

SPORTING NEWS.

Fakirs Are Heartily Roasted by Lanky Bob.

Fitz Says They Should All Be Blacklisted.

THE GREED FOR GOLD. Robs Most Pugilists of Sense of Honor.

Everyone Connected With Fakes Should Be Published.

New York, Jan. 2.—Robert Fitzsimmons, in a signed statement in the Journal, says:

"These are sad days for the world of sports. One by one the fields wherein the boxer, the manager and the fight club promoter reaped their harvests have been laid waste by the touch of the reformer's hand.

"New York, but recently the Mecca of the pugilistic fraternity, a veritable gold mine for the 'gent' with the padded 'mitt,' then Chicago, and finally Philadelphia, have turned their backs upon the sport of the 'squared circle.'

"And why has this come to pass? The answer is easy. Simply because these modern gladiators could not or would not believe that a fighter's best selling in trade is to 'be on the level.'

"Their greed for gold has blinded their senses. Their one idea has been to 'get the money.' Little heed did they pay to the manner of the getting. No trickery, no dishonesty, seemed to them too low, provided it came in arm with a goodly bunch of Uncle Sam's coin.

"These would seem burning words for me to hurl at the heads of those of my own profession. They bring the blush of shame to my cheek as I write them, but their truth cannot be denied. Of course there are fighters, both big and little, in the ring today, at whom the finger of suspicion has never been pointed. They have walked the paths of honesty, unshaken by the temptations which may have been cast in their way. To these I owe my only apology. Where the cup fits it is my own.

"These latter, who plumed without thought of the spectators, of the arena, of an outraged public, who were being down upon the heads of their innocent fellow-boxers, into a continuous filthy war of foul, double-crossing and robbetries, are guilty parties.

"And it is these culprits who should be made to suffer.

"Every manager, every promoter, every club promoter, who has directly or indirectly been mixed up in a fake, thrown a fight or robbed the public, should have his name published head-on as a thief—a thing to be scorned like the plague.

"The newspapers of the country, which are ever ready to encourage honest sport, which will not stand double-crossing and robbetries, should publish a list from time to time of the 'fakers of the ring.'

"Let those whose names appear in this list be barred from every boxing club in the country, just as a dishonest jockey or horse owner is barred from the privileges of the race track.

"There would, of course, have to be some reliable method of ring affairs. To insure this I would advise that the boxing be controlled by the state. Under such supervision it would not be subject to the whim of a promoter.

"Promoters of sporting events, who have made world wide reputation should be given sole control of the club or clubs in each city.

"A certain percentage of the receipts of each fight should be turned over to the state as a fund for the maintenance of a police force, which should be needed to see that matters are run 'on the level.'

"No club manager should be allowed to be the manager, either directly or indirectly, of any boxer.

"There is no doubt but that the pugilists should be weeded out, the good separated from the bad, and the latter plenty of dishonest club managers, but if the fighters were honest the club managers would not have a chance to get in any crooked way. When everything is summed up there is only one hope for the pugilistic game:

"Blot out the fakery and start anew."

NO BASEBALL WAR.

President Hickey Says Situation Is Much Clearer.

Omaha, Neb. Jan. 2.—President Thomas J. Hickey does not anticipate any war in the baseball circuit during the coming season between the National and American leagues. Neither does he believe that any state will be a divider between the two successful operations of the West.

"The league along the lines which shall eventually be determined by the Western circuit," Hickey said in a statement made after a short consultation with President Keith and Manager Rouke of the Omaha club, and Manager Deane who has been awarded the Minneapolis franchise for the coming season.

"After the conclusion of the conference President Hickey talked freely on baseball matters to the Journal. He said that he had turned over to the American league the franchise for the coming season and St. Paul—and we intend to stay there."

"I want to state emphatically that the Western league will play ball in Kansas City the coming season. I have already leased a splendid park there, admirably located, right opposite the court house. It is now under construction and will be shown in the path of our league, but I am firmly of the belief that the only Western league that will be the one that was organized in this city a year ago. As a matter of fact, I think the clouds that are obscuring the baseball horizon both east and west will blow away.

"Relative to the circuit question Hickey stated he was quite at sea. The grand circuit of the National, American, National League and St. Paul, he said, and the grand circuit of the circuit from six to eight cities, will contain in one of the franchise in one of last year's contracts. There is no authority for the statement that it has been decided to drop Kansas City, he said.

"Reports to this effect have been circulated, but he said that the question will not be settled until the meeting of the circuit meeting, which will probably be held in Indianapolis and Louisville.

"It is true Indianapolis and Louisville are negotiating for franchises in the Western league. These cities, however, probably mean the dropping of Denver and Portland, and the circuit will probably be too unwieldy. However, this proposition is one that the league must take up."

MEMPHIS TO PAD DATE.

Jockey Club to Extend Time in Case of a Turf Disagreement.

Memphis, Tenn. Jan. 2.—As a result of the action of the Turf congress in extending the date question there is every likelihood of the racing season being extended its dates three days, closing with Nashville, Newport, Kinloch park and Lakeland.

President R. R. Montgomery of the

MEMPHIS JOCKEY CLUB.

Memphis Jockey club reached home today from Chicago. He stated that the directors of the local club will meet this evening to discuss the date question. The local meeting will begin April 1 and end April 30, as originally scheduled, or extended until April 27, Mr. Montgomery stated that as long as there will be a free for all scramble for racing dates the Memphis club would race as long as they thought best, irrespective of other tracks. The local people are taking a high stand and in the event of a turf war profess to think there is nothing that can prevent them from having one of their usually successful meetings.

TO HEAD OFF SPALDING BALL.

Players' Protective Association Will Fight the Monopoly.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 2.—Chief Charles L. Zimmer is authority for the statement that an attempt will be made to head off G. Spalding's monopoly on the official league ball. He says the Players' Protective association, headed by Clark Griffith, is at the head of the movement. He claims a company will be formed to manufacture the goods, which will be run on a co-operative basis.

GRAND GIFT OF TROTTERS.

Owners of Horses Present Them to Their Trainer.

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 2.—The gift of the Miller & Sibley trotting holdings, consisting of 21 head of horses, to Charles Marvin develops the fact that Marvin has been receiving more from the firm than he has been making in training. In addition he received a percentage of winnings, which was guaranteed to be at least \$500 a year.

Cecilian, 2:12, and a band of six brood mares highly bred, are included in the gift. The good campaigner, Battisign, was head of the horde in company with three other horses. Marvin has ridden behind more world's record performers than any other trainer in the country. He has in addition he received a percentage of winnings, which was guaranteed to be at least \$500 a year.

Miller & Sibley first attempted to establish a breeding farm in Pennsylvania, but failing to succeed, they moved to Kentucky about ten years ago. Since 1891 Marvin has been in their employ. They were heavy buyers of Palo Alto stock, and he has been instrumental in securing the Palo Alto of the East. Their retirement from the business is the cause of universal regret among horsemen here.

RACING TO GO ON AT ST. LOUIS.

Will Commence at Fair Grounds on May 11, With Kinloch Park Later.

St. Louis, Jan. 2.—Racing will be resumed at the St. Louis fair grounds on May 11, to continue for 90 days, the limit fixed by the Missouri breeders' law for any single track. Although the Turf congress permits the St. Louis course to be open on April 1, the state law does not fix the opening of the season at the end of the close at November 1. This gives St. Louis 171 days of actual racing. Between April 15 and May 11, when the fair grounds opens, it is completed in one track. Although the Turf congress has a season of 23 days, if the Tilles-Adler-Coll syndicate track is completed by the end of the fair grounds season, and the Kinloch people desire to resume at that time, a fight between it and the syndicate would undoubtedly result.

TERRY MUST ANSWER QUICK.

Must Accept Terms of London Sporting Club by January 5.

New York, Jan. 2.—The National Sporting club of London has decided to sue Terry for breach of contract. Terry is to make up his mind whether or not he will fight Ben Jordan if at the end of the time Terry does not answer, the featherweight champion never will get another chance to fight Jordan or any one else at that club.

Under the circumstances will the purse be increased," said Dr. Ordway, the National club representative. "The club will give the boys a purse of \$2,750, with several expenses to McGovern. If McGovern does not come to the scratch by January 5 he never will get a chance to fight at the National club."

Ed McGovern's manager said today that he had received an offer of \$5,000 to meet McGovern at San Francisco during the first week of February. The National Athletic club, he said, is ready to hang up an incentive. Broad never expected that he would get this much money, and immediately accepted it. He wired the National people to send on the articles to Louisville, where Broad will train for his battle with Dave Sullivan.

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Quarrel of Promoters Causes a Hitch in the Arrangements.

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During the month of July, 1900, the sales reached the unprecedented sum of \$163,006.66, the greatest amount ever sold in one month at this office. In April, 1900, but \$43,592.63 in stamps was disposed of, the least business done at the office during the past year.

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Corrigan Horses Bring Fair Prices.

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