

WATCH TOWER OBSERVATIONS

Material and Immaterial Syllogisms on Sport by Roscoe Fawcett

"Hero Worship Resembles a New Year's Celebration—The Greater the Hilarity the Greater the Reaction the Next Day"—Abe's Philosophy.

FIVE weeks more—and then baseball. January, the one dull month of the year for sports editors, is passing. Happy Hogan has or has not settled upon Venice for his ex-Verona Tigers; Cal Ewing has or has not sold his stock in the Oakland Coast Club; Walt McCredie has or has not decided to give Benny Henderson one more chance to be "good"—yes, the Delphi spor has been worked overtime in the grand old cause of filling the sport page.

Now comes February, the month of the holdout's contrition; the month when all six coast managers will lay claim to the 1913 pennant; the month when the malleable brings in the struggling baseball contract, a document which holds the young men down to \$1500 or \$2000 a summer when they might make as high as \$1.75 per day welding picks or shovels; the month of preparation for the training camp, and then—real action.

THE Portland Coasters will report either at Visalia or some other California town on March 1; the Seals will say goodbye to the kinks at Boyes Springs; Sacramento will train at Marysville; Oakland probably at Livermore again and Los Angeles and Vernon at home.

Portland fans are evincing tremendous interest in the coming race. Educated to championship clubs, the fans of this coast are a temporary eclipse in 1912, when the Beavers got off to a poor start. But baseball interest is again sizzling. McCredie's efforts to put the Beavers up in the first division again are not being passed by unnoticed.

He has his usual quota of knockers, but is sure, by the general run of fan-aticism, to receive enough to realize that a winning team means thousands of dollars in pocket to the local owner and that Manager McCredie will exert every energy toward giving Portland a winning team.

THE Portland team, on paper, looks as strong as any club in the league, but January appearances do not win pennants. The Washington Americans looked like second divisioners last Spring, yet they forged up almost to the lead; the critics were unanimous in awarding Manager Mack the championship, yet the Athletics finished down.

The Beavers appeared in infinitely stronger than either the Oaks or the Vernons in 1912, but McCredie ran a snafu of trouble through no fault of his own. His pitchers failed gloriously. Not one of the new crop, including Gilligan and Steiger, of the American Association, and Lamaine and Temple, of class B, came through, and add to that the poor start of Speck Harkness, the defection of Ben Henderson and Bill Lindsay's sickness and it's a wonder Walter McCredie didn't jump into the river.

Luck should not break that way for the Beavers in 1913. McCredie has protected himself with a batch of experienced infielders, including Peters and Derriek at first, Rodgers at second, Kores and Courtney at third, and has wedged out the trouble-making factors, which also tended to add to the managerial woes in 1912.

He has assembled a whole fleet of pitching dreadnoughts and is out after more. Higginbotham and Hagerman appear to be the simon-pure stuff, while West, James, Carson, Krapp, Stanley and

and Gregg, in the offing. Whether any of these twirlers will deliver in class AA style during the coming campaign none can guarantee. But West, James and Krapp have all had their flings in the majors during the past couple of years so must possess some qualifications entitling them to serious regard in minor league ball.

At any rate if all three fizzle out hard luck will never again be advertised as against return engagements.

But even so, McCredie will be in much better shape than last April ultimately found him. If he can round in another first-class pitcher of the Krapp call-ature there will seem to be slight foundation for lugubrious and moping on the part of any small faction of weakened Portland fans.

STRANGE to say "Mysterious Billy" Smith has not been called before the Pajo investigating committee.

"**I**T is better to give than to receive," said the San Francisco magnate as they handed over Noyes, Powell, Altman and Hartley to Spokane for Wuffil and Zimmerman.

THE Hebrews and the Italians are gradually monopolizing the pugilistic limelight. A friend, who sat at the ringside during the Joe Rivers vs. Leach Cross bout in New York, writes, that, with the exception of one coin, every man in the three preliminaries was a Hebe, although several fought under such knock-out pseudonyms as "McFarland" and "O'Malley."

This name-changing stunt is not at all new or surprising, however, as probably half of the boys who enter the ring adopt non de guerres of a sporting euphony. Willie Ritchie's real name is Geary Steffens; Leach Cross is known in private life as Dr. Louis C. Wallace; Joe Rivers is traveling under a false comonom, as his real name is Lito Yerra; John T. Hagan and "Philadelphia" Jack O'Brien are synonymous, while Stanley Ketchel was raised as Stanislaus Kiecal, which would never have done for a fighting name.

Here are a few more switches from chiseling titles to a more popular line: Tommy Burns, Noah Brusso; Freddy White, Fred Hall Thomas; Bill Lang, William Lanfranchi; Tony Ross, Antonia Rossilano; George Knocokout Brown, Valentine Brown; Frankie Connor, George Conter Jim Flynn, Andrew Haynes; Jack Redmond, Henry Hoppe; Joe Coster, Joe Angelo; Wilbur Ferns, Clarence McCubbin; Fritz Howard, Fred Creed; Tommie Johnson, Joseph Young and Jack Dillon, Ernest Culler Price.

BATTLING NELSON may not be the premier lightweight, but he can still poke his cauliflower ears into print like a regular champion. Big fight is for; pulling the unexpected, yet the dent he put in the same and simple Helen Gould-Finley Shepard matrimonial venture last week by his high-finance romancing with Miss Faye King will ever be remembered in high social circles.

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Admittedly, Nelson secured the girl of his choice a job as cartoonist on a Denver newspaper. She made good and recently signed a contract calling for a large salary. The friendship grew into love and the famous Battler is now experiencing thrills of triumph overshadowing any bitterness

of defeat he may have encountered in his long career in the ring. Nelson is one of the foremost figures in ring history. A clean-living, high-minded sort of fellow, the Battler probably has more friends today than any other pugilist living. He is worthy of the admiration and respect of any community, and here's wishing the bride and groom the happiest sort of a honeymoon.

From the eighth floor the match appeared ideal, and we'll await with interest the "movies" with the real dope on the alarm-clock nuptials.



Jimmy Fitzgerald Champion Released by Sacramento Professionalism



Dan Rowley Billed for Philites



Bill Rodgers Not Spending Time Around Campfire in Southern Oregon Winter Trip

is to detract 95 per cent for leakage and take the rest with a grain of salt.

HARRY WOLVERTON avers he is going to Sacramento and start all over again. As the office boy says, "that's a helo-fap-lap to begin life."

GORDON MACKAY, the clever Philadelphia Times sport writer, comes to bat with the following: "Some ancient dog from the Biblical league: 'Fit putout—Eden. 'First double play—Apple to Eve to Adam. 'First clean hitter—Flood. 'First player sent to the bushes—Moses.'"

But there are others. Samson might easily qualify as the original bonehead, while Cain's ransacking of Abel would seem to have all other "bean-ball" discoveries backed up into the coal chute.

IN October of 1618 Sir Walter Raleigh had his head knocked off. And while he was not exactly to blame, yet there are things against him. The worst of these was his failure to persuade King James of the existence of a gold mine somewhere on the Orinoco River. He said to the King:

"Orvie Overall told me, your honor, that the sides of the shaft were just spotted with yellow flakes." "Do you know Orvie?" "I have always found him reliable, your honor. The only reason he sells stock is because he wants to put in a reduction plan and work the mine. The minute we get in our separator the stock will go right up to par. I tell you that mine is located right on top of a jewelry store."

"You are letting a little stock go at seven cents?" "Yes, just to our friends. We advertise it at 15 cents and guarantee it to go to par inside of 60 days." "How can you do that?" "Why it's our stock and we can put it at par."

"Oh, I see." "It's simple." So King James took a little stock and allowed Sir Walter to fit out an expedition but warned him to avoid all trouble with the Spaniards, as England was at peace with all Arelanes of the continent at that time.

Raleigh went to Orinoco, and while ill in bed there, a party of his men attacked a Spanish town, killing many of its inhabitants. In the fight Raleigh's young son lost his life. The gold mine could not be found. The soldiers mutinied, the voyage proved a failure and Raleigh was obliged to put back to England in disgrace.

There he was imprisoned and when the King heard that they couldn't find any mine and that he would have to pay the garbage man to tote off his stock, he was so mad he kicked all the paint off the throne.

King Raleigh heard this he lost his head completely. The executioner took it off. Of course all mining stock promoters should not be headed, but—

GERMANY is said to be opposed to including boxing in the programme for the 1916 Olympic games at Berlin. The Germans are not up on the technique of mitt wielding.

This emphasizes one of the chief drawbacks to Olympic procedure. Locally determined to too great an extent the character of the programmes. The system should be reorganized, for the nation which is reorganizing the

meeting and drafted a new schedule which was held at Seattle on January 14.

Managers of nearly all the intercollegiate soccer teams feel that had it not been for the Hill Military's action in withdrawing from the league, a number of games would have already been played off, as the weather conditions during the early part of January were ideal. Hill has practiced, and after a schedule was released its football players for practice, but could not see its way to let the boys off for soccer as well, and there are not sufficient athletes in this state to organize a team that would have a chance.

Tomorrow afternoon, weather permitting, the Portland Academy and Washington High School football teams will play their postponed game scheduled for January 14. The game will be played on the Jefferson High School field.

Directors of Interscholastic League Say Play Will Not Be Started Until February Next Year. Hill Forced to Quit.

Coach Callender, of the Columbia University basketball team, had his men out for a hard practice on the Washington gymnasium floor yesterday.

The McCinnville High School basketball team will leave McCinnville for the Columbia River, where they will meet a number of teams. H. N. Jamison, coach of the team, will be in Portland with his players on Monday, February 1, and he has no game for that date. The game can be arranged by calling Walter White, at McCinnville, over long-distance phone.

In a fast basketball game played on the Y. M. C. A. floor last Friday night the McCinnville basketball team was defeated by the Y. M. C. A. dormitory quintet, 17 to 15. The playing of Hamlin and Steadman for the defeated team was a feature.

The Newbays' basketball team, recently organized, is meeting with great success. When they defeated the Southern Bantams by a 21 to 2 score last Friday it made five straight victories for the newspaper sellers.

The Christian Brothers' Business College third team defeated the Columbia University jokers yesterday, 21 to 12, on the Christian Brothers' floor. The Columbia boys passed the ball with accuracy, but their basket shooting was poor.

Owing to the lack of interest shown by the Southern Oregon High School basketball team, the proposed Saturday trip of the Lincoln High School quintet has been given up. Coach Borleske received word from four teams declaring their unwillingness to help finance the trip, but eight games were necessary before the trip could be made.

Before the entire Jefferson student body last Friday H. B. Auger, the faculty adviser of the February, 1913, class, was presented with a silver loving cup by the graduates. Harold Fitzgibbon made the presentation speech. The 1913 February class also presented the Jefferson High School with a large picture showing the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The picture will be placed in the school library.

Manager Goodwin, of the Lincoln soccer football team, has discovered a great find in Pauley, as goalkeeper. His playing has been a feature of the practice games and will greatly help the Lincoln team in its chance of winning the interscholastic soccer championship.

trainer of athletes. Miss Faye took to the Battler as a zoogeological expert takes to the family tree and as the January bride is a vivacious, clever, charming little girl, little wonder the Durable Dane began building air castles out of matches and potato parings.

That was back in the days when the durable one was making himself most unendurable to his lightweight antagonists. The friendship ripened, while Bat's cauliflower ears blossomed and expanded, but always the impressive young cartoonist flooded the pugilist with flattering cartoons.

A year ago Nelson returned to Portland and it was freely rumored at the time that the attachment would culminate in the tone of wedding bells. But Nelson went away armed only with additional cartoons and the satisfaction of having been told that he was only a plain, mouse-colored dromedary after all.

The revived friendship ripened at long range. Nelson secured for the girl of his choice a job as cartoonist on a Denver newspaper. She made good and recently signed a contract calling for a large salary. The friendship grew into love and the famous Battler is now experiencing thrills of triumph overshadowing any bitterness

of defeat he may have encountered in his long career in the ring. Nelson is one of the foremost figures in ring history. A clean-living, high-minded sort of fellow, the Battler probably has more friends today than any other pugilist living. He is worthy of the admiration and respect of any community, and here's wishing the bride and groom the happiest sort of a honeymoon.

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WOLGAST denies that he wagged \$5000 on either the McCarty-Plynn or McCarty-Palzer fights, his estimate being several degrees closer to the congealing point. Apparently when a fighter is credited with speculation that extent on a match, one good way

to make a living is to buy a horse and groom the happiest sort of a honeymoon.

FIRST SMITHSON, the Olympic games hero of 1908, was the star of the first Columbia University meet, winning the 50-yard dash in 5 5-5 seconds. Gilbert, another Oregon "Aggie" man, and also an Olympic games winner, won the pole vault event with 16 feet 2 inches.

The second meet brought out Dan Kelly, another Olympic representative. Kelly set a new indoor record by broad jumping 23 feet 1 1/2 inches. Smithson set a new record of 5 3-5 seconds for the 50-yard dash on the same day, this record being equaled by Gordon Moore, of Oregon, the following year. In 1909 Smithson ran the 50-yard hurdles in 6 seconds.

Sam Bellah, the former Stanford athlete who represented Multnomah Club at Stockholm, was the star of the 1912 meet, pole vaulting 12 feet 1 1/2 inches for a new Coast indoor record. Hawk, Hanks and McClure, of Oregon, and Baker, of the "Aggies," are men who have figured prominently in these meets.

Multnomah Strong Contender. Multnomah Club is expected to be a keen contender for the honors this season. Last year Oregon won with 25 points, against 23 1/2 points for Multnomah Club.

New York's heavyweight elimination series called to produce an opponent for Luther McCarty, "Soldier" Kearns beat "Sailor" White, but he made few friends in so doing. The other bouts were only fair, according to the most friendly critics of the boxers.

PORTLAND COMMERCIAL CLUB BILLIARD-ROOMS ARE AMONG LARGEST IN UNITED STATES.



LEFT TO RIGHT—W. H. CARROLL, R. S. SMITH, L. Y. KEADY (SHOOTING), R. S. CLAYTON, R. F. MYERS AND A. F. SWENSON (SHOOTING).

TRACK MEET FIXED

Columbia University Contest Will Be April 12.

MANY SCHOOLS TO ENTER

Records of Past Nine Struggles of Schools Show That University of Oregon Has Won Seven and Oregon "Aggies" Two.

The tenth annual indoor track and field meet of the Columbia University Athletic Association will be held in the

University coliseum Saturday afternoon, April 12. This date was decided upon yesterday.

Last year, in this meeting, the most unique of its kind, in that it is open to all universities, colleges, preparatory schools and amateur athletic clubs of the Northwest, attracted 21 teams, and this season the entry list is expected to be even larger.

Efforts of many track and field squads will be directed this season to the unseating of the University of Oregon athletes from the position of supremacy which they have held for the last seven seasons. On April 16, 1904, the Oregon Agricultural College team opened these annual meets by carrying off the greatest number of points, and duplicated this performance the following year. But in 1906 the University of Oregon men made their initial appearance, and at that meet, as well as succeeding ones, led all teams.

Forrest Smithson, the Olympic games hero of 1908, was the star of the first Columbia University meet, winning the 50-yard dash in 5 5-5 seconds. Gilbert, another Oregon "Aggie" man, and also an Olympic games winner, won the pole vault event with 16 feet 2 inches.

The second meet brought out Dan Kelly, another Olympic representative. Kelly set a new indoor record by broad jumping 23 feet 1 1/2 inches. Smithson set a new record of 5 3-5 seconds for the 50-yard dash on the same day, this record being equaled by Gordon Moore, of Oregon, the following year. In 1909 Smithson ran the 50-yard hurdles in 6 seconds.

BRANDY COST BELT

Ad Says He Was Drunk When Ritchie Bested Him.

CONFESSION MOST FRANK

Pugilist Says Alcoholic Beverage Felled in Mission Hoped For and Only Made Him Reckless and Careless in Bout.

By JAMES H. CASSELL. Ad Wolgast has confessed. Intoxication lost him the lightweight championship to Willie Ritchie. That is putting it boldly, in terms of the ex-titler holder would shrink from using, but it really amounts to that and nothing more. It was grossly that the alcoholic body was responsible for the elevation of the San Francisco boy to the pinnacle of pugilism.

If you remember the telegraphic story of that Thanksgiving day battle by rounds, you have that in the mention of the frequent use of brandy in Wolgast's corner. Well, passing up all other alibis, Wolgast says that the use of this alcoholic beverage as a strength-sustaining not only failed to accomplish its mission but that the alcohol attacked his brain with such violence during the final rounds of the fight, laying himself open to the blow to the jaw which paved the way for defeat.

"It's a funny story for a man to make, and it sounds silly, yet it is a fact," declared the Cadillac youth last night in talking over the mill in which he lost the championship in the 18th round on a foul.

Brandy Always Used. "Jones has always used brandy in my fights, and I think that it has frequently helped me in long, hard bouts, but it surely had the opposite effect in that last affair at San Francisco. Tom gave me more than usual when, as a matter of fact, my system was not in condition to hold even the regular modest amount."

"In the 13th round I became exhilarated, felt confident that no one could beat me, and then grew careless from the excess of confidence. Then came the 15th round, when the Pacific champion laid me down with a blow to the jaw that knocked me down. I got up all right and would have been right in another minute, but I aimed those blows at Ritchie at the time all right, but still had control of myself sufficiently to feel that I was not striking below the belt. But Ritchie is taller than I, and each time I lashed at him he raised up a trifle, just enough to take the punches below the danger line."

"Had it not been for that brandy he would never have hit me the hardest blow of my ring career, and consequently I would have had the fight with him in hand, with victory a certainty."

Liquor. Ad declares that never again will brandy be used in his corner during a fight. Gravel, or some other non-intoxicating strengthener, will be the substitute.

leaving strengthener, will be the substitute.

Of the six fights Wolgast won on knockouts, after he won the championship from Nelson, on February 22, 1910, or the seven, including the tilt with only one, against Owen Moran, was his opponent sent to the mat for the full count.

The Nelson fight was stopped in the sixth round by the Bellier from further punishment, while Memsic, La Grave, Hogan and Burns were still on their feet when Wolgast was declared the winner. Rivers was on a pleasant trip to the Vernon scrap, but Ad declares he did not knock Joe out, despite the record-book story, but that the Mexican quit.

Along with other scrappers, Wolgast has a knockout to his credit which does not figure in the books. This one was scored at Wheeler Springs, just before Ad commenced training for the Nelson fight.

The knockout was scored with an orange. In the cabin of the troupe, Ad hurled the citrus sphere at Jones during a friendly free-for-all melee. The missile caught the portly Tom in the solar plexus, and he too, dropped limply to the floor.

Ad stepped on the scales at Jack King's bathroom yesterday afternoon and weighed 138 1/2 pounds, three pounds better than at any time before in his life. This, more than anything else, is making his stay in Portland a pleasant one, for he hopes to weigh 140 pounds when next he starts training for his next fight.

Portland School Will Compete. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, Berkeley, Cal., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Hill Military Academy, of Portland, in the Military Academy of the Rose City which has only a school of the Rose City which has so far communicated with the committee in charge of the annual Pacific Coast interscholastic track and field meet, which will be held in April. Hill seems to be anxious to make the trip and the tenor of the letters from the school would indicate that it will be represented at the Pacific championship events. Several of the high schools of the smaller cities in Oregon are also writing in regard to the big event and four or five probably will attend.

Berkeley to Play 32 Games. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, Berkeley, Cal., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Two games with Stanford and 30 others with the strongest baseball teams in the state will make up the University of California's schedule in the National game. The first game will be played January 22, a practice match with the Ireland Independents. Two games have been arranged with the Oakland team of the Pacific Coast League. The Chicago White Sox, who will be in Oakland in the Spring, may also be met.