

VACATION TIME IN FIGHTING CIRCLES

Jimmy Coffroth and Ketchel Are Both in Mountains and Bay City Is Quiet.

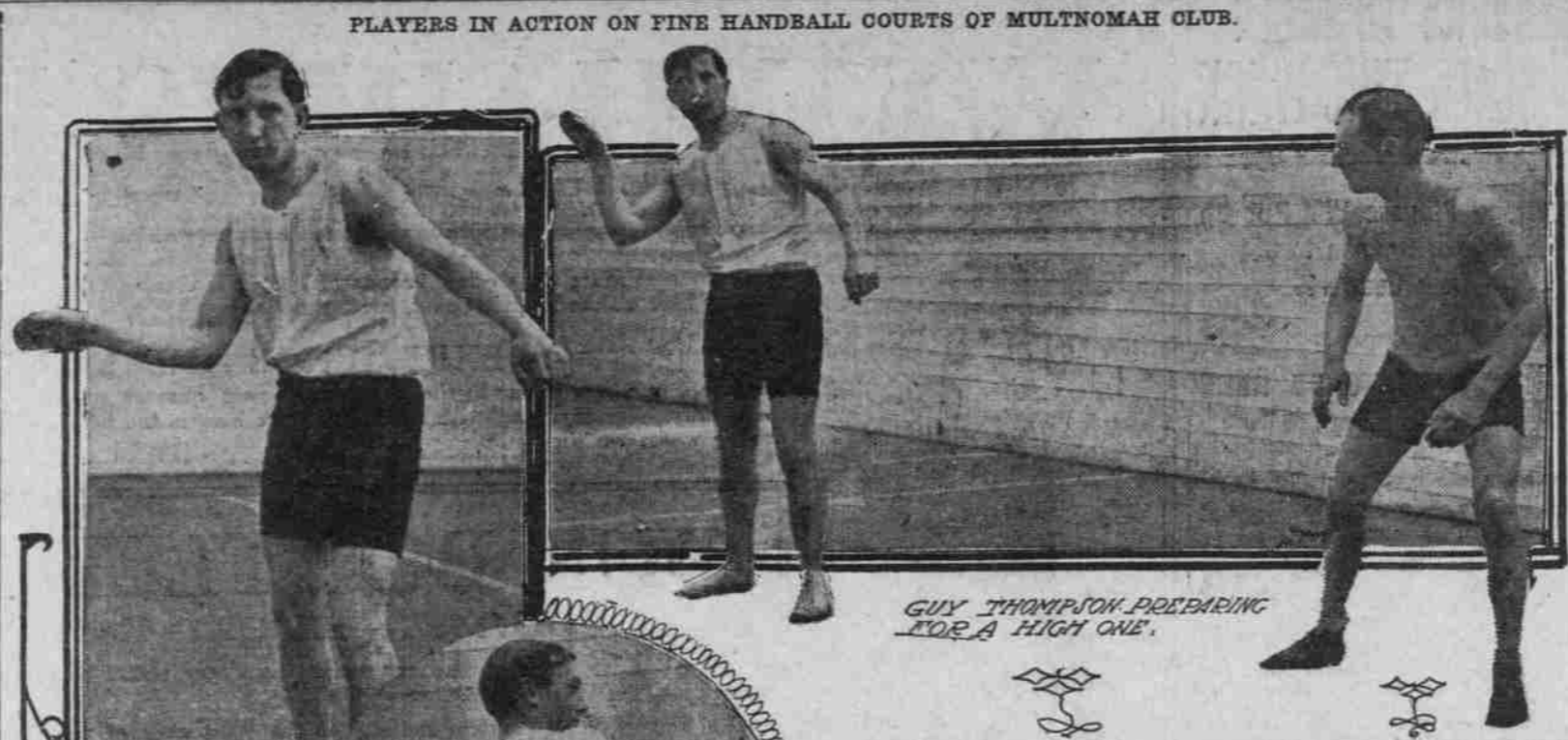
GOSSIP DEALS IN FUTURES

Ketchel May Take On Papke for Return Match, and Wolgast Is Expected to Have Try at Abe Attell on Labor Day.

BY HARRY B. SMITH. SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—(Special.)—The pugilistic game in San Francisco, which has been at fever heat during the summer months, has suddenly subsided, until there is hardly anything doing, not only among the fighters or their managers. In fact, most of the scrappers and others who are financially interested in the game have taken advantage of the lull in affairs to leave for their vacations. This is the best indication in the world just how quiet are affairs in fightdom. Promoter Jimmy Coffroth headed a party of friends that left the first of the week for Placerville, from which point it is proposed to drive to Lake Tahoe. Asked how long he proposed to remain away, Coffroth replied that it would be anywhere from two weeks to three months. Naturally the latter is exaggerated, but he will doubtless be gone for three weeks at least. Before he left, however, he practically completed arrangements for a match on Labor day, September 6, between Wolgast, the Wisconsin scrapper, and Abe Attell, for a 20-round match for the featherweight championship of the world. Wolgast, through his manager, Tom Jones, agreed to terms and Coffroth wired his Eastern representatives to find Attell and get him to agree. Up to date there has come no word from the East, but as he has not been keeping very busy of late it is likely that he will come to some understanding.

Wolgast Is Popular. The match, if made, promises to be a good drawing card. Wolgast made a hit when he virtually outpunched Battling Nelson in ten rounds in Los Angeles, and for that reason is given a good chance against Attell, who certainly can be growing no better and ought to be going back very shortly. Wolgast is ready to make 12 pound rounds for the featherweight champion. In spite of the low weight that he can make, Wolgast is anxious to tackle the best lightweights in the business. The Milwaukee scrapper was here the middle of the week on his way home, and before he left issued a defi that included Battling Nelson, Paddy McParland and Freddie Welsh. He said that he stood ready to meet any one of them for a long fight or a short one at 133 pounds rounds, and that he would be willing to bet his money.

Ketchel Off to Hills. Stanley Ketchel, accompanied by his father and brother, left for Mendocino County last Wednesday for several weeks in the mountains. They will secure a camp out in Mendocino and rough it for three weeks at least. Ketchel has been cutting a wide swath in San Francisco since his fight with Papke, and it is not likely that he gets any outings. Reports say that Ketchel has been spending his colic right and left, and that something like \$300 a day would be a conservative estimate of the way he has been unloading. Willis Britt had announced his intention of making the trip with Ketchel, but at the last moment changed his mind and decided to remain in San Francisco. Possibly Willis thinks that there will be some stay at home and attend to business. Immediate prospects for a fight with San Langford seem to be very dim. When Langford absolutely refused to take \$5000 for his end in a finish fight in Nevada, Britt said that he would not consider the Boston colored man further as an opponent. Only this week there came an offer from Philadelphia promoters, who said they would give \$12,000 for a ten-round fight between the pair. Langford accepted, but Britt stated that he would consider the proposition, and that if Langford wanted a match, he must be prepared to go over a long route. There is considerable disappointment on the part of Langford's admirers that he did not accept the match in Nevada. While he would be taking the short end of the purse, it would give him a chance for the world title, and he has been declaring all along that was what he wanted. To Meet Papke Again? Among those who ought to know, it is believed that Ketchel and Papke will be rematched for a fight on September 5. That is the fight that Papke would like, and Ketchel understands that he must rehabilitate himself with the sports if he wants to continue to do business at the same old stand. Very likely that is the reason that he has himself up for the match. Personally, I have no doubt but that he will make short work of Papke, providing he is in good condition. Papke has returned to his home in Kewanee, Ill., and in spite of his defeats has been lauded as a hero. The patches from Chicago say that the "Thunderbolt" was met at the station by a brass band and his cheering fellow-townsmen. That, with the talk that has been raised by the moving pictures, will create a world of interest in another match between the two. "Battling" Nelson has bobbed up in New York. He went there, according to the dispatches, to box at the newshy's benefit, but it is also said that he would not be averse to taking on a match in case of opportunity presents itself. According to a message received here by one of his friends, Nelson has called off his proposition to match with Coffroth's arena next September. The Dana says that he realizes now that he has been staid and that he wants a good long rest before he does any more long-distance fighting. Kaufman Not Liked. At Kaufman will get but little sympathy as a result of the stopping of his fight with Dr. Reller in Seattle. After all his talk about fighting Johnson, the California heavyweight cut when he had the chance. That piece of business, he has been severely censured by the local critics. It is reported that Kaufman told Promoter Coffroth he wanted some of the easy ones. Kaufman has been saying that for a long time and if he is ever to tackle hard games, he might as well commence



HANDBALL HAS ITS ARDENT DEVOTEES

Ancient Sport Is Popular Among Large Number of Multnomah Men.

"OLD GUARD" IS FAITHFUL

Occasional Matches, Followed by Dinners Are Pleasant Memories of Club Joins.

BY BEN HOLLADAY. When one stops to consider what a tremendously beneficial exercise it represents by the justly popular game of handball and what a valuable asset it has invariably proven to nearly every individual who has become prominent in the athletic world, the wonder is that a greater number of those who are aspiring to proficiency in any one of the athletic pursuits do not take it up as a means of hastening and perfecting their ability. For an exercise that costs into play every muscle of the body, requiring the most concentrated effort of mind and eye, it unquestionably recommends itself where usefulness of thought and agility of well-muscled action is to be brought to the highest state of development.

Unquestionably of Celtic origin and dating back to the year 500 A. M., handball has constantly held a most prominent position in the march of athletic events and in the history of physical training and development. In the earliest centuries we see it scheduled among the events on the Talian programme and participated in by noblemen and warriors alike. Woman herself has come down to us from those far distant periods as having distinguished herself in the game, our historian being no less than Homer, and, indeed, there seems to be no good reason why, at the present age of enlightenment, the women of our country should not derive equal benefit with the men from the perfecting exercise of handball.

Develops Entire Body. As a means of adding grace and ease of carriage, a sureness and confidence in movement, nothing can be found as its superior. Nearly every form of sport or exercise calls for the particular employ of some of the organs or set of organs, but it is extremely doubtful if any single one brings into play as many as are required in a well contented game of handball. First comes the factor of eyesight—the small size of the ball and its innumerable and rapid twists and turns about the court developing a very high optical proficiency in the particular employ of the arms and synchronization of hand and eye, coupled with the necessary support of torso muscles and agility of leg so that it can be very well said of handball that it is a perfect combination of synchronous movements drawn from every sport in the athletic catalogue.

The Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club must be given the credit for establishing the first properly constructed handball court in the City of Portland, and to it, also, must be credited the rapidly increasing interest in the game in this city. The greatest strides in the adoption of the game in America have been made during the past 15 years, and during that period several players of more than passing prominence have been developed at the M. A. A. C. One of the first members to show his superior ability was Frank Watkins, who afterward became prominent in all branches of athletic sports and won points for the Winged M in many a hard-fought field contest. With him, in those earlier days, were associated the names of such men as Ben Trankman, Allen Elsworth and Bert Kerrigan, who subsequently gained world-wide fame on the American team at the Olympic games at Athens. About that time Morris Dunne, who is still an enthusiast and able to give the best of them a run for their money, began developing the form that finally made him club champion for several years. A. B. McAlpin, the well-known tennis player, has probably longer than other club member been a steady and enthusiastic follower of, and participant in, the game, and though of late applying himself more particularly to tennis, is still seen now and then on the handball court.

Reunions of "Old Guard." During the past few years there has come into existence a clique of players known as the "Old Guard," composed of a set of men who have kept together, closely fostering their deep interest and enthusiasm in the game. Upon such occasions as permitted their reunion, a series of games has been pulled off, followed by a banquet at which the feelings of each of the number were allowed to escape in speeches. It is the writer's firm opinion that nothing, to date, has ever been promoted by the club members more productive of good-fellowship and the closer relation of one man to another, than these "handball dinners."

It might not be out of place to mention here the names of those who form the personnel of this so-called "fraternity." As a matter of fact, they comprise a majority of the best players in the club, both of yesterday and today, and it is certain that their names will go down in the club history as those of a set of men who always found time, among the many cares of advancing years, and in spite of the many miles that oftentimes separated them, to gather again at the old club and renew the dear memories of bygone days in an eight-handed match of handball and the usual dinner, at which speeches were in order, recounting former victories and stories of the absent period. A. B. McAlpin, George McMillan, Arthur Jones, Morris Dunne, Sam Holybrook, E. C. Moore and Tom Cleveland are, probably, the men who have done more to keep up the spirit of handball in the M. A. A. C. than any others, and it is due to their constant enthusiasm and undying interest in the sport that the present large number of members are taking up the game. Other members of the club who hold high rank as well as without are: Jordan Zap, Phil Lombard, Henry McKenzie, Gale Healy, Dr. George Alsbury, William Peterson, Dick Jones, Bud James, Tom Edwards, Dr. A. A. Morrill, Irving Hensner, Hugh Geatin and Harry Livingston.

Stories Told on Players. Aside from its superior qualities as a developer of both mind and body, handball has proven itself an instrument for exposing character, as almost any one will admit who has witnessed the performances of masters of the art. There are many anecdotes about the club, historical of some unusual happening among the handball "bunch," and almost any day one may hear a story on the value of handball as a laugh producer, never fails to make good. Probably the most typical character in the game at the club is Arthur O. Jones, known among his cronies as "Old Oony," and without any question one of the most expert and enthusiastic exponents of the game to be found on the Coast. It is said that on several occasions he has been urged from the comfort of his embrace of Morpheus to respond to the call of some belated circle of players, who could not wait the day without a game, and in every instance the major club takes immediate steps either to buy, draft or exchange for the player.

So far this season Portland has been a mecca for many of these gentry. All have



HEALEY PICKING A HARD BALL FROM THE LEFT WALL.

expressed considerable surprise at the quality of baseball played here, but as yet none have reached a point where a deal with the McCredies is even in embryo. That is, with one exception, Jim McGuire, the Cleveland scout, may make some recommendations and these will be honored by McCredie before any other, simply because the Cleveland club has dealt so nicely with McCredie. Friendly to Cleveland. Portland has secured Gus Fisher, Billy Speas, Dick Hreen and Jack Grancy from Cleveland, while Irving Gough, one of Casey's pitchers, is also from the "Naps." In order to show his appreciation for the enrollment of these players, Manager McCredie intends to allow the Cleveland club to have the pick of his two clubs. McCredie states he expects to lose two players to Cleveland, but as yet their identity is not given out. "Speck" Harkness is likely to be one of the men selected by Cleveland, though the tall young fellow ought really to remain on the Coast one more season. However, under a leader like LaJole, and working with the Cleveland catchers, "Speck" may improve wonderfully and make good his first year. At any rate, whether he goes this season or next, the lad will be a major leaguer some day. Big Eddie Kinsella is another pitcher for whom the scouts have shown marked preference. The big, awkward chap is pitching better ball than ever before in his career, though it is not believed Cleveland will select him. McCredie has been talking with Fielder Jones about Kinsy, Jones, while not actually scouting for talent, is inclined to favor his old club, the Chicago American League team, with his knowledge of promising talent, and it is quite likely he has tipped off one or two live ones to Comiskey. Whether Kinsella is one of them is not stated, though he and Walter McCredie talked over a deal for the big pitcher a few days ago.

SCOUTS USE EYES

Big League Experts Get Line on Portland Players.

MANY AGENTS COME HERE

McCredie Feels Friendly to Cleveland, Representing Whom Jim McGuire Has Been Seeking Promising Beaver Talent.

BY W. J. PETRAIN. Big league scouts have been as promiscuous in this vicinity during the past two months as mosquitoes in the nearby swamps, for the annual period is here when the major leagues buy or draft enough players to form an army.

In former years the big brush was prone to select the players either through correspondence or from their batting averages. Now they send paid agents to look over the youngsters. This policy is probably best, even though more expensive, but the latter is offset by the results attained. A veteran player who has outlived his days of usefulness on the diamond is usually impressed into service as a scout. In this capacity he is sent forth by a major league club to look over and report on all promising young players whom he sees in action. Some players he recommends more strongly than others, but in every instance the major club takes immediate steps either to buy, draft or exchange for the player.

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DR. B. F. ROLLER vs. JOHN BERG.

CHARLEY OLSEN, Light Heavyweight Champion of the World.

Next Wednesday Night August 4, Exposition Rink NINETEENTH AND WASHINGTON STREETS

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mann, owner of the Cincinnati Nationals; Stanley Robison, owner, and Billy Gilbert, scout of the St. Louis Nationals; George Hut, of the Chicago Nationals; Bobby Lowe, of the Detroit Americans; "Voiceless" Tim O'Rourke, of the Pittsburgh Nationals, and Mike Donlin, formerly of the New York Giants, but now of the Philadelphia team in the same league. According to Garry Herrmann, Louis Heilbroner, the Cincinnati scout, on his way West and will be in Portland this month. In the face of this influx of big league experts it might be said that if all of them get a player or two, there will be mighty little talent left on the Coast. Fortunately the draft rules exempt the clubs from the loss of more than one man, and unless the managers sell all their available talent, the clubs will not suffer as much as might be expected. The phenomenal success of players like Mike Mitchell, Larry McLean, Pat Donahue, Bobby Grom, "Dolly" Gray, Bill Sweeney, Joe Tinker, "Rebel" Oakes, "Tute" Ellis, Ham Hyatt, Hal Chase and several others, has caused the Eastern moguls to look longingly to this part of the country for players. This is the secret of the frequent visits of the scouts.

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