SPORTS OF THE DAY

FIGHT MANAGERS FOOZLE PATRONS

Promoter Sam Berger Can't Sign Jimmy Britt for San Francisco Scrap.

SEALS MAY PLAY FOR OLD ROMAN NEXT YEAR

Comiskey Has His Eagle Eye on Nick Williams and Wanted to Take Pretty Boy East With Chicago White Sox Baseball Team.

By Will J. Slattery.

San Francisco, March 21.—The fight promoters and the stars of the pugilistic world are playing the game of double cross, in and out and down and out, so strong right now that the fight fans are still unable to get a line on how they stand or what is about to be passed to them next. It is not at all extraordinary for a promoter to make a couple of matches a day and then call them off the next day. Anything goes and the public is getting a great line of talk, but nothing that looks like a good fight.

After fluttering and flickering around like the proverbial humming bird, Sad Sam Berger has finally hit upon a match between Battling Nelson and Abe Attell for the last day of the present month. This is the third match that Samuel has made within the last few days and consequently the fans are firmly convinced he is either kidding them or he has an ace in the hole and is just about to put one over.

At all events, Sam could not put Jimmy Britt on. As predicted last week, Britt was prevented at the eleventh hour from fighting in San Francisco. The story is given out that Berger and the Britts were unable to agree upon the financial end of the layout, but according to the men of politics and pull, Supervisor Stafford went to the bat at the critical moment and warned the budding young promoter that he would have to switch someone else for Britt or call the date off and possibly forfeit his other permits.

When the big blowoff came, there was weeping and gnashing of teeth and one grand and general mixup all along the line. The Britts were not slow in expressing their opinions of the young promoter, claiming that he was playing the cheap guy and endeavoring to make them stand for it. Berger very wisely kept his own counsel and let it go at that. He was just wise enough to realize that the less said the better off he would be, so he took the tip and was satisfied to let the matter drop there.

When Berger announced that he had signed up Gans and Attell for a 15-round go for the "lightweight" championship of the world, the general public all but fossed a fit. Berger, however, was very serious about the whole matter and tried to make everybody believe that he was on the square. Those who were in a position to know, however, were not at all surprised when he called the match off and switched Battling Nelson to take the place of the peerless smoke from Baltimore.

The Nelson-Attell affair promises to be a good drawing card as well as a great fight. The boys met a year and a half ago in Philadelphia and while the little Hebrew had it on the Durable Dane 40 ways in cleverness, those who saw the mixup go on record as saying that Bat was coming like a quarter horse in the last round and that Attell welcomed the final clang of the bell.

Both men have started to work. Attell will not have to take off any weight, so he figures to be in grand shape in a week. Nelson can do the 130 limit without trying and as he has been working out in Los Angeles for practically two months past, everything looks nice and rosy for him.

Nelson was handed a match that he did not look for, but he took it at that, knowing there was a nice piece of change and a chance to gather a lot of glory in it. Bat came to this city from Los Angeles to "show up Britt and McFarland," as he expressed it. He was right on the job with a $1,000 forfeit to go as a side bet against Britt and the Chicago boy. He offered to stop Britt inside of 20 rounds and then to meet McFarland in the same ring 15 minutes later. Of course, the lightweights did not have a chance in even come back with a line of talk for the reason that they are now matched by Jim Coffroth for a 20-round encounter on April 11 at the Mission-street arena.

A lot of people believe that Nelson is using his skypiece as a sound emitter in going after Britt and McFarland on the same night, but there are others who say that he can get away with both of them. According to the most reliable of those who saw the last Britt-Nelson mixup, Bat would have put his man safely away had the mill gone two rounds longer. As McFarland has never yet fought a man of the first water, the calculating judges of form and performances say that Nelson will smother him if they ever hook up.

Another effort to get Jim Jeffries into the ring with Jack Johnson has failed. This stupendous scheme, the greatest yet on record, was made by John T. Clark, the well-known but very silent local sporting man. In behalf of Tex Rickard, the Nevada promoter, who pulled off the Gans-Nelson fight at Goldfield and several other prominent wage brush financiers, Clark offered the king of gladiators a cool $25,000 for his bit, win, lose or draw if he would step into the ring with the big black on labor day in some Nevada town. But as usual, Jeff only smiled and replied "nix."

The promoters even went so far as to get the big fellow's wife to go to the front in their behalf. For several days, she kept nagging Jeff to go on and get the easy money. The big fellow finally got wise and told her to cut the rough work out and she did.

The recent trip of the Chicago White Sox proved a grand success financially, physically and socially. Good luck and the bright California sunshine heralded the approach of the Windy City tossers and not an unpleasant incident occurred to mar their trip from the time they struck Los Angeles, three weeks ago, till they said farewell to San Francisco several days since.

The crowds that greeted the big leaguers in this city even surprised the local management. On their getaway appearance, the big team of the Sox played the seals to a $6,200 house—one of the largest that this city has ever known—not even barring the palmy days of the old Haight street grounds, when everybody was baseball crazy. During their two weeks' sojourn here, the two teams of the White Sox played to something in the neighborhood of $16,000. In Los Angeles, more than $10,000 was taken in at the gate. No

(Continued on Page Three.)

PROGRESS CAUSES ABANDONMENT OF PORTLAND'S HISTORIC TURF PROJECT

FAMOUS IRVINGTON TRACK IS NO MORE

RESIDENCES TO COVER RACE TRACK

Within two months there will be nothing left of the once-famous Irvington race track but a memory. Little remain of the big grandstand, and the course that Barney Oldfield pronounced the fastest in America has gone to ruin. The few tumbledown shacks that are called stables can last only until the new system of stalls have been constructed at the Country club track. Preparations are even now being made to turn teams and plows onto the track, in anticipation of marketing the lots in the ground. Around the whole place there is an air of desolation, and the sooner the grotesque outbuildings are removed the better it will suit the neighbors.

Owing to its short distance from the center of the city, the track was always a popular one, and seldom lacked for crowds. Fifteen minutes after the cars started from the heart of town the passenger was landed within a few steps of the gate. The site was an attractive one and the improvements were of the highest class. However, those who feel sorry to see the old course go will find comfort in the splendid new track of the Portland Country club, adjoining Rose City Park.

A gang of surveyors is at work on the broad acres encompassed by the course, being engaged in dividing the tract into lots. A huge real estate sign announces to the chance visitor that choice residence sites are now on the market.

Some 30 or 40 horses have wintered at the track and have been worked out on fair days. Owing to the roughness of the course, little attempt has been made to put the thoroughbreds through in fast time.

Among the animals now at the track are Hal B., 2:04¾, the sensation of the Grand circuit and largest money-winner in 1899. He is at the head of the Harry Osman string.

E. B. Turner, the prominent Pacific coast trainer, has charge of the C. X. Larrabee stable of harness horses, some of which are unusually promising. Mr. Turner, who is a very obliging gentleman, thinks that Sovran, the 3-year-old stallion shown above, is one of the best colts in training. He worked the colt a quarter in 37 seconds the other day on the rough track. Sovran is by King Red, the famous sire, and won the blue ribbon and grand championship honor at the recent Portland horse show.

Kentuckians After Stallion.

The well-known Lexington, Kentucky, horsemen, Mr. McHaffie and John Splan, are trying to induce Mr. Larrabee to place Sovran in the stud at Lexington. While no decision has yet been reached to this effect, there is every likelihood that Sovran will race over the Grand circuit.

Among the Larrabee string is a little mare, Alama, with a mark of 2:18, that is working out in a manner that predicts better time on the tracks this summer. Mr. Turner also has several other harness horses with good marks under his care.

Sam Elmore, the Astoria horseman, has some promising youngsters at work. Doc Warde is training them. Carooks, 2:24½, is a promising colt, and Lady Mont, by Altamont, is another that is showing up well. Buster Brown, another colt, also looks good.

Jack Coffman has several green running horses which he intends racing over the Northwest circuit this summer.

The Irvington race track was built in 1893 by the Portland Speed and Driving association, under whose auspices the racing was conducted. Sixty acres of land were leased from Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Ryan from a tract comprising the old Irving estate. The first officers and directors were George B. Markle, president; Ed Rothschild, secretary; Charles Forbes (deceased), A. G. Ryan, R. C. Smith, John Parker (deceased) and Van B. DeLashmutt.

Forty-five thousand dollars was spent in improvements, the association having a 10 years' lease on the track. The first year was not a success from a sportsman's standpoint, and in 1894 the stockholders got together and elected a new set of officers and directors, which included the names of P. J. Mann, George W. Bates, A. C. Lohmire, A. G. Ryan, L. P. W. Quimby, H. H. Emmons and L. C. McCormack. M. D. Wisdom was made racing secretary.

Best Pacing In 1895.

Under the reorganization the horsemen gave a very successful race meeting from a horseman's standpoint. The association ran several thousand dollars behind. In 1895 the greatest mixed race meeting in the history of the track was held with trotters and pacers in attendance which afterwards won fame on the grand circuit. Oldtime horsemen recall the bunch of thoroughbreds as the greatest collection ever got together in the northwest.

But that was about the last year of high-class mixed racing. From 1895 until 1901 little was done. In 1902 Chris Simpson, a Pendleton horseman, and H. H. Hellman took a two year's lease on the track. After trying to give one or two meetings they became disgusted and threw the lease up.

After this it was devoted more to running horse meetings and the Multnomah Fair association took an option on the grounds for $150,000. Running races provided sport during the spring and fall of 1904 and the spring of 1905 with the matinees of the Riverside Driving club and the Portland Hunt club. Portland was placed on the California-Montana circuit and some crack horses performed on the Irvington track.

During the Lewis and Clark Exposition in the spring of 1905 everything was propitious for a splendid spring meeting, but internal dissensions ruined the racing association. The controversy was taken into the courts but declared to have no standing and the authorities threatened prosecution if pool-selling was continued. Without pools the racing could not prosper and came to an abrupt end. Scores of horsemen found themselves caught without funds and were forced to sell some of their horses to get money to move the rest of the string out of the country.

Prevented by law from continuing the race meetings with syndicate bookmaking, the Multnomah Fair association offered the tract for sale and finally disposed of it for $185,000, clearing $35,000 on the proposition.

Famous Horses Race.

During that memorable 15-day meeting in 1905 there were horses stabled at the track that afterward went over the grand circuit in splendid style. There was the peerless pacer, Chehalis, owned and driven by Frank Frazier of Pendleton, which created a mark of 2:04¼ at Cleveland, Ohio. Chehalis was easily the best of lot, of which there were some speedy harness animals.

Among other horses of note racing during that season were Del Norte, 2:08, and Touchet, 2:15, both full brothers of Chehalis; Brino Tricks, 2:13; Klamath, 2:17½; Altio, 2:09¾; Ottinger, 2:09, and Our Dick, 2:09½.

Among the old trainers and drivers at the track then were Tom Keating, the famous driver of grand circuit fame, who raced Searchlight and Aanaconda in the east; Charles Durphy, who later drove McKinney, the great sire which sold for $50,000 when he was 17 years of age; Bi Hawley, Tom Raymond, Andy McDowell, who gave Alix the world's record mark of 2:03¾ at Galesburg, Illinois, smashing the 2:04 record held so long by Nancy Hanks.

Oregon drivers there were John Sawyer, L. B. Lindsey, Charley Woods, Jim Misner, Frank Frazier, Sam Costo of Salem, J. Beach of Altamont memory, now in Alaska; Kirkland of Albany, J. C. Mosier of Los Angeles, J. B. Stetson of McMinnville and Mr. Cox of McMinnville.

Frank Frazier, the old timers say, could have cleared up from $10,000 to $15,000 on his horse Chehalis if he had had the nerve to send his speedy pacer against some of the fastest animals here at that time. Frazier always maintained that he did not want to "mark" his horse, because he intended campaigning him for some big stakes in California the following winter. However that may be he could have earned a far greater sum by matching him with Brino Trix and George Ayer. Bill Matlock and several other eastern Oregon horsemen made all kinds of overtures to Frazier but the latter would not recede from his position. Local horsemen even went so far as to try and get Frazier's consent for a match with the three full brothers, Chehalis, Del Norte and Touchet, but even this was passed up.

Chehalis could have made the Brino Trix class of horses look like selling platers.

He worked the mile in 2:11 next day, while the best the others could do in the race was 2:13. Frazier bought Chehalis for $600 in 1892 and sold him after he made his record for $7,000.

Matinee Races Good.

The first matinee race of importance was, held in 1904. The championship cup for the free-for-all trot was won that year by McBriar, whose picture is shown above. A. C. Lohmire was the driver and the best time was 2:26. There was no meeting in 1905, but in 1906 McBriar repeated.

Last year the match race between A. C. Lohmire's pacer Rockford and J. W. Bailey's trotter Red Rock, was won by the pacer. Lohmire's Rockford later beat an imported mare, Agnes Lamay, Rockford won in two straight heats in 2:20 and 2:23.

JAMES R. KEENE TO SADDLE 47 COLTS IN CLASSIC RACES

By J. S. A. McDonald.

San Francisco, March 21.—With the near approach of the turf season's opening the probable strength of the stable of James R. Keene is becoming a matter of acute interest to all followers of the thoroughbred. In 1907 Mr. Keene's horses won a little over $411,645. Colin, Peter Pan, Ballot and the patriarchal turfman's other stars dominated the turf of the year. How will it be this coming summer, provided, of course, that racing obtains in face of the violent opposition of Governor Hughes and his cohorts at Albany, New York?

Trainer James Rowe expects to saddle at one time or other through the season just 47 juvenile thoroughbreds. He has that number now in mild point, together with 16 other horses, 3-year-olds, 4-year-olds, and aged handicap performers.

Of course, the Keene 2-year-olds, the sons and daughters of Commando, Disguise, Voter and Kingston, constitute the most interesting part of the problem. Will Keene have a strong hand in 2-year-olds this year? There is the question being asked on every side where turfmen are wont to gather just now. Yes, Keene will have a mighty stout lay-down when the times comes to make a show of the cards about the period when the $20,000 juvenile stakes are being run off at Sheepshead Bay in June and early July.

Disguise Colt May Top List.

Last season a Commando, the noted Colin, stood as the premier. From all accounts a Disguise may top the list in 1908. In a latter to Lucien Appleby, James Rowe, the Keene trainer, dilates upon the brown colt by Disguise, out of St. Mildred. Mr. Keene has named him Helmet. This youngster is big and rangy like Peter Pan, but has shown as much as Colin ever did at this time and much better than ever did Peter Pan.

Unless all signs fail, Helmet will be the Keen 2-year-old star this year. "But we have some other crackers," writes Rowe, "and I would not be surprised to see a filly take the cake this summer. Our chestnut filly by Voter, out of Gingham, is sure to race well when thinned down. She goes along like a real runner. She is the biggest 2-year-old filly I ever handled. We call her Apron." It is also known that the Keene stable thinks highly of Affliction and Tattling, two colts by the peerless Meddler. A chestnut colt called Ultimus, a son of Commando, is another "dark un." The Keene horses are very richly engaged.

No doubt the noted "white and blue dots" will be foremost a good part of the racing season again in 1908. It surely looks like a Keene year. Harry Payne Whitney has a big string, and should so capable and energetic a man as A. J. Blakely take his horses in hand a very interesting tilt between the two famous millionaire turf establishments is more than probable. In his last years of connection with the Whitneys the late John R. Rodgers did not have his accustomed good luck. Some horsemen say he was a bit too indulgent with the young horses under him.

California May Win.

Last year California sent a Suburban handicap winner across the Sierras, while Montgomery, the Crescent City Derby at New Orleans, played a strong part in all the big handicap specials of the east. Nealon was not given much thought in connection with the Suburban handicap, nor today does Tony Faust attract much attention in connection with the forthcoming Carter handicap and the rich Metropolitan handicap at Belmont Park.

However, there is a quiet tip here in effect that "Sam" Hildreth thinks he can win one of the big handicaps with Tony Faust. After eight months of solid rest Hildreth took up this 4-year-old son of Sain about five weeks ago down at Arcadia. Since last midsummer a great change has come over Tony Faust. He has grown and thickened until no better specimen of the thoroughbred stands in training today. Don't forget that Tony Faust is the big, quiet whisper for a clean-up in the east this coming spring.

"I believe Tony Faust is a far better colt, weight for age, than was Montgomery during May and June last season," averred Emil Herz, a good judge, today. There can be little doubt of Tony Faust's ability to race right up with any horse in California today, Montgomery not excepted, at a mile and a quarter. As the season advances he'll be improved, too. In the meantime the sharpshooters are wondering as to what sort of weight Vosburgh will assign Tony Faust in the Metropolitan handicap.

Eastern turf followers may expect to see some of the plums go to "bushers" again this summer, for while Tony Faust has become a sensation in California, the 3-year-old Chapultepec showed the stamp of his class several times at New Orleans. Colin will have to be right at himself to beat this colt any time along through June or July if Berlow is able to hold the edge to his wonder. As a matter of fact, the improvement in the class of winter racing in recent years has been such that there is not a great deal between the quality of the game in the winter and the early and late months of the metropolitan season.

Thompson Reaches Aberdeen.

Aberdeen, March 21.—J. G. Thompson, wife and baby have arrived from Kalispel, Michigan, and will get settled before the time comes for beginning ball practice. Thompson is the big player that Manager Bob Brown was so pleased to secure from the Western league, and whom he thinks is as good as Higginbotham.

Anglomaniac a Winner.

London, March 21.—Lieutenant John Jacob Astor, son of Willie Waldorf Astor, today won the racquet championship of the army, by defeating Captain Luther of the Yorkshire light infantry by a score of 3 to 2.

DESPISED HORSE WINS RICH DERBY

Angelus Beats Great Meelick and Speedy Stable Mate Chapultepec.

THOUSANDS WITNESS TEST OF CLASSY NAGS

Pride of Burlew & O'Neill Stables Leads Quartet Into Home Stretch but Nervy Son of Sandringham Straightens Out and Comes First.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

New Orleans, March 21.—It was the old story of the derby race at City park this afternoon when Angelus, the despised stable mate of Burlew & O'Neills Chapultepec, with Joe Notter sitting still in the saddle, came home alone four lengths ahead of his stable companion. Meelick, winner of the Crescent City derby last Saturday, and odds-on favorite for today's big event, was third, two lengths away. The bookmakers had kept nearly all of the money.

The race itself was one of the best ever seen in the south. Angelus covered the mile and a quarter in 2:04¾ in such a splendid manner as to indicate that he could have clipped something off of this fast time, had he been pushed to do so.

It was a perfect day for the big race. Yesterday's rain had just been sufficient to pack the soil nicely and make the track lightning fast. Although the skies were overcast and cloudy, the air was balmy and the crowd equaled last winter's record breaker at the fair grounds. Meelick was always a hot favorite in the betting, opening at 1 to 2, the weight of the money sending his odds off a point and 9 to 20 was the best obtainable when the post bugle blew.

The B. & O. thoroughbred, Chapultepec, and Angelus were strong second choices, receding from 2 to 1 to 12 to 5. Had Angelus been quoted separately, he would have been the outsider in the betting, as Chapultepec was believed to be the better of the pair.

Pinkola, the only starter, was the rank outsider, with plenty of 15 to 1 on tap against his success.

They passed through the paddock gate at 3:50, Meelick heading the parade, closely followed by Angelus, Chapultepec and Pinkola in the order named.

Start Is Perfect.

They paraded for three minutes, then the barrier was sprung to a perfect start.

Chapultepec was the quickest to get in motion and McDaniel, who had orders to go out in front and stay there, set a hot pace from the start. Dugan, on the Hildreth crack, lay close behind, and they ran but half a length apart down past the stand and around the first turn. Straightening out in the back stretch, Chapultepec drew away from Meelick, and for a time looked as though he might make a runaway race of it. Notter, on Angelus, was content to let the leaders tire themselves out, and did not make a move on his mount until swinging around the far turn.

At the mile Chapultepec was leading by a length and a half, with Meelick second and Angelus third, half a length behind. Pinkola was already beaten off.

Notter made his run at the last eighth pole, and the son of Sandringham came away from the others as though they were tied.

The real contest in the last eighth was for the place, but try as he would Meelick could never get it, and the B. and O. horses took down first and second money. Meelick did not seem as good today as a week ago, and good judges think he had scaled off.

CRACK LEE ROSE IS BEST BABY SPRINTER

Wins Bell Stakes at Emeryville, Beating Heretofore Invincible Rose Queen.

(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, March 21.—There is no longer any question as to the best 2-year-old in California. Lee Rose demonstrated his supremacy decisively in the Bell stakes at Emeryville today. The heretofore invincible filly Rose Queen was made favorite for the 4½ furlong race, had all her remarkable speed, but the youngster stood a hard drive to get up to her and then easily beat her to the wire. Results:

Emeryville results:

One mile and 70 yards—Huerfano (Miller), 11 to 10, won; Sea Lad (McClain) second; Miss May Bowdish (Galindo) third. Time, 1:45 1-5.

Six furlongs—May Amelia (Buxton), 17 to 10, won; Lord Nelson (Gilbert) second; Salvage (Miller) third. Time, 1:13 1-5.

One and one sixteenth miles—A. Muskoday (Dearborn), 15 to 1, won; Cloyne (Gilbert) second; Massa (J. Butler) third. Time, 1:46 4-5.

Four and a half furlongs—Lee Rose (Musgrave), 5 to 2, won; Rose Queen (Scoville) second; Del Cruzado (Keogh) third. Time, 0:53 1-5.

One mile and 70 yards—Ten Oaks (Butwell), 30 to 1, won; J. R. Loughrey (Lycurgus), second; Husky (Hildebrand) third. Time, 1:44 3-5.

Six furlongs—Pajarolta (Lycurgus), 8 to 5, won; Johnny Lyons (Haya) second; Cloudlight (A. Walsh) third. Time, 1:12.

Junior Ball Games.

The Oregon Optical company defeated the Indians yesterday by the score of 8 to 1. The Oregon Optical company team will challenge any team composed of boys under the age of 16 years. Games can be had by calling up Main 5856 and asking for Chester Laird.

The Waverlys won a well-played contest from the Sellwood team yesterday by the score of 3 to 1. The work of Center Fielder Walter Hoffman, of the Waverlys, was the feature of the game.

The Walnut Park team won from the S. L. A. team by the score of 5 to 3.

Statistics published by the committee of the first Russian trades union congress show that 52 unions, with 246,27 members, existed in Russia in 1907.

Irish Impression of Tommy Burns, American Svengali