JOHNSTON TOPS ALL U. S. NET PLAYERS

Tennis Officials Place Bay City Boy Over Field.

YEAR'S PLAY HIGH-CLASS

Higher Standard of Contests Puts Good Ones Rung Lower-Women Display Improved Form.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 William M. ohnston of San Francisco heads the ist of ranking players as determined by the ranking committee of the United States National Law Tennis association announced tonight. It is the second time Johnston has achieved the second time Johnston has achieved this honor as he was No. 1 in 1916. In their order the other members of the "first 10" are William T. Tilden, II, of Philadelphia; Ichiya Kumagae of New York, R. Lindley Murray of Niagara Falls, Wallace F. Johnson of Philadelphia, Richard N. Williams II, of Boston; Roland Roberts of San Francisco; Charles S. erts of San Francisco; Charles S. Garland of Pittsburg, Walter T. Hayes of Chicago, Watson M. Wash-

To reach its decisions this year, the ranking committee announced it had to consider the records of more than 5000 players, which indicates the re-markable revival of tournament com-petition throughout the country.

Year's Play High Class.

Furthermore, the class of play was so much higher than prevailed last year that players who actually had a better record in 1919 than a year ago, may be farther down the list. This higher standard of play is due in part, according to the committee, to the return of men who were in the service and in part to the develop-ment of many promising youngsters in all parts of the country. It was sanounced that only the results of STECHER POLE MATCH. sanctioned tournaments were considered and the committee was instruct-ed to rank solely on performance and Sergeant Still World Champion, not upon its opinion of players' abil-ity. Late season performances received more consideration than those

of early season. With reference to the Australian players the committee found that the matches played by Gerald L. Patter-son and Norman E. Brookes indicated

In doubles, however, their record was conclusive and therefore, Brookes and Patterson top the list of ranking teams. Their margin over the

roneck; Miss Marie Wagner, New York; Miss Corinne Gould, St. Louis; Miss Helene Pollak, New York.

In omitting a division into classes the committee was moved by the closeness of competition this year to declare that any such division is more or less arbitrary.

WANTED, RACING COMMISSION

Track Owners in Maryland Plan to Make Fight in Legislature.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 20.—The race track owners in Maryland have planned to make a fight in the legislature for a law creating a state racing commission with the append-age of a daily tax during race meet-ing for the benefit of the state treasery. The opponents of race track petting are looking up the possibilities of defeating such a scheme by a referendum. It is the belief of the latter that, even if the race track people can muster enough votes in the general assembly to pass a bill creat-ing a state racing commission, the majority of voters would be against It because the effect of such a law would be very favorable to the race track interests in that it would improve their legal standing through

the state.
What the foes of the track want is the repeal of the various special acts of the legislature, under which the four one-mile tracks in Maryland operate. This would put them all out of business—that is, the elimination of the open betting would cut off the big profits. Oral betting, race track people say, would not prove profitable to the tracks in Maryland because the attendance at the tracks here is no sufficient to carry them along with-out revenue from the pari-mutuel sys-tem or from bookmakers.

tem or from bookmakers.

Of course, if the race track people are beaten at Annapolis in their 'ight to enact a state racing commission bill and the anti-race track people succeed in passing a law to stop the betting, the race track people themselves can have recourse to the refselves can have recourse to the ref-erendum by petition. Then the ques-tion would be laid before the voters

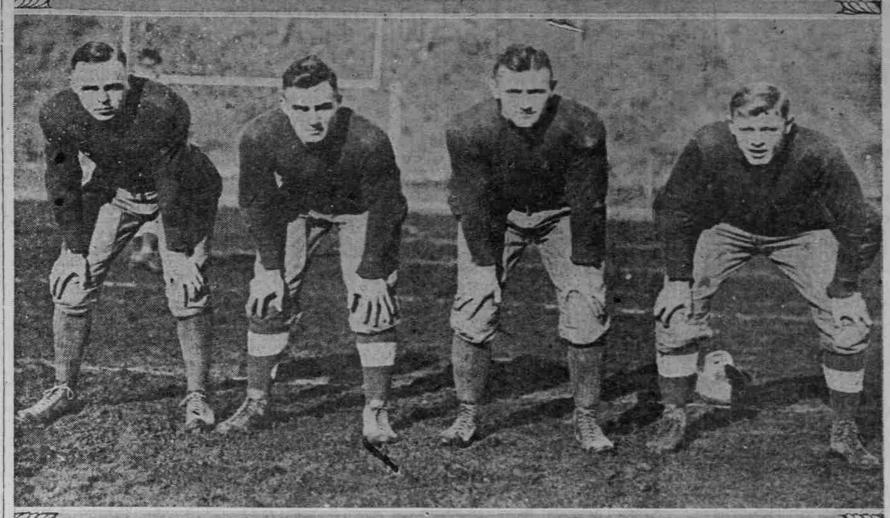
shoot over its traps of the entire state at the November election of next year.

As the matter now stands, every mile track in Maryland operates units admissions and the money goes to Harford county roads. The Laurei track pays no special tax at all, but racing there is permitted only in October, under a county fair law.

Fossil Five Defeats Moro.

MORO, Or., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The Possil high school basketball team won its first game of the season by defeating the heavy Moro team, 21 to 15. Thursday night. The Fossil boys outplayed the Moro team at all times.

THE WEST IS DEPENDING UPON THESE HUSKY OREGON BACKS TO TRIUMPH OVER HARVARD JANUARY 1 AT PASADENA.



LEFT TO RIGHT—CAPTAIN EVERETT BRANDENBURG, RIGHT HAEF; HOLLIS HUNTINGTON, FULLBACK; VINCENT JACOBBERGER, LEFT HALF; BILL STEERS, QUARTERBACK.

Contention of Nebraska Men Who Back ex-Soldier.

followers of wrestling are up in arms over the announcement of Jack Curley in New York that the Stecher-By "doubles targets" we mean two

champion, in speaking of the Wyork process team, Johnston and Griffin, was sufficient to leave no doubt in the committee's mind. Alexander and Voshell occupy third place, the other teams in the "first 10" being:

T. C. Bundy-M. E. McLoughlin, Los Angeles; Robert Kinsey-Howard Kinsey, San Francisco; R. N. Williams-W. M. Washburn, New York; Vincent Richards-W. T. Tilden, H. Philadei-phia; Alex Graven-Robert Kinsey, San Francisco; I. Kumagae-P. C. Wright, New York; Leonard Beekman-W. M. Hall, New York.

Women's Game Improves.

The general excellence of play in the men's events was paralleled in those for women and there, again, it was hard to rank some individuals. The present champion, Mrs. George W. Wightman of oBston heads the ranking with Miss Eleanor Goss of Was unable to respond."

Caddock has recently returned from Newark, O., broke 503. Charley Spensors and Voshell as a product of the cambol of the writer's pleasure to witness a number of the winchester writer's pleasure to witness a number of the writer's pleasure to witness a number of the exhibitions of the Winchester writer's pleasure to witness a number of the exhibitions of the Winchester of the exhibitions of the W

CURLEY ANGERS MAT FANS DOUBLES SHOOTING PROVES HIT WITH SHOTGUN ARTISTS

Breaking of Pairs Offers Great Sport for Trap Enthusiasts-Clubs Are Urged to Stage More of Such Exciting Contests.

BY PETER P. CARNEY. dence most on the recent tour of the Winchester shooting team can pump a gun faster than the old through nine eastern and southern timers could pull the trigger of the

any amount against any wrestier in the world.

Gene Melady, Omaha livestock commission man and manager of the champion, in speaking of the Curley announcement from the New York ring, said:

"There can be but one champion. Earl Caddock won that honor when he defeated Joe Stecher is Omeha."

New Pirate Manager in Canada.

At Rockford, Ill., the team broke 97 out of 50 pairs, which is as far as we know a world's record for this kind of shooting. Mrs. Topperwein and Spencer broke straight and the other

George B. Carpenter of Medford, Oregon, Is Envy of All Who Frequent Links, Because His Faithful

Caddy Never Loses Sight of Pellet.

FINDER ON GOLF COURSE AT DEL MONTE

"TAMMIE," SCOTCH TERRIER, IS PRIZE BALL

THE shooting that pleased the nu- who shoot at doubles use the pump dience most on the recent tour gun and quite a number of the experts

double-barrel gun.

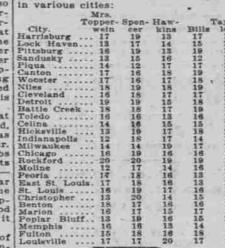
The best thing the American Trap-shooting association could do would class of about second and fourth ley in New York that the Stecher-Zbyszko match was for the world's championship and that Stecher is ensured to the right and ship the restling simultaneously, one to the right and ship. This would greatly interest the well up, but in view of their short records they were not ranked. Similarly R. V. Thomas and Randolph Lycett would have found places farther down the list.

Ansacs Top Boubles.

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Ansacs Top Boubles.

In doubles however, their record. Here is the way the members of the Winchester team shot at the 10 pairs



W. Wightman of oBston heads the ranking with Miss Eleanor Goss of New York second. Mrs. Franklin Mailory (Molla Bjurstedt) comes next, her defeats early in the year having been partially retrieved later. The others who comprise the "first 10" are:

Miss Marion Zinderstein, Boston: Miss Helen Baker, San Francisco; Mrs. Edward Raymond, Hartsdale, Mrs. Acknowledge of the champion who of the champion who of the S80 targets John Taylor of Newark, O., broke 503. Charley Spencer of St. Louis, Mo., broke 478; J. Mowell Hawkins of Harrisburg, Fred Bills of Chicago, Ill., broke 478; J. Mowell Hawkins of Harrisburg, Pa., 460 and Mrs. Ad Topperwein of San Antonio, wants to be an umpire in the National Mrs. Hawkins one each.

At Rockford, Ill., the team broke 97 At Rockford, Ill., the team broke 97 half to Fresident John Heydler.

Detroit to Train at Macon.

sanction for tournaments next year be refused about 18 clubs, which failed ing club. The organization dates to file reports of their scheduled events.

Spencer broke straight and the that the Tigers will do their training three each missed one target. There was a time when all those who shot at doubles targets used a gain play a series of spring exhibition into classes.

DIRECTORS WANT STATE EVENT SET DOWN IN MAY.

Portland Organization Plans Expansion to Obtain Recognition in Averages of National Body.

At the annual meeting of the Portland Gun club last week it was voted to apply to the American Trapshooting association for the dates of May 22, 23 and 24, for the 1920 Oregon state championship blue rock tournament. It was also decided to cut the event from four to three days, instead of dragging the programme out for four days.

The annual meeting of the Portland Gun and Several first-class men from which to select his team. Those who have been showing up well in practice are Ferguson, Scott and Courtney, forwards; Glesy, Coit and Hill, guards; and Burns, Lenox and Gregg, centers. In Kenneth Hill, Benson has one of the best all-around hoopers who has ever performed in interscholastic circles.

August 28 and 29, 1300 Target Year Wanted.

The officials figure that if possible they would like to arrange for at least 1300 registered targets to be thrown, at the Everding park traps in 1920. This will give the local trapshots a chance to shatter enough targets along with what they might bag at other northwest registered shoots to place them in the list of of-ficial averages compiled by the asso-ciation for the United States. In or-der to be listed it is necessary to shoot at at least 2000 registered tar-

Charles B. Preston, one of the most prominent members of the Portland Gun club and a top rank shooter, has donated a cup which will be known as the president's trophy to be shot for

The first of this year a trophy known as the directors' trophy was put up to be shot for the entire year. All targets were to count on the tro-phy and the high average man at the end of the year was to have been awarded the trophy. Owing to the fact that the records on some of the weekly shoots were lost it was found impossible to make a just award this year and so at the annual meeting it was decided to put the directors' trophy up in competition in 1920 under a simpler scoring method.

Trophy Rules Announced. The directors' cup will be shot for in a series of ten merchandise shoots, which will be held at frequent interwhich will be held at frequent intervals during the new year. All except the final shoot will be regular 50 target events. The final merchandise shoot of the season will be 100 targets. The high man in this final shoot will be awarded the president's cup and the high average man on the ten shoots will win the disectors' trophy.

For his great work towards the advancement of the Portland Gun club and his interest for the good of the game a life membership will be presented to William C. Bristol, and a suitable token will go along with

Starting January 1 and lasting for 90 days the initiation fee for membership in the Portland Gun club will be \$50. April 1 the initiation fee will be raised to \$150. It was also voted to apply for a regular membership for the Portland Gun club in the Oregon

the Portland Gun club in the Oregon Sportsman's league.
Frank Van Atta, runner up for the Oregon state championship in 1917 and one of the best known scatter gun artists in the northwest, will take charge of the management of the club on January i.
The Olympic club of San Francisco, which went into the trapshooting game last year, has found the going so good that the club is staging what it is terming a world championship shoot over its traps on February 21, 22 and 23. At least three members of the Portland Gun club, Frank Troch, C. B. Preston and Jim Seavey will attend the tournament, and it is likely that Henry R. "Hi" Everding,

HIGH BASKET FIVES

Tentative Schedule Calls fo Season of 36 Games.

TRAINING TIME IS SHORT

Play in Scholastic League Profase to Be High-Class With Many Veterans Holding Over.

BY GEORGE W. COWNE.

tentative basketball schedule calling for 36 games has been drawn up by the coaches of the high school quintets and will be submitted to the directors of the interscholastic league for their approval when they meet the first week in January. According to the tentative schedule Hill and James John will open the season January 12, while Benson and Columbia will ring down the curtain on basketball activi-

ties March 2.
Only two days remain before the schools will close for the Christmas holidays on Tuesday. They will open again January 5, and if the tentative schedule of the coaches is passed upon favorably by the board of directors it will leave only one week of practice for the hoopers before the season commences.

Backetball fills in on the interscholastic calendars during the winter months that intervene between the football season and those of the spring sports of track and baseball. But basketball is no longer considered merely as "filling in." For several years now the court same has years now the court game has taken its place alongside of the other scholastic sports as a major branch of high school athletics. Keener interest is being taken in basketball this year

Close Play Promised.

Competition will be exceedingly close between the quintets this year, as each school numbers among its players several lettermen of last season as well as numerous new ones on the available list.

The Benson Tech five under the coaching of Billy Bryan will have to be reckoned with when it comes to making a bid for championship hon-ors. Bryan has several first-class

stead of dragging the programme out for four days.

The annual meeting of the Portland Gun club was one of the most enthusiastic ever held and resulted in the election of Herbert B. Newland, president; Arthur K. Downs. Vice-president; James C. Morris and Frank Templeton, directors, and E. H. Keller, secretary. A more popular selection of officers for the coming year could not have been made and from now on the clay pigeons devotes can look for things to hum at the Everding park traps. Many innovations and tournaments for 1920 were talked over and planned and a number of events set.

The tournament committee named for 1920 is Frank Van Atta, Charles

hoopers who has ever performed in interscholastic circles.

Franklin will feel the loss of Harry Thomas, star guard of last year, who has decided not to play this season, but his place will be well filled. Hallier and Jones, both last-year letter men, will have to step lively if they place on the team, for Kelly and Wathins are both good men and promise to furnish a few surprises. There are no experienced centers available from petition is developing between Poulsen, Tank McCallum and Grashorn.

With the Lincoln team and it is expected that several more of the valley high school teams will be taken on before the team returns.

The Lincoln high team, with all the

The tournament committee named for 1920 is Frank Van Atta, Charles B. Preston and H. B. Newland.

Three big registered shoots will be applied for by the club for next year to the parent body, the American Trapshooting association, whose headquarters are in New York.

The first will be on March 20 and 21: the second registered affair on May 22, 23 and 24 and the third on August 28 and 29.

Defore the team returns.

The Lincoln high team, with all the slicks of the third and the third on August 28 and 29.

States customs officers A trio of links enthusiasts, with their bags of club on their arms, arrived the other day, and were stopped by an official who said he was obliged to tilt all golf bags.

The Lincoln high team, with all the slicks out of bounds—had purchased clubs on their arms, arrived the other day, and were stopped by an official who said he was obliged to tilt all golf bags.

The Lincoln high team, with all the slicks out of bounds—had slice out of bounds—had slice out of bounds—had slick out of broken golf club shaft; and slice out of bounds—had slick out of broken golf club shaft; and slice out of bounds—had slick out of broken golf club shaft; and slice out of bounds—had slick out of broken golf club shaft; and slice out of blums of club shaft; and slice out of broken golf club shaft; and slice out of blums of club s

Schedule In Drawn.

The tentative schedule as drawn the coaches for the approval of he board of directors fol' ws January 12—Hill versus James John, January 13—Jefferson versus Franklin, January 14—Commerce versus Lincoln, January 15—Columbia versus Washing

ohn.
January 20—Franklin versus Commerce.
January 21—Washington versus Hill.
January 22—Columbia versus Lincoin.
January 23—Benson versus James John.
January 26—Jefferson versus Commerce.
January 27—Franklin versus Lincoin.
January 28—Washington versus Benson.
January 29—James John versus Columis.

February 3—Commerce versus Columbia February 4—Lincoln versus Benson. February 5—Jefferson versus Washing

February 9-Commerce versus Benson, February 16-James John versus Wash February 11—Jefferson versus Columbia February 12—I-incoin versus Hill, February 13—Betron versus Franklin February 16—Lincoln versus James John February 13-Jefferson versus Benson. February 18-Franklin versus Columbia

Tues. Eve., Dec. 23

★5-BIG BOUTS-5★ For the Middleweight Champion

Battling Ortega vs. Jimmy Darcy

SPECIAL EVENT. PETER MITCHIE vs. FREDDIE ANDERSON

Sailor Hanson vs. J. Bocovitch Chick Rocco vs. Leo Bell.

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"Nation's Finest Cigars"

CANADIAN OFFICIALS HAVE DOUBTS ON BAG CONTENTS.

Smugglers, It Seems, Cast Susprcion on Exemplary Linksmen Who Never Touch a Drop.

Golfers returning to this country from Canada are objects of great suspicion these days to the United States customs officers. A trio of links enthusiasts, with their hears of the country from a mashic, or a stymic from a slice out of bounds—had purchased

The inspector then informed them hat an order from headquarters was o the effect that a careful search of to the effect that a careful search of all bags must be made for contra-band liquor. It was a sweeping order, which left him nothing to do but make a complete search. It ap-peared from the explanation that the customs office got onto the fact that whisky was being smuggled in from Canada—where it cost a matter of \$4 to \$5—to be sold on this side for from \$15 to \$20 a quart, at the rate of a half-dozen imperial quarts to the golf

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