SPOKANE WONDERS ABOUT NEW TEAM

Much Baseball Talk as to How New Management Will Conduct Season.

GOOD SUPPORT ASSURED

Club Has New Owners and New Manager, Who Will Make General Shake-up in Personnel. Fans Welcome Any Change.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Can Cohn and Brown give Spokane a winner?

Early in the 1909 season, as it is, this question is often heard here in cigar stores and on the streets, and with the exceptional activity in the doings of the magnates this year, the return of Portland, the shifts in the circuit, the sweeping changes in the make-up of the 1908 teams, there is more midwinter baseball talk in Spokane right now than there has ever been since the history of professional baseball in the Northwest.

Spokane will see in 1909 a new club-owner, a new manager and many new individual faces. Where a team has been perpetually losing from year to year, it is the disposition of the average fan to welcome any sort of a change on the theory that it can't be much worse, anyway, and it may be better.

Toward the new club-owners and managers there is a feeling here of something different from the usual skepticism. Many fans, who have studied out conditions here, have believed for a long time that the salvation of the Spokane situation was an individual owner and a manager with a financial interest, rather than corporation control, with a manager who has only a salary interest. Both of these Spokane will have next year. Joseph Cohn, of the Kirkwood Distillery, is the joint owner of the team with Robert Brown, playing manager. The exact relation of stock between the two has never been officially announced. It is said that Brown has a quarter interest, in addition to a neat salary as player-manager.

Cohn is no novice at the game, for he is an old professional pitcher himself, and was captain and manager of semi-professional teams of the Middle West 15 and 20 years ago. Brown's record speaks for itself. He put a ball team in the Northwestern four-club league in 1906, representing Grays Harbor (Aberdeen, Cosmopolis and Hoquiam), on sheer nerve, and pulled through the season in third place, beating out Spokane. In the following year by capturing a lot of Coast League stars and bringing back the big Higginbotham from the St Louis Nationals at great expense, he won the Northwestern pennant. Last year his team finished third, barely nosed out of second place by Tacoma—and that on a questionable decision by an umpire in a play that would have given Aberdeen three runs and the game that was needed to cinch second place for them.

Brown is not yet through hunting for material, but even with the list of men already in sight, the outlook is for a stronger representative team than has ever worn the uniform of Spokane, not excepting the old days of Nordyke, Huelsman, Klopf, Durect, etc. Brown is still looking for a high-class infielder and a hard-hitting outfielder. Then, he says, his team will be complete, barring the always-present possibility of a trade.

The Spokane team looks well fortified for the battery. Ostdiek, purchased from the Boston Americans for $1000, is counted on to do the bulk of the receiving. Ostdiek hit .264 for Providence in the Eastern League last year and the Eastern League is one notch faster than the Northwestern. The average of .264 would have been pretty good in the Northwestern League last year. The ex-Boston man is a big, powerful fellow, with a fine throwing arm, and is said to be a most promising youngster. He came to Boston from Youngstown, O.

Dick Boettiger and Fred Rogers will be the change catchers. Boettiger has been with Brown's team on the Coast three years and Brown thinks him a good utility backstop. Boettiger is a fine batsman and baserunner. He hit .243 last year. He ranked seventh among the catchers, with .974. Rogers was fifth among the catchers with .975, but is a poor hitter.

In the box, Brown has 13 pitchers on his list, including Dunn and Spoonemore, who, it is said, will be turned back to Portland. Of this number, Wright, Jensen, Killilay, Holm, Brinker and Hoon are the best. Wright and Jensen started in the 1908 season in whirlwind fashion, Wright winning 12 and Jensen 13 of their first 15 games. Both were overworked and Jensen lost something like 12 straight and Wright eight straight before they recovered anything like their old-time form. Wright is good for no more than one game a week, nor is Brinker. Hoon, Killilay and Holm require much work and so does Jensen if he is to be the same star southpaw that he was in 1907 and in the early part of 1908. Wright and Brinker on a one-game-a-week proposition, will be almost unbeatable. Holm and Killilay are a wonderful pair of youngsters and Cohn is confident that they will both be good for only about one more season in this league—then, higher up.

Hulen will probably not return, as it is unlikely he will accept a player's salary, and he writes from Medicine Hat that he is pretty well satisfied up there, has a good business, and there is a chance of another twilight league in 1909. It is Brown's plan to put James on first and get a crack second baseman, but if a high-class first baseman came into Brown's view James would be put back on second. James hit around .275 all season, dropping to .248 only in the last few weeks. He was one of the best clean-up hitters in the Spokane lineup, however, and probably batted in more runs individually than any other man on the team. He fielded .946 at second base, .907 at third and .880 at shortstop, and played every position on the infield during the season.

Altman will hold down third base. Why Altman did not make good in the Coast League is a mystery, and there is a feeling here that Oakland only let him go because they were so far down in the race and needed the money Quinn offered them. Altman hit .270, ranking sixth in the league of the players that finished the season, ranked second of the shortstops, with .938, and fielded .909 at third base.

Bob Brown will play shortstop himself. Brown was really the second man of the league in his position to Bresino last season, as Altman only played in 14 games. There was no other shortstop in the league except McKune, who did not finish the season, who played up with Bresino and Brown in fielding average.

Burnett and Ed Hickey may be reckoned as good utility infielders. Brown is wondering if there are not a few more good games left in old Ed Hickey. If he can keep in condition there is no finer third baseman in the league, but he cannot bat. Burnett is a brilliant but erratic infielder.

Brown figures on using Burnett, with Clynes, Stevens, Indian Rube Roberts and possibly Ellis in the outfield. He thinks Burrett will make a wonderful outfielder. After joining the Spokane club last Summer Burnett commenced to bat in something like his old-time form, and followed a .365 clip for the balance of the season. His bad start and indifferent work at Tacoma cut his average to .325. Playing the outfield Brown thinks he will hit around the .300 mark next season. Burnett batted .325 in the Northwestern League in 1907 until sold to St. Louis.

Clynes held around the .270 mark, like James, all season, until the last Coast trip, when he dropped to .244. He accepted something like 75 chances without an error to start the season, and led the left fielders with an average of .960. Stevens finished a nose above the .250 mark, and fielded well after some bad work in June. His final average was .936. Rube Roberts hit .255 last year and .310 in 1907, and will probably be used as a utility outfielder.

It will be seen that a batsman capable of hitting .300 in the outfield and a finished infielder—say, a first baseman or a second baseman—would make a mighty strong representative team for Spokane, one dangerous at every department of the game.

LANGFORD LATEST IDOL

SAN FRANCISCO FANS LIKE FLYNN'S CONQUEROR.

Match With Ketchel Probability of Near Future—Langford Likened to Corbett and Dempey.

BY HARRY B. SMITH.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—(Special Correspondence.)—Sam Langford has taken the local fight fans by storm. They are likening him to Jim Corbett, Jack Dempsey, Joe Gans and every fighter they can remember of note. His display was not long enough to give much of a line on his ability but it was sufficient. Just two minutes and fourteen seconds did burly Flynn last against the colored boy and then the crowd filed out of the arena talking about what a great match it would be with Ketchel and Langford as the scrappers.

Jim Flynn, you ought to understand, is a husky boy, weighing about 175 pounds, who rushes in a mad way at his opponent. He rushed last night. Langford stopped the rush and calmly looked his opponent over. The next time that Jim rushed, Langford let go a right that shook up the fighting fireman. Then Flynn rushed for the third time and was jolted in the body. There was just one more rush and the fight was over. Langford caught his man a right uppercut, and, as Flynn trembled in his shooks, the negro hooked with the left and the Colorado boy was stretched on the floor. Perhaps he stayed there longer than was necessary, but there could be no question but that he was knocked out.

Langford didn't display his gameness, because there wasn't any chance, but he did prove that he is an artist with the gloves and that he can punch. Of perfect build above the waist, the first rush made by Flynn showed that he never had a ghost of a chance to win.

And now the one topic of conversation is the chance of a fight between the black man and the champion middleweight of the world—Stanley Ketchel. It would be a great fight. One would be foolish not to give Ketchel a chance, but the Bostonian would undoubtedly be the favorite. If Ketchel landed one of his shifts, he might knock out Langford, but there is no certainty that he would be able to land.

That he is the most remarkable fighter that has been seen in San Francisco in many a day is the general consensus of opinion. As Tim McGrath, who handled Flynn, humorously remarked: "The only way to beat Langford is to do with him the way they did with the big elephant in New York. Give him a dose of poison."

But Ketchel is now in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he will spend the holidays with his folks and the chances of signing for a match are doubtful. O'Connor is too much afraid of Ketchel to sign him up without having the champion on the ground and has said repeatedly that Ketchel will not fight until February 22. However, the black will remain here for some time, and if the promoters can get anyone to meet him, there will most surely be a fight.

The Board of Supervisors is raising havoc with fight permits. In the past the custom has been for the police committee to recommend certain clubs while the Board has adopted the report and voted accordingly. This month it has been different. When the report was adopted, and presented by the committee, the Board moved a postponement. The matter will be taken up next Monday, but there are many of the members out knocking the fight game and it would occasion no surprise to see boxing barred from San Francisco for the year. And then what a wail there would be.

Indoor Meet by Wire.

The big telegraphic indoor athletic meet between 12 Y. M. C. A. teams of the Northwest, which was originally scheduled for December 29, has been postponed until January 22. On this night each association entered will hold a track meet in its gym, and the results will be wired to each organization, and the best times and distances made will decide the winners. The following associations are expected to compete:

Vancouver and Victoria in British Columbia; Seattle, Tacoma, Bellingham, Everett, North Yakima, Spokane and Walla Walla in Washington; Boise, Idaho, and Portland and Salem.

MINISTERS FROM CLERKS

English Plan to Get Business Methods in the Church.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—A new scheme for bringing men engaged in business, who have neither the leisure nor the means for an ordinary college training, into the church's ministry, has been originated by the Rev. J. Lenthall Davids, of St. John's Vicarage, Stamford Hill.

Mr. Davids, who is strongly of the opinion that business men are wanted as clergymen to get into touch with the average business layman, says:

"It is proposed to open a hotel in Vantry-road, opposite my vicarage, where men will live together in a collegiate life, under the direction of the clergy, go to their business in the daytime and of an evening attend lectures with a view to qualifying themselves.

The men will be coached for degrees at London University. Dr. Headlam, the principal of King's College, has promised to assist to give them facilities. At the same time they will also have opportunities of learning parochial duties and of recreation.

New York.—Mrs. Frederick B. Belcher, wife of the secretary of a music publishing company of this city, was seriously injured while seated in a subway train Thursday night. Mrs. Belcher was seated by her husband, when she screamed suddenly and grasped her left leg. Examination of Mrs. Belcher's coat revealed the point of a sharp penknife sticking through the silk lining. It is supposed that some one who had a hand in making the garment left the knife by accident in the folds, where it was sewed up unnoticed.

SOME OF THE PLAYERS OF THE SPOKANE NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE TEAM.

SEASON IS ENDED

After New Year's Game Pigskin Will Retire.

CLUBMEN GET ONE DEFEAT

U. of O. Only Team Prevailing Over Multnomah—Game with Whitworth Expected to Be One of Hardest Fought of Year.

The gridiron struggle on Multnomah Field between the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club eleven and the Whitworth College team on New Year's Day, will mark the windup of the football season for another nine months. After that game is played, and the players choose a captain for next season, the moleskin and football paraphaernalia will be doffed.

Multnomah, under the guidance of Martin Pratt and E. Plowden Stott, has enjoyed a most successful season as far as the games played are concerned. Only one game has been adverse to the Clubmen, and that was the Thanksgiving game against the University of Oregon. The other contests have all been victories for Multnomah, and nearly every one of them has been a hard-fought battle. The club has suffered severely by the loss of big games scheduled, which practically eliminated play during the month of December. Instead of having a game for each week during that month, only two of the five dates were filled. Clubs which were depended upon to have teams in the field failed to materialize.

In addition to this, the club first endeavored to have the Notre Dame University team come to Portland for the New Year's date, but this game was called off, and so was the contest with the Olympic Club of San Francisco. These canceled dates made it necessary for the clubmen to seek a game near home, and after a short period, the Whitworth College team, of Tacoma, was secured. This game is expected to prove one of the hardest struggles of the Northwestern season. The collegians are the lads who defeated the University of Oregon and Whitman College, much to the surprise of the dopesters of the Northwest.

Acting Manager William Hayward, of the University of Oregon football team, was in Portland a few days last week talking shop. Hayward was accompanied by Dudley Clarke, the newly elected captain of the Oregon team for the coming season. They paid numerous holiday calls and met many of the Oregon alumni. "Bill" Hayward, who is acting in the capacity of manager of college athletics at the Eugene institution at present, is one of the best-known men in athletic

circles on the Pacific Coast. As a trainer at Oregon he has developed several premier athletes, who have won many honors on track and field. Probably his most notable achievement was developing Dan J. Kelly, the world's record holder at the 100-yard dash, who also took second place at the London Olympic games last July in the running broad jump. Hayward has several other athletes at Oregon this year who will undoubtedly make a showing against the Eastern stars at the A. A. U. games to be held in conjunction with the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition next Summer. Some question has been aroused over Hayward's eligibility to the position to which he has been selected, and this point will be taken up and decided upon at the college conference, which occurs next Tuesday. Hayward will represent the University of Oregon at that meeting and E. D. Angell, of the Oregon Agricultural College, will represent that institution. Both men are expected in Portland tomorrow.

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Unless the directors of the Multnomah Club decide to postpone the regular meeting Tuesday night until after New Years, the proposition of breaking the regular schedule for the Thanksgiving day game with Oregon will be taken up day after tomorrow night. However, as both Hayward of Oregon, and Angell, of O. A. C., are to be away from the city on that date it is quite likely that the club directors will defer action. Oregon will undoubtedly oppose any effort to abrogate this game, or to introduce the Oregon Agricultural College as Multnomah's opponent on Thanksgiving day, and in this opposition it is expected that the U. of O. men will make a strong stand for a continuance of the annual game as in the past.

Chang Desires Death.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Prior to the postponement of his sentencing till Monday, In Whang Chang summoned Dr. McGill, the Corean interpreter, and requested that Judge Cook be acquainted with his desire to die for the murder of Stevens. He declared that he would weep his heart out in prison and declared that he fully expected the extreme penalty when he shot down the visiting diplomat. Chang will be sentenced on Monday.

Dance every Tues. eve., Ringler's Hall.

BIG FIELD ENTERED

Keen Competition Promised in New Year's Paper Chase.

FINE TROPHY IS OFFERED

Dr. Drake and Dr. Wood, as Hares, Have Selected Splendid Course, With at Least Score of Jumps.

The New Year's day open paper chase of the Portland Hunt Club promises to be one of the keenest competitions in the history of the riding club. The entries have all been recorded, but the affair being an open chase, it is quite possible there will be a number of added starters.

One of the reasons for the increased interest in the coming run is the handsome trophy cup donated by Mrs. H. C. Wortman for the winner. This trophy is said by all who have seen it on exhibition in a down-town window to be one of the finest cups ever competed for at a hunt club run in the West.

Dr. Emmett Drake and Dr. W. L. Wood are to act as hares, and they have already mapped out a splendid course. The start will be at the Clinton Kelly School, and will extend through a level country for a distance of about eight and a half miles, the finish being near the end of the Woodstock carline. Those who desire to see the start and finish of this run, which will undoubtedly be a close and exciting race, can reach the finish point in easy time to see the riders coming into the stretch. The route selected will embrace at least 20 jumps, which will further add to the excitement of the chase.

The riders and their mounts entered in the paper chase are as follows:

Rider.	Mount.
Ambrose M. Cronin,	Brussels,
Joseph Cronin,	Rattler,
Harry Skews,	Budget,
James Alexander,	Call Bond,
James Nicol,	Will Wehrung,
Dr. R. J. Chapman,	Oregon Babe,
Sidney Lowenberg,	Oregon Maid,
J. C. Miehe,	Lady Myrtle,
W. M. Davis,	J. H. Bennett,
T. S. McGrath,	Rey Dare,
Ralph H. Jenkins,	Mowitza,
Edgar M. Lazarus,	Marengo,
Harry L. Corbett,	Blue Eyes,
E. R. Eldredge,	Uncle Paul,
H. H. Herdman,	Bob Crawford,
T. T. Strain,	Antipope,
William Albee,	Rocket,
Eugene Oppenheimer,	Gibson Boy.

Chicago.—Vito Lantillo has received another black hand letter, demanding $1500. The letter, the fourth, gives him until Sunday to pay the money, and threatens the lives of his family if he refuses to pay.

COAST LEAGUE TO OPEN HERE APR. 13

Date Arranged at Meeting of Magnates in San Francisco Last Monday.

STOCKTON IS UNSETTLED

Players Becoming Outlaws Forfeited Chances of Getting Into Big Leagues—Number of Teams Still Uncertain.

BY W. J. PETRAIN.

Next Saturday will mark the finale of the football season, after which the general public interested in outdoor sports will eagerly await March 30, the date of the opening of the Pacific Coast League season, and with even more keen anticipation look forward to April 13, the date of the opening in Portland.

These dates were definitely arranged at the meeting of the Pacific Coast League at San Francisco last Monday. The meeting of the magnates succeeded in definitely deciding upon this question even though the differences with the outlaw California State League failed of a settlement. Owing to the fact that this matter is still pending, the number of the Coast League clubs cannot be decided until the definite status of the California State League is settled. If the circuit comes into the fold of organized baseball, one of its teams will be transferred to Los Angeles, and in this manner continuous baseball will be played at the Angel City. Should the state leaguers resist further negotiations, the Pacific Coast League will increase to six clubs; invade Sacramento and place a second Los Angeles team in the field, which would represent Venice or some other suburb of the Southern California metropolis.

The differences now existing between the coasters and the state leaguers is over the status of several outlawed players in the flock under the wing of Cy Moreing, manager and owner of the Stockton club. These players are Moriarity, formerly of San Francisco; Benny Henderson, formerly of Portland; Tom Hackett, formerly of Oakland, and Doc Moskiman, who is claimed by the Newark club of the Eastern League. These players are either contract jumpers or have refused to abide by the reserve clause in their contracts with organized clubs. Moreing wants these players to be the property of the Stockton club, while the Pacific Coast League officials refuse to grant this concession, and have stipulated that each of them shall be permitted to play with Stockton as long as that club desires their services, but at the conclusion of this time, they must revert back to the clubs from which they jumped.

President John I. Taylor, of the Boston American League club, is considerably to blame for the present standing of affairs for the reason that he has made an offer to Stockton for Moriarity, Henderson and Moskiman, and Moreing sees a chance to make some money by the sale of these men. However, the deal cannot be consummated unless the players are reinstated by the Pacific Coast League, which cannot be done without the consent of the clubowners who suffered by the desertion.

The stand of the Pacific Coast League in the case of the contract jumpers is being made as an object lesson to the players. In this instance the players affected are all first-class men. Each one of them is ripe for fast company, and would have enjoyed a berth in the major leagues long before this had they not been susceptible to flattery and cajoling on the part of the Stockton manager. Benny Henderson, had he been satisfied with his Portland berth in 1907, instead of turning McCredie down, after accepting advance money, would now have been selected from Portland instead of Charley Hartman. As his case stands at present, he must play at least one year more with Stockton, if that club comes into organized baseball, and after that he must come back to Portland. He cannot hope to go to the big leagues for at least two more years, and never if the state league remains outlaw. Henderson is known to be sick of his job with Stockton, and is very anxious to get back into the fold. He realizes that he can never accomplish his ambition as long as he is outside, but he has regretted too late.

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Among the numerous baseball players who are mentioned as possibilities for the Portland teams next season is Larry Piper, the diminutive outfielder, who was a member of the San Francisco club during the early part of last season. The McCredies are in position to secure the services of Piper, who is also anxious to come to Portland. He informs McCredie that he would like to play in the Northwestern League, for he does not like the California climate, especially in and around San Francisco. Manager Casey will be asked his opinion of Piper before a deal is consummated, and if Pearl is favorable Larry may be seen in a Portland uniform next season.

While in San Francisco, Judge McCredie entered into negotiations with President Taylor, of Boston, for an additional catcher to Murray, the man already pledged to Portland. The reason for this is because Portland has heard nothing from Harrigan, the Oklahoma catcher recommended to McCredie by Big Bill Burns, the Washington pitcher. McCredie believes that his two clubs must be well fortified behind the bat, and is endeavoring to provide against any possible fluke in the deals already on, or the failure of any of his men to report.

HUNDRED-YARD MARK GOES

R. E. Walker Makes New Record for Distance.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Dec. 26.—R. E. Walker, the South African made 100 yards in 9 2-5 seconds. This equals the time made in England last August, and it is one-fifth of a second less than the previous record made by Daniel J. Kelly, at Spokane, Wash., June 23, 1906.

Walker also made the 120 yards dash in 11 2-5 seconds. This is a new record. The record for 120 yards is 11 4-5 seconds, and was held by B. J. Wefers, made at Travers Island, September 26, 1906. These records are for amateurs. Walker won the final in the 100 metre dash at the London Olympic games.

CRICKETERS WIN AT SOCCER

Beat O. R. & N. by Two Goals in Slow, Spiritless League Match.

The Portland Cricketers moved up two points and tied the Columbias for second place in the City League soccer series by beating the O. R. & N. two goals to none yesterday afternoon. The game was a miserable exhibition and slow. The Cricketers were nearly all stiff and crippled from their ruction with Multnomah Christmas afternoon, and as the O. R. & N. team failed to take advantage of the situation and inject any danger into the game, the victors were content to loll along and let things take their course. Fenwick played goal for the Cricketers and stopped two or three close shots. Karr, in goal for the O. R. & N., was good. Churchley, the 250-pound goaltender of the Cricketers, played effectively at fullback. J. D Mackie was referee.

JOHNSON SURE FROM START

Says He's Forgotten More Than Burns Ever Knew.

SYDNEY, Dec. 26.—In an interview today after the fight for the heavyweight championship of the world here, in which Jack Johnson, the negro pugilist, of Galveston, Tex., won over Tommy Burns, the French-Canadian, Johnson spoke as follows:

"I never doubted the issue from the beginning. I knew I was too good for Burns. I have forgotten more about fighting that Burns ever knew. I was sure I would win from the start. The referee was fair, and I have no complaints to make."

KETCHEL IS LOGICAL FOE

LANGFORD DUE TO MEET MICHIGAN MAN NEXT.

Ketchel May Sidestep Match and Go to Australia, Mecca of All Needs—Great Fighters.

BY W. J. PETRAIN.

Jim Flynn, the Colorado boilermaker, who has been holding forth in California for several years, succeeded in performing almost as well before Sam Langford as Bill Squires, the Australian, did before Tommy Burns. Flynn lasted "quick." In fact, he lasted so "quick" that the fight fans who coughed healthy prices to see the show, hardly realized it had commenced before it was ended. Therefore sundry patrons of the boxing game in San Francisco are regretting having sloughed good Christmas money for another "lemon."

However, as none of them anticipated any such speedy end to the scrap, they had no one to blame but themselves, and ambled homeward much impressed with the belief that the Langford chap, even though of dusky hue, is something of the real thing in the fisticuff line.

From now on we may hear of newspaper scraps between the dusky Bostonian and Stanley Ketchell, the boy wonder from Grand Rapids. Ketchell will likely follow the precedent of Tommy Burns et al., and immediately draw the color line, in which event Langford will be compelled to emulate the example of Arthur Johnson, who "pursued" Jack Johnson around the world and back again, until he finally got a match.

Of course, Ketchell has not yet gone to Australia, but his time will no doubt come soon, for the antipodes seems to be the Mecca for all great and near-great pugilists who have not discovered and invaded Sam McVey's stronghold in gay Paris. Just at present Ketchell is the "big noise" in California circles, and the bugs down that way want him to meet the festive Brusso lad, Tommy Burns. Tommy, with his 30,000 simoleons, earned at the expense of the Australians, is not likely to be hungry for hard game in the immediate future, and can be expected to do the heel-and-toe act for some time in eluding a contest with the Iowa lad.

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A special in an Eastern paper has the following:

Battling Nelson, well known capitalist, author and politician of Hegewisch, Ill., and lightweight champion fighter of the world, will not sleep at the St. Regis tonight, but his valet had the proud distinction of calling there for his luggage this afternoon, just the same.

Mr. Nelson arrived this morning from Hegewisch. At the St. Regis the courteous and gentlemanly room clerk assigned Mr. Nelson to suite No. 63, after Mr. Nelson's valet had checked his master's luggage.

Mr. Nelson was on his way up to his suite when he was suddenly overtaken by another clerk, who said:

"The clerk who received you assigned you to rooms which have been engaged for the last 10 days. Awfully sorry, but the house is full, and we will have to ask you to try somewhere else."

It was a clean-cut knockout for Bat, and when he came to he said really it was most provoking.

He took the next elevator down and when last seen was taxicabbing in the direction of the Metropole.

Poor Bat! That was a knockout for sure, and probably the first he ever experienced.

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During the spare moments gleaned from his many social engagements, Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, the Philadelphia society man, who startled the country by engaging in a prizefight with Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, engages in training several Sunday school classes in athletics. He visits several gymnasiums regularly, and instructs the youngsters in all branches of physical culture.

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Leopold McLaglen, the fellow who fourflushed about the Northwest about a year ago, is in Philadelphia, where he has heralded himself as the champion jiu jitsu exponent of the world. He also lays claim to the title of captain, but neglects to state where he engaged in military service. Several columns of space are devoted to an explanation of the "captain's" art (written by himself) and if he follows precedent someone in Philadelphia is likely to get stung.

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Thomas Alphonsus Loughran is the name of a rising young Quaker City fighter, who is known in the ring as Tommy Loughry. Tommy has defeated a number of Eastern cracks, and is said to be anxious to come to the Coast and meet some of the stellar lightweights who have been holding forth in California. Tommy is especially desirous of taking on Abe Attell, Packy McFarland and Freddie Welsh, and is not averse to getting a go with Battling Nelson.

MONOPOLY NOT ILLEGAL

Missouri Suffers Rebuff in Attack on Electric Company.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 26.—Judge Taylor in the St. Louis Circuit Court today sustained the demurrer of the Union Electric Light & Power Company to the anti-trust suit filed by Circuit Attorney Sager to annul the charter of the company. The capital and bonded debt age $25,000,000.

In his petition the Circuit Attorney had stated that the company had a monopoly in St. Louis. Judge Taylor stated that the state had failed in its information to set forth that the company had formed an agreement with other companies for the purpose of restraining competition. The Missouri anti-trust law does not forbid the consolidation of two or more corporations engaged in the same business.

"The mere enjoyment of a monopoly," continued the court, "is not ground for the forfeiture of a corporate franchise."