

MAYOR REPROVES FUSS OVER BOUTS

Ministers Misled by Municipal Association for Political Reasons, He Says.

COX FINDS BOXING CLEAN

Simon Opposed to Prizefighting, but Finds No Law Violation in Club Matches — Right to Stop Mills Not Used.

MAYOR AGAINST ANTI-BOXING CRUSADE.

Mayor Simon disapproves activity of the Municipal Association in regard to boxing contests, saying the organization is political in character and that the Ministerial Association should pay no heed to it.

He declares Chief of Police Cox, whom he relies for accurate information on the subject, reports boxing contests are conducted properly and are well within the terms of the agreement made several months ago between the Mayor and members of the Municipal Association.

Members of the Municipal Association have full authority from Mayor Simon to stop any contest believed by them to be too rough, or they can complain to the District Attorney if they find the law is violated.

Meanwhile, the Mayor will not interfere.

"I have the greatest respect for the ministers of Portland," said Mayor Simon yesterday afternoon, "but I very much dislike to see them misled by representatives of the Municipal Association, which is a political organization that waged bitter warfare on me in the last campaign, but which, since my election, has asked of me more favors than my most ardent supporter has asked."

In so speaking the Mayor referred to the action of the General Ministerial Association in adopting resolutions demanding the suppression of prize-fights in Portland. The action was taken after representation of members of the Municipal Association that the anti-prize-fight law was violated.

"I am in hearty sympathy with the general work of the churches led by the ministers," said the Mayor, "and there is nothing I would not do to assist them, but I deprecate the misrepresentation evidently made to them at their meeting this morning regarding boxing contests. I understand the ministers, after hearing a report of the Municipal Association, adopted resolutions demanding the suppression of prize-fights here. They evidently do not know that there have been no such fights, and that I am as much opposed to prize-fighting as anyone in Portland. I am sorry they were misled."

Boxing Is Allowed.

"Now, as to my attitude in this matter, I will say that I have never countenanced prize-fighting and never will, but I cannot, under the law, forbid boxing contests for skill only. That is the exact situation, although political operators may create another impression because the desire, after doing all in their power to defeat me for office, to dictate to me what I shall do. I have never asked that any one of them be stopped. They also have the right, and it is their duty, to apply to the District Attorney for complaints if they have any knowledge that any of these contests have constituted a violation of the law; they have made no complaints as yet."

Meanwhile, Mayor Simon declares he will not interfere with the boxing contests, as long as they do not violate the law. He will have the police keep close tabs on the events, and if any one of them gets too rough, or there is any violation of law, he will order it stopped, or at least held in strict compliance with law. He declares that, in the circumstances, he cannot forbid the contests, as no violation of the statutes has been shown.

ANGEL TEAM GETS TOGETHER

Players Gradually Signing Up and Magnates Are Pleased.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 7.—(Special.)—President Berry and Manager Dillon, of the Angels, are well pleased at the way matters are progressing in regard to the 1910 team. About one-half the players have returned their signed contracts and appear satisfied with the salaries stipulated. Those who have signed so far are: Frank Pittman, Merrill Grindle, catcher; Ike Butler, Andy Briawater and Lee Bell, pitchers; Bert Dabins, shortstop; George Wheeler and Arlie Ross, utility.

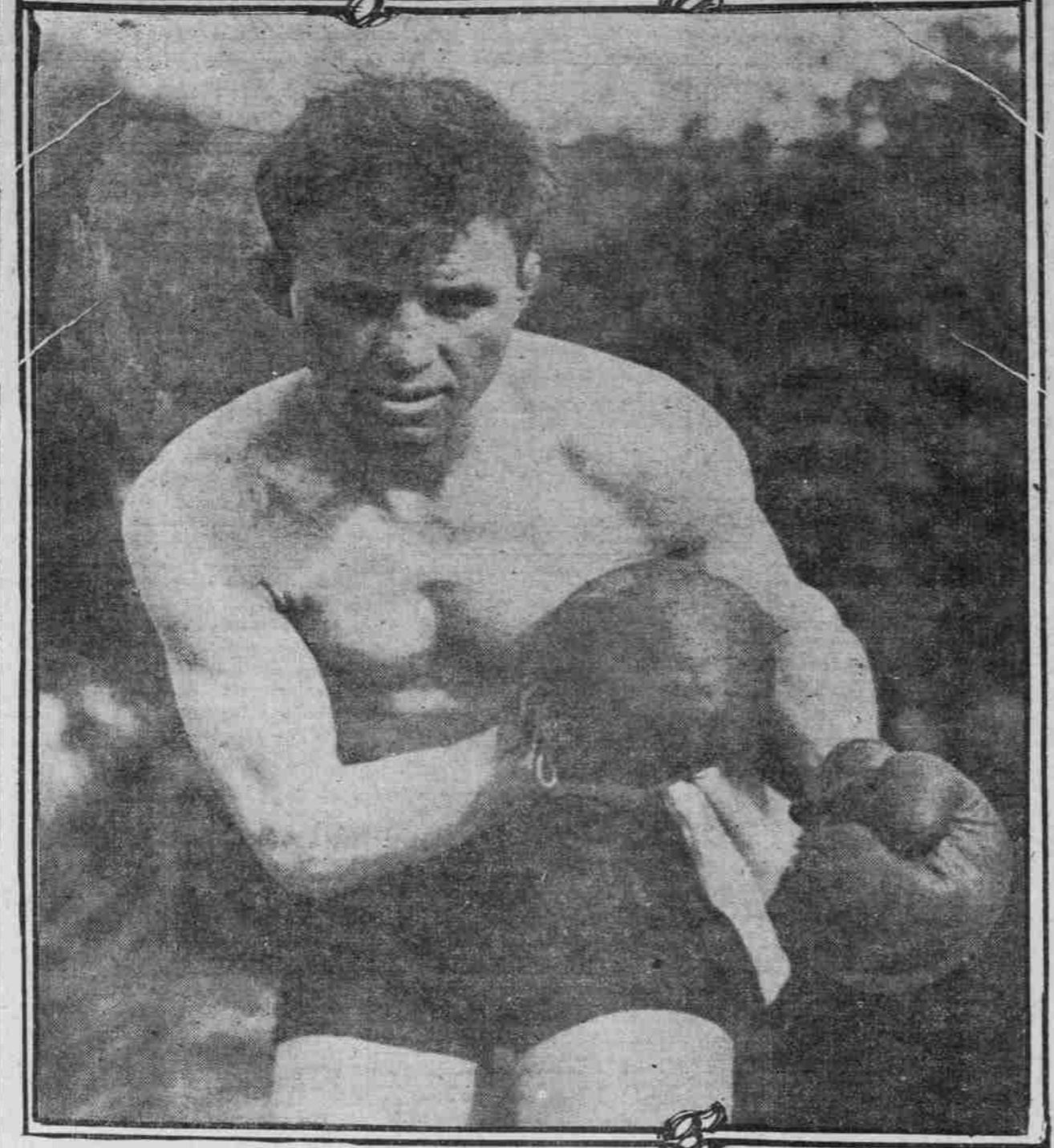
Dillon received a letter from Ivan Howard, the second baseman, who was injured at the close of last season, and he will be out on the Coast soon, he says.

Max Callahan, the former St. Vincent player, will be given a chance during the Spring practice of the Angels. Callahan is an outfielder. The Angels will have a fast outfield with Godwin, Daley and Bernard and Dillon may farm Callahan where he will have a chance to develop. An authoritative rumor has it that the local baseball association is negotiating for Thomas, the young Oakland catcher.

Mordecai Brown Won't Sign.

CHICAGO, Feb. 7.—Mordecai Brown, the three-fingered Cub pitcher, has become a real holdout, according to a dispatch from Torre Haute last night. According to the story, he has been unable to come to terms with President Murphy, of the Cubs, and will not wait for the appearance of Manager Chance. Brown, according to the reports has two grievances. One could be settled by a substantial raise in salary, and the other harkening from the close of the season were cut out of the contract.

WORLD'S MOST NOTED LITTLE FIGHTERS, NEGOTIATIONS FOR WHOSE FIGHT ARE BEING CLOSED



NETZEL IS 'A FIND'

McCredie Believes He Has Real Prizewinner.

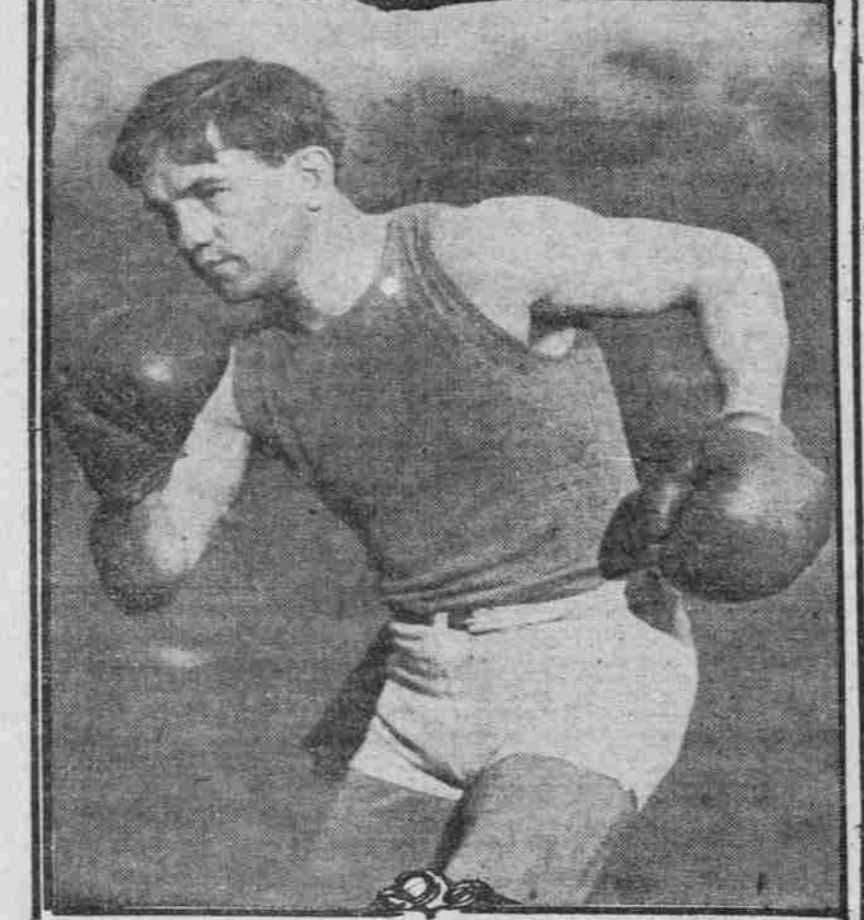
TEAM TO REPORT MARCH 1

Contest Over Disposition of Monte Pyle by National Commission Causes Some Worrying for Portland's Team Manager.

Miles A. Netzel, one of the new members of the Portland Baseball Club of 1910, writes that he is confident that he will like Portland and the Pacific Coast, and expects to "make good" without any trouble.

Walter McCredie is also confident that he has secured a prize in Netzel, who is now at his home at Olean, N. Y., where he is spending the Winter anxiously waiting the railway transportation which will start him on the road to Santa Maria, Cal., to join the Portland squad at practice.

Manager McCredie announces that he will order all of his players to be on hand March 1, but anticipates playing an exhibition game on Sunday, February 27, and has arranged for a game



On that date with the Santa Maria team. McCredie expects Netzel to play third base, though he may send the "Pretzel," as the player is nicknamed, to the outfield in the event that Portland's claim to Monte Pyle is recognized by the National Commission.

FIRST PUBLISHED PICTURE OF NEW MEMBER OF PORTLAND'S 1910 BASEBALL TEAM.



MILES A. "PRETZEL" NETZEL, OF OLEAN, NEW YORK, WHOM MCCREDIE SECURED FROM THE CLEVELAND AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAM.

land's claim to Monte Pyle is recognized by the National Commission. McCredie has learned from Pyle himself, that he was held only by a reserve of the New York National League team, and that club sold him to Columbus in the American Association, from which club McCredie purchased title to the player for \$500. Bobby Quinn, manager of the Columbus Club, has entered into the fight on McCredie's behalf, and has filed protest with the National Commission objecting to the blacklisting of Pyle and recommending that the player be permitted to join the Portland team.

If McCredie is successful in getting Pyle he may play him at first base, though Mac says both Pyle and Rapps will have to show him that they are better than George Ort. In the event that Ort retains the bag, there will be a three-cornered scrap for third base between Rapps, Netzel and Joe Smith, the latter being the player from the Enid Club of the Western Association, who is one of the youngsters to be reckoned with, while Pyle will be sent to the outer garden.

Cy Young, the veteran pitcher, who was in Portland Sunday, has slipped McCredie a hot tip on Netzel. According to Young, the Olean lad is a young, aggressive, stockily built player, who is fast as lightning and a youngster who cannot be "buffaloed." Cy Young says the "Pretzel" is hardly ripe enough for the major league, but gives it as his opinion that a lad with his speed and aggressiveness cannot be kept out of that company very long. McCredie had had a similar recommendation from Manager Jim McGuire, of the Cleveland team, and backs a whole lot on the opinion of these two players.

VANCOUVER TO HOLD BIG MEET

Fencing, Boxing and Wrestling Are Scheduled for Monday.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 6.—(Special.)—Fencing, boxing and wrestling contests will be held in the gymnasium at St. Luke's Hall on Monday evening. The exhibition will be under the auspices of the Tillamook Club.

Lieutenant Sears, of the First Infantry, the best fencer in the United States Army, will be one of the fencers. "Bud" Anderson will be one of the boxers, and there will be several wrestlers there from the Y. M. C. A. in Portland. Members of the Boys' Club and of the Tillamook Club will participate in the preliminaries.

PISTOL KILLS MAN; FRIENDS INNOCENT

A. T. Barnes Victim of Accident or Suicide, Insists Charles Mapes.

MAPES HELD WITHOUT BAIL

Finishing Card Game, Barnes Twirls Pistol on Finger, Weapon Is Discharged and He Falls Dead With Bullet in Head.

With only one person as a witness, A. T. Barnes, an employee of the Thiel Detective Service Company, was killed by a bullet through the head yesterday afternoon in the adjoining and writing-room of the company in the Chamber of Commerce building.

According to Charles Mapes, the witness, also employed as a detective, Barnes held the gun in his own hand when it was discharged. Mapes is uncertain whether the shot was accidental or was fired with suicidal intent.

The circumstances, as developed after an investigation by the police, were such that Mapes was placed under arrest and is being held pending the investigation of a Coroner's jury. Mapes was denied bail by District Attorney Cameron and remained in the City Jail last night.

It was 4:50 o'clock yesterday afternoon when Manager D. L. Clouse, of the detective service company, heard the report of a revolver in room 203, Chamber of Commerce, just across the hall from the main offices of the company. Soon afterward, he said, Mapes rushed into his office and told him Barnes had shot himself. He immediately notified the police, and Sergeant Goltz, followed later by Sergeant and Plainclothesmen Montgomery and Long, were sent to the scene by Captain Bailey, Detective Sergeant Carpenter who was standing across the street also hurried up to the room.

Dead When Police Arrive.

When the police arrived Barnes was dead. The bullet entered just below the nose and the same exit was made of the head. The revolver was lying a few feet from his left hand. He was lying with his head against the door of a closet in the room, in a cramped position.

The revolver is an old model, 45-caliber, eight-inch barrel, single-action Colt. It is the model of the revolver which first aroused the suspicion of the police toward the story told by Mapes.

According to Mapes' story, he and Barnes were in the room alone. Both had been drinking and for some hours had been playing cards for small sums. When the game was finished, Barnes went to a closet and taking out the revolver, commenced twirling it around his front finger, which was through the trigger guard. "This is the way the cowboys do," he said, according to Mapes. "The words were no sooner out of his mouth than the gun discharged," said Mapes.

This version was questioned by the police and District Attorney Cameron, who had been summoned, owing to the fact that a single-action revolver of this type will not discharge unless the hammer is cocked, when the trigger is pressed. This circumstance in itself was considered sufficiently untenable to warrant Mapes' detention.

Detectives Make Investigation.

Detectives Carpenter and Price, who were assigned to the case by Captain of Detectives Moore, commenced further investigation shortly after the shooting.

Barnes was married, but married children. He lived in a bungalow at 154 East Thirty-second street. He and his wife were married in Los Angeles four years ago. According to Mapes, their married relations were not congenial, and for this reason Barnes had often expressed the intention of killing himself.

"I am pretty sure Barnes killed himself intentionally," said Clouse. "He often talked to me about his troubles. He and his wife were separated all last Summer and only went back living together a short time ago."

This was denied by Mrs. Barnes. She exhibited little sorrow over her husband's tragic end and talked freely of the circumstances.

Accident, Wife Says.

"I am sure it was an accident," she said. "I am positive he did not shoot himself intentionally. He had no reason to. When he left yesterday morning everything appeared all right. We have our own home and were getting on nicely. We never quarreled during our married life."

"I do not believe Mr. Mapes had anything to do with it. He impressed me as being a nice man. He visited us once and I only knew him slightly."

As yet Detectives Carpenter and Price have been unable to uncover any motive to substantiate a murder theory, other than the possibility of drunken quarrel over some controverted point in the card game. They give Mapes credit for his story and are continuing the investigation to get the full circumstances.

Summed up, the suspicious circumstances include the possibility of a quarrel, coupled with the fact that both men were drinking; the improbability of the weapon being discharged in the manner described by Mapes, in view of its single action; the cramped and unnatural position of the body when found by the officers; the mixed version of the facts related by the only witness and the unwieldy size of the revolver, making it impracticable for twirling, as related by Mapes, and the fact that the body was lying near the left hand of the dead man, who, in life, was right-handed.

Men Are Good Friends.

Again, it is recited the two men, so far as is known, were good friends; Mapes excited, protested his innocence; the course of the bullet indicates that it could not have been fired across the room, that it was either discharged or fired from Barnes' own hand; the fact that no evidences of a scuffle were found on either man and the further fact that no motive, other than mere possibilities, has been established.

Just before his commitment to a cell, Mapes told his version of the affair to The Oregonian.

"Barnes and myself had been playing stud-poker all afternoon. He had 50 cents in his pocket when we began the game. Barnes was a heavy drinker and was stupidly drunk while we were playing cards. I won nearly every pot. We bought 25 chips for 50 cents. In our drunken condition I hated to take advantage of him, and the last few hands in the game I lost to him, purposely. Just before he arose from the table he won 50 cents from me. I pushed the money across the table to him. He picked it up and put it in his pocket, with the remark, 'I guess I'll have to go out of

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town tonight on a Pullman. (This was indicative of an assignment for detective duty aboard a Pullman on an outgoing train.)

"I paid little attention to him as he walked across the room toward the closet. I still remained seated at the card table looking at my cards.

"Evidently Barnes went to the closet on the opposite side of the room and took the gun from the scabbard that hung on a hook. When he stepped out of the closet and near the door that stood partly open he said to me, 'This is the way the cowboys do it.' I wheeled around in my chair. He was trying to revolve the gun with his finger through the trigger guard. Before either one of us said a word the cartridge in the weapon exploded. Barnes sank to the floor without a word. I rushed across the hall into the main office and called to Mr. Clouse that 'Tony' had shot himself."

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