boxing promoters toward a battle for the world's heavyweight championship may be summed up in a statement by Tex Rickard, who has promoted the biggest bouts the country ever saw.

Rickard, disgusted with Willard's in and out principles, declared he sees no chance of staging the mill, and will leave about February 1 for South America, where he will spend a year on his ranch in Paraguay. "I believe the public wants to see this bout," said Rickard. "I believe it would be the greatest bout in point of attendance and popularity ever seen. I figured on it about a year ago and tried to find a place to put it on, but was absolutely unable to locate a state where the right kind of a bout could be produced. Ten rounds would not be sufficient. It would have to be at least twenty rounds, and I couldn't find the proper place. Willard also has made things too hard for the promoter. It isn't worth the trouble it would take."

BIG HIGH SCHOOL GAME

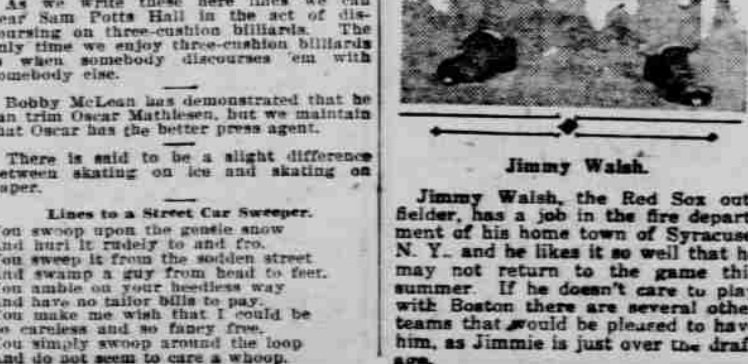
Wichita and Kansas City, Kansas Quintets to Tangle Tonight. Wichita, Kan., Jan. 19.—What is said to be the biggest game ever scheduled in the history of basketball at the Wichita high school will be played in the Forum here tonight between the local high school quintet and five representing Central High School, Kansas City. The Kansas City quintet is said to be an undefeated championship team of more than three years standing.

The game is attracting considerable attention in high school basketball circles in Kansas and Missouri and the Wichita team won the Arkansas Valley championship last year and has not been defeated this year, while the Kansas City team is considered one of the best high school basketball teams in Missouri.

Food for Fans

Imagination. When winds about the windows wall and thrub. And drift the casements in the flat. I like to read of Speaker and of Cobb. And Kilmer and persons such as that. When Old Man Boreas comes swooping down. And gets the whole darn country in his clench. I like to read of Mathewson and Brown. And Kling and Walsh and Sullivan and such. When leebegs cluster round my cabin door. And snowdrifts come and clutter up the walk. I like to sit and ponder o'er and o'er. The bygone deeds of Collins and of Schick. When winter winds are walling wild and free. And snowdrifts round the kitchen doorway climb. I like to read a lot of baseball stuff. It always makes me think of summer-time.

As we write these here lines we can hear Sammie Hall in the act of counselling on three-cushion billiards. The only time we enjoy three-cushion billiards is when somebody discourages on with somebody else. Bobby McLean has demonstrated that he can trim Oscar Mathewson, but we maintain that Oscar has the better press agent. There is said to be a slight difference between skating on ice and skating on paper. Lines to a Street Car Sweeper. You sweep upon the gentle snow. You sweep the streets to and fro. You sweep it from the sudden street. And sweep a guy from head to foot. You make us your best press agent. And have no tailor bills to pay. You make us your best press agent. So careless and so fancy free. You simply sweep around the loop. And do not seem to care a whoop.



Jimmy Walsh, the Red Sox outfielder, has a job in the fire department of his home town of Syracuse, N. Y., and he likes it so well that he may not return to the game this summer if he doesn't care to play with Boston there are several other teams that would be pleased to have him, as Jimmie is just over the draft age.

LET OLYMPIC DIE SPIRIT OF THE WEST

World Sport Carnival Impossible After the War! Allies May Not Compete With Teutonic Athletes. New York, Jan. 19.—The next generation may and may not see the Olympic Games revived. This opinion was expressed by some of the leading patrons of world sports, both in the United States and abroad, and altho a tremendous revival of sports is bound to follow the return of peace, it is said that from twenty-five to thirty years will elapse before world games, open to all nations, can be held.

No world's championships—in the true sense of the word—can be held in Germany and her allies are represented. But there is a feeling now that the United States, England and France will scarcely consent to give their athletes meet those of Germany or Austria-Hungary on a common footing. France, even now, is preparing to hold a great athletic carnival at the close of the war, to which athletes from all of the allied and neutral nations will be invited. But it is believed that no invitations will be extended to the German allies, in which event it will be practically impossible to stage the winners of events as world's champions.

The members of the International Olympic Committee are in favor of world sports, but they are not considering a revival of the Olympic Games as they have been held in the past. BATTLE OF GIANTS? Willard and Fulton the Biggest Heavyweights of All Time. If Jess Willard and Fred Fulton ever do encounter as has been more than several times threatened, there will be seen in action two of the greatest giants ever known to step between the ropes. If the battle has nothing else to recommend it, there is at least this that can be said—it will bring together the two tallest and heaviest fighters that ever jostled in the same ring. Willard will stand six feet seven and a half inches tall and weighs 215 pounds. Jeff and Jack Johnson were perhaps the greatest giants ever to battle heretofore, and they were surpassed by Willard and Fulton. Willard, Jeff was six feet and Johnson was one-half inches over that.

MURPHY SUES WEEGMAN. Charles Webb Wants to Collect Eight Years' Rent on Old Park. Chicago, Jan. 19.—At last Charley Weegman has a chance to get rid of that \$250,000 bank roll. The Cub boss and his fellow stockholders were defendants today in a suit brought by Charles W. Murphy, former president of the club, to recover rent on the old West side ball park owned by the National League on the North side. The amount involved is apportioned from \$1,000 to \$20,000 a year—for eight years.

HELPS TO ROUTE COAL. Pittsburg Normal President Is Field Worker for Emerson Carey. Pittsburg, Kan., Jan. 19.—W. A. Brandenburg, president of the State Manual Training Normal, has developed into a first class seuth—a coal field assistant to Emerson Carey of Hutchinson, state fuel administrator. Located in the heart of the Kansas mining field the normal head keeps his eye on the production at various points in the state and orders for fuel from outside the field. This doesn't comprise his whole job, however, for coal is of little service unless it is properly obtained. So the normal president keeps his periscope in action, looking out for empty coal cars. When he discovers any, coal soon finds its way into them and goes on its way to do some good. Does't President Brandenburg have to spend some time keeping his own school's bins filled with fuel? He doesn't. He hunts coal for other state institutions but for his own last summer he contracted for the entire output of a small mine near the normal.

COL. SCHUMANN-HEINK. That Is the New Military Title of Famous Singer. Camp Funston, Kan., Jan. 19.—To Mrs. Schumann-Heink has gone the honor of being the first woman to win a commission in the United States army. The famous songstress was made honorary "colonel" of the 21st Infantry at San Diego, Cal., in recognition of her most fine services to the regiment. She maintains her big estate "Grossmont" near San Diego and her interest in the community is characteristically generous. It was on the day she presented a stand of colors to the regiment that she was decorated with the colonel's silver insignia, and she now wears it proudly. After receiving her "commission" she gave a concert for "her boys" as she delights in calling the members of the 21st. The great singer will appear at Camp Funston to sing for the soldiers there the latter part of the month.

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