CONTEST FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Gans-Nelson Mill Promises to Be Battle Worth Going Miles to See.

EVEN MONEY PROPOSITION

Strange Terms, With Gans' Record as Faker, Give Ground for Speculation as to Whether Fight Is on the Level.

BY W. O. MAC RAE.

While the fight fans, East, West, North and South, have been reading the frenzied fighting dope that has been bothering the mailcarriers out of Goldfield, only a few of them are wise to the fact that for the first time in years the fight between Battling Nelson and Joe Gans is strictly a battle for the lightweight championship. Gans is the real holder of the title, in spite of the fact that he has forfeited it times over and again by his crooked work in the squared arena.

Gans, since he won the title, so long ago now that only the dopesters remember when and who he whipped, has fought alleged lightweights, welter-weights and middle-weights. He laid down to Terry McGovern, faked with Jimmy Britt and with numerous others, yet he has never been defeated by a real died-in-the-wool lightweight champion, so his battle with the Dane on September 3 will decide beyond all cavil who's who in the lightweight division of biffs and wallops.

It is not to be wondered at that the fight followers wink and look wise when they discuss the probable winner. Gans and that prince of all fistic pirates, Al Herford, have played so many double crosses on the fight fans, that they cannot be blamed for taking up and talking fake in the coming battle. Nolan, who has been looking after the Battler's verbal luggage ever since the passing of Nelson's former manager, Murphy, is not one whit better thought of among fight followers than Al Herford. Nolan, if all of the stories told about his early career in San Francisco in connection with the running of dogs are to be believed, would as readily lend himself to a frame-up as Al Herford.

Eddie Graney Gans' Friend.

Gans could have never had another fight in San Francisco but for Eddie Graney. When Gans was matched to fight, Mike (Twin) Sullivan and howl went up, and it was not stilled until Graney came to the fore, and said that he would stake his reputation upon the fight being on the square. It was, for Gans whipped Sullivan, and once more the Baltimore black was half forgiven. Larry Sullivan has had to be the Graney in the approaching fight. Of course no one is going to believe all the stories about that $10,000 put-up of Gans as a guarantee that his fight with Nelson is to be on the level. This much of the gossip everybody will understand is stage money. Where did Gans get $10,000? His fake with Britt didn't bring him that juicy sum, neither did his fight with Sullivan, and it is a dead sure thing that he didn't earn that amount while boxing in the East. Now those who know Joe Gans know that the dusky boxer from Baltimore never could save money. Joe is too fond of the ponies and of the coon's delight, craps, to store up any of your Uncle Sam's legal tender. These being the facts, if Gans really has $10,000 on deposit, it belongs to Larry Sullivan and a few others who have taken, not only Gans' word for a square fight, but that of Larry Sullivan's as well.

If the fight is on the level, and there are some few reasons to think that it is, it will certainly be a battle that will be worth going the long distance to see. There are several queer angles to the fight. The $30,000 purse that the brave miners of Goldfield have hung up for the contest may have had something to do with Nolan's withdrawal of his objections to fighting Gans. But if ever a miser got his, Nolan has demanded it for his meal ticket. The truth of the matter is, Nolan has demanded and has been granted all there is in sight. This means one of two things, either the verbose manager of the Dane expects Gans to win, or he has agreed to frame-up and demanded his first. Never in the history of the fight game that can be recalled to mind just at this writing can it be remembered that a champion has conceded to all the demands made on him. The rule has been to the contrary. It has been the champion that has been the dictator, and not the pretender.

Will Keep Fans Guessing.

If there is an explanation for this, it may be because Gans realizes that he is in bad odor and has given away his rights and title just to get a fight with the Dane. His willingness to take $10,000 if the Dane takes down $30,000 is truly a most wondrous concession for the champion. He certainly deserves a medal for his modesty and a victory for his aid in fatting Nelson and Nolan's bank roll. It is this division of the purse and other concessions which Nolan has demanded that will keep the fight fans guessing until the fight is over. If it wasn't for the fact that Larry Sullivan nows stands sponser for Gans and that that honest old veteran referee, George Siler, of Chicago, has been chosen as the third man in the ring, a heavy pall of distrust would filter over the battle. Sullivan has too much at stake to stand for a frame-up. His financial interests in Goldfield are too great, and he is making a fortune among people who will not stand for the double cross. Siler is another man who is beyond the reach of fight-fixers.

To name the winner of the fight is another question. The latest press-agent dope from the fighting camps says that Gans is down to 135 pounds, and has let up on his hard work. Gans has always contended that he could make 133 pounds, but the night he fought Britt he was certainly a gaunt and drawn nigger. He was also very weak, but this was explained by one of his seconds, who said that Joe had taken sick a couple of days before the fight, caused by taking off weight too fast. Here, again, Nolan has insisted on his. The articles of agreement call for the fighters to weigh in between 1:30 and 3 o'clock. What is to prevent Nolan from insisting upon Gans' weighting at ringside? Trust Nelson's wind-jammer to insist upon this if he happens to think of it. If Joe is strong at 133, then the Dane has the fight of his life on his hands. It will be a question whether those thick jowels of his will be able to stand those stinging chops from Joe's dusky arms.

Gans will win if he can keep the Dane from closing in on him. If he cannot, Nelson will play a devil's tattoo on Joe's midsection and, this being Gans' weak spot, he is liable to bring home the victory, he having the money no matter which way the battle turns.

So far, there has been little betting on the fight. Larry Sullivan wants to bet $1000 that Gans will score the first knockdown, and another $1000 that Joe will draw first blood. This sort of betting does not mean anything, for it gives no line on the betting. As a betting proposition, it ought to be even money and take your pick. It will rule this way, too, unless there is something doing.

LATEST PHOTOGRAPHS FROM GOLDFIELD OF THE FIGHTERS

SURPRISE BY GANS

Declares Articles Allow Him to Delay Game.

"BATTLING" WON'T AGREE

Clog in Proceedings Over Black Man's Unusual Decision and Forfeit Open to Claim by Dane's Manager.

FIGHT MAY BE DECLARED OFF.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 25.—An unconfirmed report comes from Goldfield tonight that a hitch has arisen in the Gans-Nelson fight arrangements, and that Larry Sullivan, Gans' manager, has announced that under no circumstances would Gans fight under Siler as referee. His reasons for this statement have not been ascertained.

GOLDFIELD, Aug. 25.—"Gans will not fight under George Siler as referee," declared Larry Sullivan, Gans' manager, tonight. Unless another referee is chosen there will be no fight.

Sullivan further declared that two directors of the club told Gans before the selection of the referee that no man would be selected who was objectionable to either man. "If the club insists on Siler as referee," continued Sullivan, "Gans will forfeit his $5000 rather than enter the ring."

Won't Fight Under Siler.

Sullivan declared that Gans' objections to Siler were well known to the club. Gans, he said, would not go on record as objecting to Siler for several reasons, but emphatically said that he did not wish to fight under him. Sullivan declares that in selecting Siler the club knew they were overriding Gans' wishes in favor of Nolan.

He said that there is plenty of time to select another referee who is acceptable to both parties. Sullivan's objections to Siler are that Siler is too old, has imperfect eyesight and is prejudiced against Gans.

Gans retired early this evening and his trainer would not allow him to be disturbed after Sullivan had given out his statement.

Not Earlier Than 4 o'Clock.

Much surprise was created here this afternoon by the announcement that Gans had said that under no circumstances will he appear in the ring on Labor day before 4 o'clock in the afternoon, emphatically declaring that the articles of agreemnet did not state what hour the fight should begin. He asserted that he would take at least an hour after weighing in before putting on his gloves to meet his opponent. Further, he said:

"I have given everything so far to these fellows and this is an opportunity which I intend to take advantage of." Gans' trainer backed up Gans' declaration regarding his rights in the premises, by stating that when Gans fought Joe Walcott a little over two years ago, the latter did not make his appearance in the ring for three-quarters of an hour after weighing in.

Nelson Ready on Time.

Billy Nolan declared emphatically this afternoon that Battling Nelson will be in the ring ready to fight within five minutes after the final weighing in at 3 o'clock. "If Joe Gans is not there to meet him I shall declare his $5000 forfeit money mine," said Nolan.

Larry Sullivan, Gans' manager, upheld Gans' decision in an interview this afternoon. "Articles or no articles," said Sullivan, "Gans will not fight until 4 o'clock."

When it was mentioned to Sullivan that the articles plainly required both Gans and Nelson to fight at 3 o'clock he angrily shouted: "Then there will be no fight," and assented to his being quoted to that effect.

JEFFRIES SAYS GANS.

Advises Fighters to Watch for Squalls if Anything Crooked Appears.

OAKLAND, Cal., Aug. 25.—"Gans is a winner unless something goes wrong with the fight."

Such is the opinion of the Goldfield contest as James J. Jeffries, the champion heavyweight, discussed the negro and the Dane among friends here. Jeffries arrived Thursday on his way to Eugene, Or., where he will hunt big game during a month's vacation.

"If Gans and Nelson fight on the square, the black man will walk away with the contest," continued Jeffries. "And you can set it down that George Siler is good enough at every stage of the game to get results that will mean straight fighting. So far as Nelson and Gans are concerned as fighters, it is like a superb racehorse running against a drayhorse. Now, if each horse has a good jockey who is riding his best, no one will hesitate to lay everything he possesses on the thoroughbred. Nelson—plucky, gritty, willing and able to take lots of punishment—is a drayhorse in the ring alongside of Gans. Now, when all is said and done, Gans will slaughter Nelson as surely as they get in the ring together, if the battle is on the level.

"In this connection it might be well to mention that if there is any crooked work neither Gans nor Nelson will take much interest in earthly questions after they get out of that Nevada country. The boys will put up a straight fight, in my opinion, because the conditions demand it. Gans and Nelson know the situation at Goldfield just as well, if not better, than some of us who are not so closely interested.

"Nelson is strong and rugged. So was Joe Walcott. He was capable of licking any three of the best lightweights in the same ring the night he met Gans, and look what Gans did to him. Then again, see what Gans did to Mike Sullivan, a better man than the Dane. Mike is Nelson's master any day if he could fight at the Battler's weight. You listen to me—Gans will come back a winner in a square fight with Nelson."

Jeffries is in the primest of physical condition. The big man will visit around the bay and leave tonight for Oregon.

NEW YORK FAVORS NEGRO

Jimmy Brit Says Gans Is 75 Per Cent Better Man.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—Battling Nelson's chances of defeating Joe Gans are very slim, if the opinion of many prominent pugilists count for anything. The prevailing sentiment is that the colored wonder will win in a gallop. Here is what they have to say:

Terry McGovern—Gans for mine. He is the marvel of the prizering.

Young Corbett—Nelson is a great fighter, but Gans is the class. He is the daddy of us all.

Jimmy Britt—Fought them both, and Gans is 75 per cent the better man.

Willie Lewis—Nothing to it but Smoke. He has the sleep potion in both hands and is the greatest general in the ring.

Willie Fitzgerald—It will be curtains for the Battler long before the fifteenth round.

Sailor Burke—The man with the punch is the best, and that's Gans.

Tom Sharkey—The Dane will think he ran against a man-o'-war when Joe hits him, and I don't think he can miss.

Abe Attell—I pick Gans to win on the bit. He is clever and has the punch.

MEN IN PRIME CONDITION

Science and Experience Against Youth and Endurance.

GOLDFIELD, Nev., Aug. 25.—The climate has worked wonders for both fighters, especially for Gans. The Dane, of course, would have no trouble in making the weight anywhere, but once when Gans tried to make 133 for James Edward Britt, over in Marin County, he looked as though he had been drawn through a wringer and at the last moment he had to dry out. Up here he has worked easily down to the weight. The veteran will lay off on the work now.

"What is the use of boxing much?" he says. "There is nothing that I can learn about boxing now. If I don't know all that I could be taught, it's too late now."

Gans' camp is full of life. In the other camp it is all seriousness and work, hard work. This fight means everything to the Dane, and he is in dead, dogged earnest about his training. He is always "boring in" on his sparring partners, following the same tactics that he will in the battle. If there is a shade in his favor, it is on the score of youth and endurance. He comes of a race that is hardy and persevering.

A local doctor has said that Gans is as perfect anatomically as a boy of 16. Science and experience against youth and endurance, that will be the battle. It is the veteran against the man just reaching his prime, for in the status of the ring Gans is nearing the age limit.

In some quarters there is talk of a fake. Gans was mixed in some deals whose aroma will cling to him for some time. A prominent sport says:

"If there is the least thing about this fight that looks off-color, there will be something doing. The arena will be drenched with gore and the town undertaker will be the wealthiest man in the camp."

One of the peculiar things about the fight is that women will be admitted as spectators.

SWIMMING TIME IS BROKEN

New Yorker Makes New Record for 440 Yards.

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—C. M. Daniels this afternoon broke the American swimming record for 440 yards by more than 7 seconds at the New York Athletic Club. He covered the distance across tidal salt water in 6 minutes and 6¼ seconds. The old time was 6 minutes and 13 2-5 seconds, also held by Daniels.

The conditions were decidedly unfavorable. The wind was stiff and water cold. Had Daniels been more closely pressed he would unquestionably have done better.

RECORD BY UNPACED PACER

The Broncho at Galesburg, Ill., Goes in 2:00 3-4.

GALESBURG, Ill., Aug. 25.—The Broncho, driven by Dean, paced a mile today in 2:00¾, lowering her own record of 2:02, and going the fastest time on record for a mare unpaced. Time by quarters, 0:29½, 1:00, 1:30¾, 2:00¾.

Dougherty Matched With Sullivan.

BUTTE, Mont., Aug. 25.—Jack Dougherty, of Milwaukee, and Mike (Twin) Sullivan have been signed here for a 20-round battle for the welterweight championship of the world, Labor Day, September 3. The bout will be pulled off in the evening in the big arena of the Butte Athletic Club on the flat below the city. The articles call for 140 pounds at 6 o'clock on the afternoon of the fight.

GO BETWEEN WINS DRIVING

SAMSON PLAYED FOR SECOND PLACE GETS BEHIND HUON.

Rainey's $45,000 Colt Demund Carries Off Rich Hotel Stakes at Saratoga.

SARATOGA, Aug. 25.—R. Thomas' Go Between, the 2 to 5 favorite, won the Saragota cup, one mile and six furlongs, at Saratoga. The Suburban winner was considered to so far outclass the two colts opposed to him that he was always at a prohibitive price, but he had to be hard ridden at the end to win. Sir Huon was not in the best of condition, but was second. Samson was the one played to beat the favorite.

Paul Rainey's $45,000 colt Demund easily won the $10,000 United States Hotel stakes, six furlongs, defeating a number of Futurity candidates. Demund picked up 122 pounds and ran the distance in 1:14, which was considered good, as the track was not at its best. Demund was a heavily played favorite, being backed down from 5 to 2 to 11 to 5, and at no stage of the race was he in trouble, winning easily. Results:

Six furlongs—Nealon won, Water Grass second, Anneta Lady third; time, 1:13 4-5.

The Beveryck steeplechase, about two and a half miles—Herculoid won, Phantom second, Gatebell third; time, 5:21.

The United States Hotel Stakes, $10,000, six furlongs—Demund won, Arctic second, Vox Populi third; time, 1:14.

The Saratoga Cup, mile and six furlongs—Go Between won, Sir Huon second, Samson third; time, 3:05 2-5.

Mile, selling—Ostrich won, Jocund second, Azelina third; time, 1:40 2-5.

Six furlongs—Conville won, Grimaldo second, Yankee Girl third; time, 1:15.

At Seattle.

SEATTLE, Aug. 25.—Results:

Seven furlongs—Legal Form won, Tryconnel second, Santa Ray third; time, 1:28¾.

Second race, mile and an eighth—Jerusha won, Drexelle second, Birdie P. third; time, 1:54¾.

Five furlongs—Utica won, Milsora second, Grace St. Clair third; time, 1:01½.

Five and a half furlongs—Grasscutter won, Ruby second, Misty's Pride third; time, 1:06¾.

Mile and a sixteenth—Gorgalete won, Ed Sheridan second, Blue Eyes third; time, 1:45¾.

Six furlongs—Little Buttercup won, Silver Sue second, Hersain third; time, 1:14.

Mile and fifty yards—Christine A. won, Salable second, Florence Fonso third; time, 1:48¾.

Street beggars in the London area are estimated to make $1,500,000 a year.

GUM RESURRECTS BURIED BEAVERS

Demonstrates That Requiem Sung for Pennant Lifters Was Wasted Breath.

HOME TEAM WINS, 5 TO 1

Jud Smith Pokes Out Three Safe Bingles and Benny Henderson Sets Fans Wild by Circus Catch in Field.

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE.

Yesterday's Results:

*Portland, 5; Oakland, 1.
Los Angeles, 7; San Francisco, 3.
Seattle, 4; Fresno, 3.

Standing of the Clubs.

	Won.	Lost.	P. C.
San Francisco	98	44	.607
Portland	72	36	.667
Los Angeles	58	53	.523
Seattle	50	65	.442
Oakland	44	68	.393
Fresno	46	72	.390

That bright young scribe who sang a requiem over those pennant-lifters of yours in his afternoon salary-getter will change his brand of dope from now and instead of smoking yen-sheque, he will call for the pure juice of the poppy. Buried is what this budding journalist had the Beavers. Well, if they were buried, an angel in the shape of one Pitcher Gum came and rolled the stone away, and they hung up a 5-to-1 victory against the Oakland bedroomites. After the first inning Angel Gum never left the issue in doubt, and the youth who would have liked to write a funeral of the Beavers was compelled to admit that he counted on a funeral before he took stock of the corpses.

But forget him. He would have buried the ancient and honorable Rip Van Haltren and his whole infernal crew with just as much wordy grace and without calling for the aid of the Coroner. He wouldn't have seen Jud Smith poke out three safe bingles had he attended his own funeral, neither would he have seen Portland chase in two runs in the opening canto and cinch the game had he officiated a sole mourner at his own obsequies. Nor would he have seen Benny Henderson make that startling, brilliant catch of that long foul that caromed off Oakland Smith's bat. Neither would he have had the pleasure of listening to that round of continuous applause which greeted the Portland twirler from the time he dug his digits into the Spalding until he took his place on the rest perch. All this happened and was done by nine players who were buried. A right lot of lively dead ones, ask Joe Rielly if they are not.

But it's really too bad that the champions-to-be are not dead; how glad every other team in the league would be if they were; but they are not, and the fact that they showed up alive does not speak well for that ill-sorted collection of Commuters. As gravediggers and fancy sextons they cut as much figure among the live ones as a fly speck on last year's map. Why even Van Haltren admitted, after the game, that he wasn't a good gravedigger, for he said:

"We can hit the rest of those pitchers and it's funny we can't hit Gum. He puts them over in the same old place, but they ain't there when you come to clout them. Strange, passing strange," he murmured, as he lit a Bill Devereaux punko, filled with Broadway sweepings. The score:

PORTLAND.

	AB.	R.	1B.	PO.	A.	E.
McHale, c. f.	4	1	1	2	0	0
Sweeney, s. s.	3	1	0	1	2	0
Mitchell, l. f.	4	1	2	2	1	0
McLean, c.	3	1	1	4	1	1
Smith, 3 b.	4	1	3	1	2	0
Moore, 2 b.	3	0	0	1	1	0
Henderson, r. f.	3	0	0	4	0	0
Lister, 1 b.	3	0	0	12	0	0
Gum, p.	3	0	0	0	4	0
Totals	30	5	7	27	13	1

OAKLAND.

	AB.	R.	1B.	PO.	A.	E.
Smith, r. f.	4	0	0	3	0	0
Van Haltren, c. f.	4	0	1	5	0	0
Krueger, l. f.	4	1	2	2	0	1
Heitmuller, 1 b.	3	0	0	11	1	0
Bliss, c.	4	0	1	3	1	0
Deveraux, 3 b.	4	0	1	1	3	0
Haley, 2 b.	2	0	0	0	4	0
Francks, s. s.	3	0	0	0	1	0
Reidy, p.	3	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	1	5	24	10	1

SCORE BY INNINGS.

Oakland	0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0—1
Hits	0 0 0 1 0 0 2 0 2—5
Portland	2 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 *—5
Hits	3 0 1 1 0 2 0 0 *—7

SUMMARY.

Struck out, by Gum 4, by Reidy 1; bases on balls, off Gum 1, off Reidy 2; two-base hit, Mitchell; three-base hit, Jud Smith; Stolen bases, McHale, Smith 2, Sweeney; wild pitches, Reidy; left on bases, Portland 3, Oakland 5. Time of game, 1:25. Umpire, Mahaffey.

FOURTH INNING WINS GAME

Los Angeles Scores Three Hits at Proper Time.

OAKLAND, Aug. 25.—Stickwork was the feature of today's game, which was captured by Los Angeles in the fourth inning, when three of the 14 hits were made and three tallies scored. San Francisco secured a dozen hits off Burns. The score:

		R.	H.	E.
Los Angeles	2 0 1 3 0 1 0 0 0	7	14	0
San Francisco	0 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 0	3	12	4

Batteries—Burns and Eager; Simons and Wilson.

VICKERS HOLDS DOWN FRESNO

Siwashes Find Wolters Easier and End With Higher Score.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 25.—Seattle scored on hits off Wolters, while Vickers held Fresno to six. Seattle showed the better form in fielding. Score:

		R.	H.	E.
Seattle	2 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0	4	10	1
Fresno	0 0 0 0 0 2 1 0 0	3	6	3

Batteries—Vickers and Blankenship; Wolters and Hogan.

NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE.

Spokane 4, Tacoma 3.

SPOKANE, Aug. 25.—Spokane won one of the best-played games of the season today. It was characterized by exceptionally brilliant fielding, both pitchers being almost perfectly supported. Seven two-base hits, six by the home team, were the hitting features. Score:

		R.	H.	E.
Tacoma	0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 2	3	9	1
Spokane	0 0 1 1 2 0 0 0 *	4	12	1

Batteries—French and Shea; Rush and Altman.