

NEWS AND GOSSIP OF THE TURF

Interesting Rumors of Prominent Deals Promptly Denied by Those in the Swim.

KEANE DENIES SYSONBY WAS OVERWEIGHTED

George Odum Says There is Little Truth in Report That He Shall Ride Again—Gravesend Track Will Not Be Cut Up and Sold.

(Journal Special Service.) New York, Feb. 7.—Last week was full of interesting rumors and prompt denials in the turf world. Considering that it is just between seasons, and that there is nothing particularly interesting at the winter tracks just now, this is not to be wondered at.

The first of the rumor crop which caused the racing contingent to sit up and take notice was to the effect that James R. Keane had come to the conclusion that Sysonby was overweighted for the Brighton handicap, and positively would not start in that race.

This report met a prompt and authoritative denial. As a matter of fact, Mr. Keane does not know whether or not the great horse will start, but he probably will. He has wintered in fine shape, the open weather permitting him to take plenty of outdoor exercise.

One of his trainers said a day or two ago: "If Sysonby is not a better horse this year than ever before I will be the worst fooled man in America."

If he is he can carry the weight imposed and win, too. It was learned that Mr. Keane has had an offer from an English source of \$20,000 for the great son of Melton and has refused it. So much for rumor number one.

Number two was to the effect that George Odum intended to ride again. While the little Georgian cannot make the weight for any except the stake races, the story that he intended to do this much caused no small amount of satisfaction among those who like to see good, clean riding and be always sure of getting an honest run for their money.

No better rider has been seen in the east during the past ten years than George Odum nor has a boy ever ridden in America who enjoyed more fully the confidence of horsemen and racegoers alike. His record when he retired was absolutely without blemish.

People had not more than begun to feel good over the announcement of Odum's return to the paddock when this statement came from him: "I do not expect to ride the coming season. I have not, in fact, considered the matter so far, though I am no heavier now than at the same time last year and the year before. But I have broken away from riding and don't care to take it up again. I might, of course, change my mind, but hardly think it likely."

Odum has a string of several horses at Gravesend, which he will train this season. The stable includes Cassandra, Optical, and five 2-year-olds, some of which are very well bred.

Gravesend won't be sold. Rumor number three had it that the famous old Gravesend racetrack was to be sold and cut up into building lots, and that the spring meet of 1907 would see the end of the track. This report was dispensed of by Secretary Robertson in these brief and convincing sentences: "This annual myth rises every year to haunt us, with absolutely no foundation in fact."

The Gravesend track is of more value to us as a racing plant than any possible price that we could secure for it for real estate or any other purpose. We have received offers at various times for the property, and have consistently stated that we had no intention of selling, and that there was no probability that we ever would sell.

The only possibility of our selling that I can at all foresee is of our being forced eventually to seek other quarters by the passage of a law by the city officials cutting streets through our grounds and condemning them under the right of eminent domain. I do not believe that this will come for years, and until it does we will do business at the old stand."

ing one 5-year-old, three 4-year-olds (including the great Sysonby); eleven 3-year-olds, and 25 2-year-olds. It need not be surprising to see this great stable in the lead for 1906, as it was in 1905.

Outlook at Brighton.

Judging by the class of horses which have been named for the events of the Brighton Beach Racing association, the meeting at that track promises to be the best that has ever been seen at the popular course.

The Brighton handicap has 70 entries and among the horses there are representatives of almost every big stable in the east together with a number of westerners. Among the good ones entered are Santa Catalina, Blandy, Ort Wells, Synosby, Hermis, Oiseau, Stewart, Artful, Hamburg, Belle, Aggie, The Picket, Palsau, Burgomaster, First Mason, Flip Flap, Ormondale, Bad News, Dr. Leggo, Phil Finch, Kuroki, Klamesha, Lady Savoy, Wild Mint, Bobolan, Timber and many others.

The other stakes show the richness in quality and quantity. One of the most interesting features which has developed since the first of the year is the thoroughbred breeding, which has been the remarkable success of Albert and the young sire Cesarion. In the first 23 days' racing each of these horses claims seven 3-year-old winners, a feat which has never been accomplished by any other sire in the country.

The unsettled condition of turf affairs in the west has prompted many owners to decline to take sides with either of the racing associations, and instead to come east and race against the best horses in this section.

Principal among western owners who will ship their horses here are C. R. Ellison, William Gerst, W. W. Darden, P. Dunne, Barney Schreiber, George C. Bennett and Fred Cook. The above stables have been seen in the east and have decided to try it again, but they intend to send the best of their horses, and for that reason visitors to Brighton in the east-steeplechase should witness the best racing in the history of the turf, as the eastern turfmen will also send their best to the post in the principal events.

W. O. Parmer has announced the appointment of William Hendrie, the Detroit turfman, to the board of appeals of the American Turf association. Mr. Hendrie succeeds the late Captain S. S. Brown.

A. J. Joyner, accompanied by Mrs. Joyner, has gone to Mt. Clemens, Michigan, to take a well-earned rest of a few weeks.

Captain Brown's Will. The will of the late Captain S. S. Brown, recently died in Louisville, devotes only one paragraph to his racing string. It has been generally believed that Captain Brown specifically provided for the continuance of his racing interests for at least one year after his death. The will shows no desire of this kind, and it is evident that W. Harry Brown's intention to fulfill the stake engagements this season must have been a verbal arrangement. The will was dated November 22, 1905, and the paragraph relating to the racing stables reads as follows: "As my brother, W. Harry Brown, in partnership with me in my racing stables, I authorize, empower and request him to wind up the partnership as soon as the same can be done after my death to the best advantage of my estate, and I request to sell all the horses at public sale."

Jockey Hoar has just arrived from Russia. He was formerly in the employ of Frank Farrell, but for the last two years has been riding successfully in Russia, having been regularly employed of Frank Farrell, but for the last of Prince Loubranski, for whom he recently won a Derby at Moscow.

Hoar left Russia at the close of the racing season in November, and since then he has been making something of a grand tour, visiting Berlin, Paris, London and other European cities. He is under contract to return to Russia in the spring.

Fred Taral, the "Dutchman," one of the most popular jockeys that ever rode in this country, is seriously ill from an attack of grip. He had planned to sail soon for Germany, where he has a good engagement for the coming season.

The principal topic of conversation among horsemen at the recent Fasig-Tipton sale in Madison Square garden was the pros and cons of the "three wags a race" much agitation just at present. A great deal could be heard for both sides, and the question was sure to be under discussion in almost every one of the countless little groups about the auctioneer's stand.

JOHN L. PUT A SHOW OUT OF BUSINESS

Stories "by James J. Corbett" are plentiful these days since a versatile St. Paul newspaper man got to grinding them out for a certain syndicate, but here is one of the real stuff, sprung by the ex-champion himself one night in the old Russell House cafe after the show, says a writer in the Detroit Times. It concerned John L. Sullivan's ability as an actor, and the party had just finished the resume of John's several ill-fated attempts.

"The funniest way that Sullivan ever put a show on the bum happened down in New England," said Corbett, "when he was traveling with an 'Uncle Tom' company. Sullivan was playing Legree, and the Uncle Tom of the production

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had cast out several aspersions regarding John L.'s ability as a thespian. John stood it for quite a while, but one night he broke loose and got tanned up. He went through his lines all right till they got to the scene where they lash old Uncle Tom to the stocks, when he was whaled by Legree. Uncle Tom: 'You ham, you've said round this show I was no actor. I'm going to show you that I can just knock this audience cold.' Sullivan took the blacksnake whip and swung it mightily. Instead of hitting Uncle Tom on the padding arranged for the belts, he belabored him elsewhere, and hit with a vim. In place of the patient suffering he was supposed to exhibit at this time, Uncle Tom broke out in wild cries for help. The women of the company screamed from the wings. The men started to drag Sullivan off, but he waved them back with his mighty paw. He beat Uncle Tom till he adjudged that worthy had enough and then, while the curtain was being down, began to untie him and later helped ship him to the hospital in great glee. The act had certainly knocked the crowd cold, just as Sullivan said it would, but Uncle Tom had no understudy willing to take his chances with Sullivan, and the show had to disband.

RACING RESULTS ON CALIFORNIA TRACKS

(Journal Special Service.) Los Angeles, Feb. 7.—Ascot race results: Four furlongs—Jagie S. won, Valencour second, Emily M. third; time, 0:49 1/2.

Futurity course—Huerfano, won, Lady Kissap second, El Huerfano third; time, 1:10 1/2. Six furlongs—Charley won, Bribery second, Cleo third; time, 1:14 1/2. Handicap, one mile and one eighth—Ramus, won, Chok Hodrick second, Good Luck third; time, 1:52 1/2. One mile—Hoodwink won, Tavanne second, Rubion third; time, 1:42 1/2. Six furlongs—Revolt won, Hi Lona second, Ninesquaw third; time, 1:14 1/2.

At Oakland.

(Journal Special Service.) San Francisco, Feb. 7.—Oakland race results: Three and one half furlongs—Elmdale won, Palemon second, Yankee Jim third; time, 0:42 1/2.

Five furlongs—Saintolat won, Six second, Lovey Mary third; time, 1:02. Six furlongs—Graceful won, Cerro Santa second, E. M. Brattain third; time, 1:12 1/2. One mile and 50 yards—Catalina won, Supreme Court second, Jackful third; time, 1:41 1/2. One mile—Quick Rich won, Abe Meyer second, Legal Form third; time, 1:16 1/2. Six furlongs, the Rosington handicap—Deutoband, won, Princess Titania second, Martimas third; time, 1:12 1/2.

GOLD BONDS DEFEAT WOODLARK BOWLERS

The Gold Bonds, with 64 pins handicap, took two games out of three from the Woodlarks last evening. McGoneny had high average, 39.2; Hague had the highest single game, 248. The scores were:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. Includes Gold Bonds, Harrington, Swartz, Neuberger, Metzen, Haggard, and Handicap scores.

EUGENE HIGH TEAM DEFEATS ASHLAND

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Eugene, Or., Feb. 7.—In a spirited and well-played game of basketball in the Eugene armory last night between the local high school team and the Ashland Normal school team the high school boys won by the score of 32 to 14. The teams lined up as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Eugene team: Forward—Watson, Stenciliff, Forward—King, Thomas, Center—Peret, Martin, Guard—Smith, Scullen, Guard—Farrington. Ashland team: Forward—Watson, Stenciliff, Forward—King, Thomas, Center—Peret, Martin, Guard—Smith, Scullen, Guard—Farrington.

SPORTING GOSSIP.

A report from Seattle says that Dr. Roller, who is physical instructor at the University of Washington, is about to resign owing to friction between the faculty and himself. Dr. Roller is one of the best-known athletes of the northwest and is known in Portland through his participation in football games when the Seattle A. C. played Multnomah.

How to Play a Hand Organ.—Next to playing old maid, there is nothing more difficult to play than a hand organ. Great care should be taken in beginning the first lesson right, and much depends upon the choice of a teacher. Foreign artists make the best hand organ players; notably Italians. To play the hand organ, first take off your coat and get a pall of beer. Then grasp the crank, which will be found protruding from the instrument, firmly in the right hand (unless you are left handed) and turn it

TOSSES MONEY TO STREET CROWD

E. Oscar Hart of New York Making a Record Along the Lines of Coal Oil Johnny.

GIVES LADY SHOPPERS BOUQUETS OF BLOSSOMS

Buys Champagne for Crowd of Hotel Loungers and Throws Away Greenbacks and Showers of Gold and Silver Coin.

(Journal Special Service.) Los Angeles, Feb. 7.—E. Oscar Hart, a New Yorker, who just arrived in Los Angeles from Mexico with his wife, signalled his coming by starting out in an automobile after the loose-money records of "Coal Oil Johnny" and Walter Scott, the Death Valley spender. With his auto tank well filled with gasoline and his own tank with another brand of firewater, Hart began by buying out the violet stocks of half a dozen flower vendors and distributing bunches of blossoms to women shoppers. Tiring of this he drew a handful of bills from his pocket and tossed it in the air. In the lot was a \$100 bill, several fifties and others of smaller denominations. They were seized upon by newshaws and pedestrians. This shower was followed by one of gold and silver coins. On the way to the Lankershim hotel Hart flung out another bunch of bills, one man picking up two of the century mark.

"I'll make Scotty look sick," declared Hart at the hotel buffet, where he opened the hand organ in large crowd that had been attracted. He would not say where he got his money. In entering the hotel he had knocked down a porter, smashing the fellow's hat. Hart gave him \$10 and told him to buy three hats.

The man from Mexico, whose family is said to be wealthy, left for the beach today, vowing he would keep up his rapid gait as long as he remained here.

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People on the east side say they are being bothered by hoodlums. What do they expect from hoodlums.

Bob Fitzsimmons met Tom O'Rourke, who manages the Tuxedo club near Philadelphia, at the corner of Broadway and Fortieth street, the other day, and Mrs. Julia Fitzsimmons' husband declared that he wants to fight Jack O'Brien again. "I had all the best of the fight with O'Brien," declared Fitz in his own peculiar patois. "I had him going until I fell off my chair. I don't care for the bout, but business it is. I was thinking of Julia all the time. I'll fight him again and then he'll find out the difference." "I'll give you \$15,000 for the bout," said O'Rourke. "That's good enough for me," returned Fitz. "Get O'Brien to agree and I'll meet him."

Buck-Shott.—The engagement of Miss Clara Shott to Jonathan Buck was announced yesterday.

There are signs of a revival of boxing as a collegiate sport. Frank Erns has been engaged as boxing instructor at Yale and there is talk of a tournament between Yale and Harvard boxers.

Arrangements for the trans-Pacific yacht race meet May, under the auspices of the Hawaiian Yacht club of Honolulu and the Pacific Yachting association of San Francisco, are developing great interest. The contest is to be open to the world for yachts 40 feet to 90 feet over all.

The South Texas league will comprise six teams this season—Austin, Houston, Galveston, Beaumont, San Antonio and St. Charles.

Artful last year's winner of the Brighton handicap, will carry 122 pounds in this year's renewal of the event against Sysonby, the winner of the Tale Wells, Oiseau and Stewart, 124 pounds each.

The entrance fee for the \$12,000 Hartford futurity to be trotted at Charter Oak is only \$31. It is the lowest entrance fee on record for so large a prize.

Gus Hansen, who was known in the local days as "Redman" has 14 perfect 300 scores in bowling to his credit. He is champion of the northwest.

The fastest mile ever traveled by a woman was made by Mrs. M. B. Clausen of New York in F. E. Stanley's steam racer driven by Fred Marriott on the Ormond-Daytona beach. The time was 0:31 4-5.

The National league seems to be making all the changes as to managers and players these days. The American league evidently proposes to "stand pat." Perhaps the result will be two good pennant races this summer.

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FARMERS AND BUSINESS MEN AT GRESHAM

Enthusiastic Meeting Held for Organization of Rural Telephone System.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Gresham, Or., Feb. 7.—Pursuant to notices previously sent out a large and representative gathering of farmers and business men of northern Clackamas and eastern Multnomah counties met in Regner's hall at Gresham Monday afternoon. M. Ricker of Hurlburt called the meeting to order. W. H. Smeal of Pleasant Valley was elected chairman and Theodore Bruenger of Gresham secretary. Chairman Smeal called the object of the meeting was for the organization of a rural telephone system. Remarks were then called for and was responded to by Fred Emily, M. L. Ricker of Hurlburt, E. S. Jenne of Jenne station, J. D. Chitwood of Damascus, John Havel of Pleasant Home, Timothy Brownhill of Gresham and the Pacific States Telephone company representatives, George J. Hall and H. L. Davenport. Fred Emily proved to be the wit of the evening, having much fun at the expense of Hall and Davenport. After a good deal of discussion a committee of one from each school district was appointed to circulate petitions in every district in eastern Multnomah and northern Clackamas counties. A committee of three, consisting of Timothy Brownhill, Theodore Bruenger and E. S. Jenne, was appointed to draft suitable subscription agreements, after which the meeting adjourned to meet in the grange hall in Gresham on Monday morning, February 13.

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