SPORTS OF THE DAY

FIGHT GAME PICKS UP IN CALIFORNIA

THE MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP HELPS

By Will J. Slattery.

San Francisco, July 25.—The fight fans of this city are all on the job now waiting with unusual interest for next Friday night, when Stanley Ketchel and Hugo Kelly clash at the Coliseum for the middleweight championship of the world. Kelly has never put up his dukes before a San Francisco gathering, and therefore but few people in this city have been able to get a line on him, but from his reputation and the form which he has shown while in training, Kelly figured like a near champion who should give Ketchel as merry a battle as he ever knew.

The men had an awful time coming to an agreement over the weight question, and for a time last Tuesday it looked as though the fight would be called off. Rather than have this happen, however, Ketchel's manager, Joe O'Connor, gave way a little bit to the Chicago boxer and agreed to allow him to come into the ring weighing 158 pounds, though up to the eleventh hour Ketchel's representative stated that he would not allow Kelly to do a ringside weight under any circumstances.

Kelly is one of Tommy Ryan's old-time sparring partners. It was from the former champion that the Chicago boy learned how to use his mitts, and judging from the manner in which he uses them the teachings of Ryan have had their effect on his former pupil.

A very graceful boxer, Kelly is as entertaining a man as ever put a glove on around this vicinity. He boxes much after the style of Jim Corbett in his palmy days, using left and right to good advantage and having perfect control of his feet. He is a fine sidestepper and a good judge of distance, and is sure one good gymnasium performer, but what his ability as a fighter is the fans will have to wait till Friday night to find out.

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The recent upset in the Gans-Nelson fight at the Mission street arena on July 4 is apparently a past issue with the followers of the game here, for they have already gotten busy and made Ketchel a 10 to 7 shot over Kelly, though the latter might be a world beater for all they know. From present indications, the odds will drop to 2 to 4, and possibly even lower before the men enter the ring.

You never can teach the gamblers of San Francisco anything. All the lessons which are set before them seem to be regarded as jokes and the next time they will fall for the same sort of stuff. After the last upset the fans in any other city would be very careful the next time they went against a fight, but here it is different. If they like a man they will make him a prohibitive favorite, no matter who or what the other fellow might be. They apparently never stop to consider that the shorteenders used to get most of the money here in the old days before the fire.

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After stalling around this city for a couple of weeks without doing any good for themselves, Packy McFarland and Freddie Welch, the lightweights who fought that great 25-round draw before Jim Jeffries' club in Los Angeles on July 4, beat it back to the southern city the other day. They are signed up to meet again on Labor day, but in the meantime both have side matches in which they hope to pick up some easy money.

Packy goes against Phil Brock on the evening of August 7 before Tom McCarey's club in a 10-round mixup. Though he believes that Brock will be duck soup for him, Packy will be forced to step a bit in order to get away with the money. Brock is a tough young man—very much of the Battling Nelson order. You can hammer him on the dome all night and he still will keep coming at you. The bout should be a good test for McFarland. If he can stow Brock away he will be accomplishing a feat that none of the rest of them could get away with. If Brock hangs it on McFarland then he will be one of the bright stars of the pugilistic firmament and right there to challenge the best of them at his weight.

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Nobody knows yet what is going to come off up in Nevada. According to the latest, Promoter Tex Rickard is still framing up deals in frenzied finance and he has everything to make good with save the coin. As this is a very necessary asset in the world of fisticuffs at the present time, it would naturally appear that Tex has made a bloomer, though he still contends that he will come through and pull the fight off as he promised and incidentally hang up the $30,000 purse.

Battling Nelson and Willie Britt made the trip to the Nevada mining camp especially for the purpose of handshaking the suckers up there and to try if possible to induce them to come in with that purse coin. But the old yellow metal is not so plentiful in the sage brush country right now as it was two years ago when Gans and Nelson battled for that $30,000 purse at Goldfield. There is no doubt in the world but that the sports of Ely would put up the money if they could get their mitts on it, but the trouble is that they cannot find it lying around loose in the alkali fields.

If Gans and Nelson do not hook up on Labor Day, it is very likely that Promoter Jim Coffroth will make a strenuous effort to break the McFarland-Welch match at Los Angeles, which is scheduled for Labor Day and bring it off in this city on September 9, Admission day. This would make a great card for San Francisco and undoubtedly would prove a grand fight. In fact, it is one of the few good looking matches in sight now. Live fights are hard to put on at any time, especially since the stars of the ring have put such a fancy value upon their abilities as drawing cards.

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It is peculiar how a couple of good fights will revive the game here. Till the Gardner-Whitney, Walsh-Carroll affairs and the Gans-Nelson mill were decided a few weeks ago, interest in the sport seemed to be on the wane, but once the fans began to believe that the sport was right again and the fighters out to give them a run for their money, the game became as popular as it has ever been and the men who vowed and declared that they never again would show at a prize fight have been turning out at the recent ones and doing more cheering than anybody else in the house.

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The baseball management pulled off a nice little raid on the gamblers at the ball park on last Wednesday afternoon and since that time, the betting men have laid rather low. Though they failed to land the heavy fish in the betting ring, the police gathered in quite a few of the small but steady operators and caused a sensation that is likely to hold the tinhorn boys for a while if not to put them out of commission.

The raid was pulled off at the instigation of President Cal Ewing and Manager Jack Gleason, both of whom were well supported by the press all along the line. Practically everybody in the city was aware of the fact that gambling was being conducted in an open and flagrant manner at the ball park. The bookmakers operated under the grandstand and bleechers and boldly inticed all newcomers to make bets on the game as fast as they came into the lot. It was getting so fierce that the fans began to complain and the magnates had to do something to stamp it out.

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It is the intention of Ewing to keep a guard of police on the job all the time and lay in wait for the gamblers from now on. He believes that by keeping after these operators, he will be able to stamp out the evil before many days have passed. There is a city ordinance which prohibits gambling on baseball games, so the authorities will simply have to stand in with the magnates and, therefore, the job of putting the rollers under the debauchers of the national pastime should not be a very difficult one, provided Ewing and Gleason make a determined stand and keep right after the gamblers every time they see anything wrong at the park.

It now looks certain that George Hildebrand, the speedy little Seal left fielder, will manage the new Sacramento club when it is formally admitted into the league next season. The capital city fans have been clamoring for Hilde as manager ever since they became aware of the fact that they were to have big league ball. Hilde is very popular in Sacramento. He was one of the stars of the team when Mike Fisher ran it seven years ago and he has never been forgotten there.

If he lands the job, and the chances are that he will, Hilde promises to put a cracking good team in the field. He is well liked by the players all over the country and naturally it would be easy for him to land a few good ones at first in order to give the team a good start. Besides, there is a sort of quiet understanding among the other managers that they will all get together and help Sacramento out by giving that team a few likely men in order to start it off properly.

The name of Happy Hogan of Los Angeles figures very prominently in connection with the new Venice club and Happy is pulling hard for the job. Mike Fisher is also after it, but there is not much of a chance left for him to land as he made a bloomer when he had the Fresno team.

FORREST SMITHSON, WORLD'S NEWEST HERO

SEATTLE MAN IS AFTER FRANCHISE

WILL FIGHT DUGDALE TO THE LAST DITCH

Confident that the National baseball commission will award the Seattle territory to the Pacific Coast league upon the hearing of the fraud charges preferred by President Cal Ewing, wealthy men in that city are even now preparing for entrance into class A baseball. Several visits have been made to Portland by Mr. Baker, a prominent capitalist of the Puget sound city, in reference to getting a franchise for Seattle. Mr. Baker is in the city now on his way to Mexico to look after mining properties, and on the way south will have several conferences with Ewing, Henry Berry and the other California magnates, relative to the franchise.

Seattle, which is one of the best ball towns in the west, is sick and tired of the bush league variety of the national game. The fans there are weary of Dugdale. In fact, the appearance of the fat manager on the ball field is the signal for jeering, according to a number of visitors here. Dugdale has done his best to belittle the Coast league, but the patrons have fallen for his game long enough.

Dugdale Sees Last Year.

"We are with you and we want the Coast league to take Seattle back into the fold," writes one prominent fan to a Portland business man.

Another says: "Dugdale has seen his last year in Seattle. If the Coast league doesn't come in, we'll drum Cupid out."

Anyhow the capital is back of the project to place a team in Seattle. Mr. Baker, who made a fortune in the Klondike gold fields, and who has an income of something like $5,000 a month, has stated that he is willing to spend the entire sum on the team. Furthermore, Baker owns property in the very heart of Seattle, now covered by frame factory buildings, which he will move away to install a ball park.

That he is willing to fight Dugdale to the last ditch, Baker has so informed a number of local people. Associated with him will be men of large means, and together they are certain of forcing the fat man to throw up the sponge.

Seattle used to be in the Coast league and was a good ball town. That it is not in the Coast league now is due to what the officials charge as fraud. Fraud is the basis of the appeal to the National commission to reallot Seattle to the Coast league. When the arguments are presented to the commission this fall they will show a number of things concerning the shady transaction by which the town was lost.

Agnew Was Tired.

They will show that James Agnew came to the meeting of the Coast magnates and informed them that he had grown tired of baseball; that it did not pay, and that it interfered with his business and he was compelled to give it up. They will also show that the franchise reverted to the league and that Russ Hall came forward with assurances of plenty of financial backing in Seattle. Upon this representation the franchise was voted to Hall.

Then the earthquake came on and the league was somewhat demoralized. Hall never made an effort to get the players and organize a team as the Coast people supposed him to be doing. Then suddenly he jumped to Butte and turned the franchise over to Dugdale. Dugdale was then interested with Lucas in the Northwestern circuit and carried the town to that league by virtue of the fact that he was all ready to place a team in the field.

When Seattle was lost through this bit of chicanery, the magnates found it necessary to drop Fresno, and it has been a four-club organization since. With the recent acquisition of Sacramento and Venice the team has become a six-cornered proposition. Manifestly the circuit is top heavy in the south. It will take three clubs in the north to offset the five towns in the south. Seattle must be one of these, and the other will be Spokane, Tacoma or Vancouver.

Tacoma is no town for the Coast league. It never was, nor never will be a good ball town. It has never appreciated the highest quality of minor league baseball. Just now Vancouver is drawing splendidly. Last year the Candian city did not do so well, but the game now has a firm foothold and promises to become more popular than cricket, lacrosse or any of the English summer games. There is a large Yankee population in Vancouver and it has influenced the British Columbians to marked extent.

Spokane the Town.

But the best town in the Northwest from a money standpoint is Spokane. Spokane draws the biggest crowds and Spokane is anxious to break into faster company. The fans there are tired of bushwhacking. They want to see real baseball. Let Seattle be turned over to the Coast league and Spokane will desert in a minute.

What a circuit it would make. Think of Portland, Spokane and Seattle in the north and San Francisco, Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento and Venice in the south. There is an eight-club circuit that would furnish the fans with all the baseball they could reasonably assimilate and at the same time return good money to the promoters. But it all hinges on the proof of the alleged fraud of Russ Hall.

On Eastern Diamonds

For several years first base has been the hardest position for Manager Fred Clark of Pittsburg to fill.

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The Boston Americans are to have another Collins. The new "Jim" is a pitcher with a record of 16 strike-outs in the Maine league.

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New York fans are betting that Mike Donlin will be the leading batter of the National league when the season ends.

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If it is true that "Cap" Anson is down and out it will be up to the Chicago fans to give him a benefit that will be a hummer.

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When Elmer Flick returns to the game the Cleveland team will be in great shape to battle with the leaders.

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Atlanta fans are having a touch of frosty pedals. The southern pennant looks to be going in most any direction except the Georgia city.

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Tom McCarthy of the Boston Nationals is leading the pitchers of both major leagues. Tom has won five games and lost none.

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Ernie Diehl is playing fine ball for Toledo and playing for fun. Diehl is wealthy and refuses to accept pay for his services.

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For the first time since the American league was organized the National league is furnishing a swell pennant race.

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If winning the National league pennant depended upon the Chicago Cubs taking a series from New York, would Charlie Murphy buy another flagpole?

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By winning 32 out of 46 games the Providence team landed on top in the Eastern league race. When the "Clam Diggers" started their spurt they were in last place and in deep.

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With an attendance of only 800 it's no wonder Owner Robinson wants to shift his St. Louis team from the National league to the American association.

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Jack McCarthy, the former Brooklyn-Chicago player, is paddling about on a pair of crutches, having twisted his ankle in a recent game. But Jack is smiling, nevertheless, as his Springfield team has a good lead in the Three-I race.

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Hitting three three-baggers in one game and each time being put out at the plate in trying to stretch the hits into homers is the stunt performed by Doyle of the Utica, N. Y., team recently.

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Detroit at the top and New York at the bottom in the American league race. Could anything prove more conclusively that baseball is strictly on the level? Several class A cities have Detroit beat when it comes to attendance, while the American league grounds in New York wouldn't be able to accommodate the crowds should the Highlanders ever be able to roost at the top.

This Date in Sport Annals.

1885—At Toronto, G. W. Lee defeated Hugh Wise in scullers' match, $1,000, three miles, turn.

1890—At Duluth, Minn., H. J. G. Gandam rowed three miles in 19.31.

1891—At London, B. G. Fuller dived from the Tower bridge, 128 feet high, into the Thames river.

1894—At Minneapolis, Tommy Ryan won from Billy Smith in 20 rounds.

1901—At Bridgeport, Joe Walcott won from Jack Bonner in 15 rounds.

GOSSIP OF TRI-CITY LEAGUERS

Former Semi-Pros Help Elma Team to Beat Dugdale's Northwesterners

Official standing of teams in Tri-City league:

	G.	P.	W.	L.	P. C.
Woodburn	25	19	4		.826
West Portland	19	13	6		.684
Vancouver	24	15	9		.625
Salem	24	11	13		.458
East Portland	22	8	14		.364
St. Johns	28	8	15		.343

Games scheduled for today:
West Portland at Woodburn.
St. Johns at Salem.
East Portland at Vancouver.

Umpires assigned for the day:
Prevost at Woodburn.
Giles at Salem.
Rankin at Vancouver.

Secretary Smith is a busy man these days. He has worn out two Fabers trying to figure out the batting and fielding averages of the hundred odd players who have participated in championship games. The batting averages are completed from such official score sheets as he has in his possession and the result is shown in these columns.

The fielding averages will appear shortly. These will be a more disappointment to some of the players who have been touted all summer as "phenoms," and others will be overjoyed to find that they are credited with better marks than they had anticipated. Altogether the batting averages are pretty good and show ability. Michels performance with the willow is splendid and plainly shows that he stands head and shoulders over the heavy swatters of the league. But then, Michels has always been a heavy sticker. Last season he quit with a high score and season before he batted over .400. Michels is what experts call a natural hitter.

The East Side Commuters were pretty badly shot to pieces as to lineup last Sunday in the game against the Apostles, and with men playing in every position except where they belonged they unexpectedly made a fair showing. Had not Nelson blown up in the seventh inning the Apostles would have lost at that. Barrell, McKinley, Duvall, Magness, Myers and Hurlbert were all absent and this necessitated the playing of Lerch at first, Kennedy at second, Tauscher at third and Gaines, Neal and Smith in the outfield. The outfield showed a great weakness owing to lack of practice and the infield wasn't much better, although it was stronger than the outer garden.

A letter received from "Chub" Philbrick, erstwhile captain of the St. Johns team, now captain of the Elma, Wash., independent team, gives a graphic account of a victory for the Elma bunch over "Cupid" Dugdale's Seattle Northwestern league team on July 22. Elma outplayed the Siwashes at every stage, winning 5 to 2. Wakefield, Moore and Philbrick, all ex-Tri-City leaguers, wore Elma uniforms and played a great game.

Harry Smith has just closed a date with the champion Chehalis team whereby two games will be played at Chehalis between the East Side Tri-City team and Chehalis September 12 and 13. Smith will make a few changes in the lineup of the Commuters and will go after the Washington boys' scalps. He is also in correspondence with several other independent teams relative to games in other cities and the chances are good for a few nice trips for the East Siders before the playing season of 1908 closes.

The poor attendance at Tri-City games has worked a hardship upon the managers of several teams in the league, mainly those who have their players on a straight cut basis, as the boys are receiving little or nothing for their work and are deserting in squads to other teams where a game guarantee is made. Several of the teams that are paying salaries are also having a Kilkenny cat time of it, as the gate receipts are not paying the expenses of visiting teams. It is not the poor class of ball produced that is causing the slump in attendance, as the teams are all putting up a better article of ball than last season. But it seems that outside of a few faithful fans all interest is gone for this season and the managers are unable to revive it.

The race for the league pennant is rapidly drawing to a close, the six teams trailing along in one, two, three order. Woodburn has just entered the stretch with a broad streak of daylight between her and the West Portlands, who are 142 points behind the "Blue and White." Gamely plugging along in the dust of the "Milliners" is Vancouver, 59 points to the bad, but with a good chance to nose the west siders out of second place. Running entirely alone and unplaced is Salem, 167 points behind the "Pioneers," and trailing in the dust of the entire bunch is East Portland and St. Johns, making a gallant fight to keep from being distanced, and only a few points separating them. Both are making a whipping finish. From the stables, watching the struggling runners, peep the bandaged "Paipermakers" and Albina "Tourists," early retired from the race and waiting patiently for the next event. And so—"Woodburn Bluebird" wins! Woodburn wins! In what looks like a walk.

Woodburn, the hardest hitting team in the league, has had an easy time of it this season and Manager Kennedy is already being congratulated upon his ability to pick up good hitters and nifty twirlers. His prediction of the early spring seems to be a true one.

Again the battle clouds gather upon the Woodburn diamond, and a mighty struggle is booked for today between last year's champions, the Frakes, and the "Blue Birds," the leaders of the season. Woodburn has defeated the west siders twice and the west siders have won once. If the game goes against Woodburn today she will still be in the lead with a comfortable margin. Bowen will probably be used against the husky Milliners and Olney will try to deal the "Blue Birds" a little of their own medicine.

The "Pioneers" and "Commuters" will cross bats upon the Vancouver diamond today in what promises to be a hard bout. In the series the teams have shown about equal strength, although the east siders had the better of the argument, winning two—8 to 3 and 7 to 1, losing one game, 7 to 3. The "Pioneers" have shown better class of late and are confident of beating the "Commuters" out. Concannon or Pender will send 'em over for the Pioneers and Hurlburt will be on the mound for the east side. The east siders will have their regular team in the field today.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Detroit 5, New York 3.

Detroit, Mich., July 25.—Donovan and Chesbro were both hit freely. Chase pitched one third of an inning for New York and did not allow a hit. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Detroit	5	10	1
New York	3	10	1

Batteries — Donovan and Schmidt, Chesbro, Chase and Klienow.

All other National league games postponed on account of rain.

Amasa J. Parker, four years ago Democratic candidate for president, will support William J. Bryan.

MAC IS READY TO BUY NEW PLAYERS

Portland Manager to Invest in Class B Stars—Players' Commandments.

Manager McCredie is getting busy these days strengthening up for next season. There are any number of Class B clubs who would rather sell their best men for a stipulated price than to leave them at the mercy of drafting leagues. Last year Mac got Raftery and Johnson from the South Atlantic league, and they were tried out toward the close of the season. He will bring out four or five fast ones to finish up the season, paying from $500 to $750 spot cash for each one. If they prove as valuable to him as Raftery and Johnson the investment will be a good one.

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Who would think of comparing the real humor dished up by Brick Devereaux to the silly antics of Happy Hogan, as a Frisco scribe has tried to do? Any fan who has ever seen the two in action knows there is no comparison. Devereaux is really one of the quick wits of the western diamond. Hogan tries to be funny. He never says anything that the fans aren't disgusted with, and his prattle is so tiresome, more than one has quit the park to take a car ride. If Hogan has been elected to fill the position left vacant by B. Devereaux, then humor in the Coast league has deteriorated sadly.

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Here's a red hot one from the vitriolic pen of Frank Dillon, touched up undoubtedly by the Los Angeles sporting scribe, directed at the local fans, Umpire O'Connell and the local press: "The Portland fans are the worst bunch of quitters and crabbers in the league, and that's saying a whole lot. The pencil engineers up here insist that McCredie must win every game. If he don't they hand him a panning each morning. If a visiting player says anything up here, and there certainly is enough to kick about with O'Connell umpiring, the Portland people want to take the player out and hang him. The sport writers there are about as ignorant of the game as they are in China. They never give a visiting club or player credit for anything good, and when the Beavers lose, they quit on the job like a lot of dogs. We will be home in a couple of weeks and you bet we will all be glad to see Spring street again, this has been a hard trip. If we come home in as good as second place we will be hard to catch during the remainder of the season."

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Have you noticed how many times Manager Walter McCredie pulls off that clever bunt down the third base line for a safe hit? Mac has always been a consistent .300 hitter. Last season Mac hit .300, but he was continually batting high flies, which were gathered in by the opposing fielders. In order to correct this he resolved to play the short, low hit game, and it has proved successful. Mac has still his old batting eye, and when it is necessary to slam the ball hard he can do it with the best of them. Those who are on are wondering if the departure will increase his batting average.

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Myron W. Townsend, the St. Louis sporting scribe, who poses as the Dell Reynolds of the east, has compiled the following ten commandments to ball players.

"No. 1—Thou shalt not loaf on thy job.

"No. 2—Thou shalt not dispute the umpire.

"No. 3—Thou shalt not 'lay down' on thy manager.

"No. 4—Thou shalt not spike thy opponents.

"No. 5—Thou shalt not fail to treat the fans with courtesy and respect.

"No. 6—Thou shalt not use foul or obscene language on or off the field.

"No. 7—Thou shalt not be disloyal to thy master, the club owner.

"No. 8—Thou shalt not go about with a sour and sullen face, but thou shalt smile and laugh and look upon the sunny side of life.

"No. 9—Thou shalt court the good will of every man, woman and child in the world of sport.

"No. 10—Thou shalt run out thy hits; shirk not the hard chances in the field, husband the strength of the body God gave thee and so conduct thyself on and off the field that thou shalt be a credit to thy profession."

If Myron lived on the coast he might add a special commandment for the Los Angeles crabs:

"No. 11—Thou shalt not make the fair cheek of woman burn from the vile language that issues from thy weed-stained mugs."

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Ball players have got sailors skinned 14 ways when it comes to the superstitious. Sometimes it takes the form or rabbit feet and the more common talismanic charms. But it remained for Ote Johnson to foist a new one on the game. Ote went out early yesterday morning and winged seven sparrows with his new .22 caliber. Phil Cooney acted as his retriever. Together they took the birds to the players' bench and nailed them in a straight line just above the players' heads. Ote wanted to kill nine sparrows but he ran out of birds and had to be content with the smaller number. Portland won and maybe they were in a measure responsible for it. The new charm is called "sparrowa."

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Whether or not young Bowen of Woodburn has the nerve to stick on a Pacific Coast league uniform will soon be demonstrated. Bowen has been given all kinds of opportunities by the McCredies, but so far has not showed up at the ball field. Manager Mac has even gone so far as to send an agent to Woodburn to talk with the Salem youngster, who is somewhat of a pitching phenom among the semi-pros. Bowen promised Mac's man that he would come to the ball park one Monday afternoon, but if he did he never let the big manager clap eyes on him. McCredie would like to try out the most promising of the semi-pros, but heretofore they have shown a disposition bordering on shyness. He is still after Bowen.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Boston 3, Cleveland 1.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 25. — "Cy" Young was always master of the situation today and Cleveland was defeated by Boston. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Cleveland	1	6	0
Boston	3	9	0

Batteries—Falkenberg, Liebhardt and N. Clarke; Young and Criger.

St. Louis 5, Washington 2.

St. Louis, July 25.—Waddell was effective against the Washington Americans this afternoon while the Browns hit Smith at critical times, and the home team won easily, 5 to 2. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Washington	2	4	1
St. Louis	5	7	3

Batteries—Smith and Street; Waddell and Spencer.

Chicago 12, Philadelphia 2.

Chicago, July 25.—The White Sox slaughterer the Philadelphia pitchers in the seventh inning, piling up seven runs, winning easily. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Chicago	12	17	0
Philadelphia	2	7	4

Batteries—Altrock, Weaver and Sullivan; Plank, Schlitzer and Powers.