

SPORTS NEWS

AMONG BUSINESS, BOB, THE TONGUER

Speckled Beauty Holds Kangaroo Kids in France While He Discourses Wisdom.

By C. E. Van Loan. New York, Feb. 8.—Robert Fitzsimmons, "the man who was," is still trying to kid himself into believing that he "is." So long as this fine old gladiator gets any fun out of the process, far be it from any white man to object to Bob's gentle pleasures.

Bill Lang got him the last time. Bill isn't much, but they call him "the resident champion" heavyweight of Australia.

Even so, it goes against the grain to learn that a man like Lang should drop the old fashioned thunderbolt for the count. There was a time, and not so long ago, that Bob Fitzsimmons could have whipped all the Bill Langs you could crowd into a 10 acre lot without so much as drawing a long breath.

They received Bob with great acclaim when he arrived in his adopted country. Australia has three things of which it prides itself—its wool crop, its gold mines, and the fact that Robert Fitzsimmons came from that country.

Robert, in a letter mailed to a New York friend who has been his bosom pal since the day he whipped Corbett at Carson, told some interesting things about the trip. We pass over the sea voyage, when Mrs. Fitzsimmons arranged a minstrel show and Robert appeared as "Professor Mongooose," the interloper. Bob as interloper must have been a grand thing.

Here are some extracts from Bob's letter: Enters Oratorical Arena. "We stopped at Melbourne for six hours, where they gave me a reception. There were lots of business men, and several members of parliament at the reception, and a great deal of speaking. I handed them some good old stuff and it went great.

"Got into Sydney at 11 and went straight to the big reception at the hotel. There were thousands of people on the streets and at the depot, and I was met by a great many people. I just let her go right. Every speaker afterward spoke of my beautiful speech, and said I ought to run for parliament. They said they knew I was a born fighter, but they did not know I was an orator, too. I had something to say, and I referred a fight—12,000 people there, all made to welcome me—and I handed them a speech that knocked them out of their chairs."

Now just think of a man meeting with a reception like that and cradling the whole lot in his arms, and a man like Lang! Good-bye, Professor Mongooose.

Thinks Well of Himself. From the letter it is plain to see that Robert thinks well of himself as a "catch as catch can" orator. "We may hear of him some day as a 'boy orator' of Tasmania," or the "Peeled Silver Tongued Woolloomoolloo."

Unfortunately, the speech which Robert delivered in Sydney has not been preserved to posterity. It could not be the speech which the Sydney reporters put in the papers the next morning. I have seen that it was a "boy orator" of Tasmania, or the "Peeled Silver Tongued Woolloomoolloo."

Now speaking of the things which a fellow can get by with in Australia, kindly give ear to the following address:

TALKS ON TEETH BY THE BEK DENTAL CO. Who Is Who and Why? When Bradstreet or Dun are asked for a report on a merchant they generally go direct to the source for a financial statement and usually get the facts. No man knows better than he the merchant.

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JOE ACTON IS ILL

Famous wrestler, who is confined to his bed at the home of his daughter, 383 Fourth street, with acute pneumonia. He was taken ill at the Jeffries-Gotch show, where he refereed several bouts. Acton was a former champion of the world and came to Portland 12 years ago. He is 56 years of age.



JOE ACTON WRESTLER

which was passed forth all snaling hot by champion windjammer, Hugh McIntosh.

"I made strong efforts to secure the Jeffries-Johnson fight for Australia. I have a letter from Johnson in which he says that he would like to fight in this country, where the color lines do not exist. If the fight takes place in certain parts of America the color line will play an important part."

Then to illustrate the strength of the color line, McIntosh told the following veracious anecdote:

"When Johnson left Australia he said that he intended to go to Texas and see his dear old mother. A committee of colored men formed to give him a reception, but a committee of white men sent along an invitation to Johnson to come along and be lynched. Johnson did not get his mother, nor is he likely to see her soon."

"The pictures of the Burns-Johnson fight were shown at a 22 house; the negroes wanted to go and see them, but white men patrolled in front of the place with guns in their hands. As it was they shot holes through the screen, and the pictures with the pictures' ring up his job and said he did not dare go through Texas with the pictures."

This is an elegant specimen of the bunk as it is peddled in the kangaroo country. Is it any wonder if the sporting men of Sydney come to look upon Texas as rather a wild and woolly state? Judging by the way the Burns-Johnson pictures were received in this country, and the show should have carried men with guns in their hands.

As for Professor Mongooose, nobody in the wide, wide world begrudges him his Australian triumph. Robert Fitzsimmons, in his prime, was probably the most wonderful fighter the world has ever seen. If we had another man with half his awkward cleverness and two thirds his punch, there would be no need to bring Jim Jeffries out of retirement.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN IS WEDDED TO PLAYMATE Boston, Feb. 8.—John L. Sullivan was married here last night to Miss Kate Hartigan, and they departed today for Europe for a six months' visit, during which time the former ring champion will appear in the British theatres. Jake Kilrain, a former opponent, but now Sullivan's theatrical partner, with his wife, is accompanying them.

Sullivan was divorced from a former wife with whom he had not lived for 20 years at Chicago last winter. His second wife is 45 years of age and was a boyhood sweetheart. Sullivan is 52 years old.

COAST PITCHER DID NOT STAY AT BOSTON Harry Wolter, the Pacific coast southpaw, last year a member of the Boston Red Sox, and who as a member of a coast team won 25 out of 27 games, has been disposed of to the New York Highlanders. Wolter was a disappointment to the Boston club owners. He was afforded few opportunities to pitch and on those occasions made a very poor impression. While Jake Stahl was sick Wolter was given a chance to play first base, but he did not bat up to the form that he displayed on the coast.

COFFROTH CONFIRMS ATTELL-DRISCOLL GO San Francisco, Feb. 8.—According to messages to friends in this city, Jim Coffroth actually has matched Jem Driscoll and Abe Attell for a fight in San Francisco on July 2. The promoter, who is hurrying homeward in a race against time failed to name the terms under which the little fellows will fight, merely confirming the report that he had secured the match.

This Date in Sport Annals. 1887.—At Detroit, in horseshoe turning contest, 100 each, \$400, H. J. Dunn defeated J. Campbell by six shoes. 1890.—William Doldthwait, a veteran professional billiard player, died in New York. 1893.—At Atlanta, Southern league bid its annual meeting and awarded the championship pennant for 1892 to the Birmingham club. 1897.—At New York, George Layvine won from "Kid" McPartland in 25 rounds. 1905.—At Chelsea, Mass., Jimmy Briggs and Willie Lewis fought 15 rounds to a draw. 1907.—At Ottawa, Ont., Matty Baldwin defeated Jack Ryan in 15 rounds. 1908.—Rubric won the Ventura handi-cap at Santa Anita.

BUILDING PROGRAM WILL BE POSTPONED

Multnomah Club Members Will Elect Officers at Annual Meeting Tonight.

Unless signs fall the Multnomah club members will not take up the house-building matter at their annual meeting tonight, deferring the building program until next year or placing it in the hands of a committee. About all that will be done, according to those best informed, will be the reading of the reports for 1909 and the election of officers for the ensuing year.

It is not believed by prominent clubmen that the organization is ready to build such a clubhouse as is desired. The present state of finances, following the recent purchase of the King tract, would plunge the club too deeply into debt to satisfy the conservative element of the membership. Unless they could float a big bond issue at a low rate of interest, they would not be willing to take up the building proposition.

The report of Secretary Dow V. Walker, which will be read before the meeting tonight, shows that club to be in a flourishing condition. There have been losses in several departments, but substantial gains in others more than offset them.

The report shows that the total fixed assets of the club, including a ground value of \$225,000, a building value of \$50,000 and a furniture and fixture value of \$20,748.75, to be \$295,748.75. Added to this is the total current assets of \$288,01, making all the assets \$583,759.76. In addition to the balance sheet there is also an estimated amount of fees and dues owed the club of \$2100.

"The liabilities to the public are \$99,634.12, and to the members \$108,983.64. The total expenses of the club last year were \$19,367.35, while the total income was \$1,017.15, leaving a balance of \$11,643.20, an operating profit. The largest source of income was \$23,294.05, accruing from dues. Of this amount, the senior members contributed \$18,860. The club paid an interest sum of \$6770.82, making the net gain of \$5878.48 for the year, which was carried to the balance sheet.

Department Showing. Segregated, the departmental gains and losses for 1909 were as follows: Billiards, gain \$920.32; bowling loss, \$189.30; boxing and wrestling, gains, \$273.40; games, including baseball, basketball, football, soccer, handball, tennis and track and field, gain \$930.09; gymnastics, loss, \$294.03; Multnomah field, loss, \$673.32; cards, gain, \$15.90; gun, gain, \$79.25; cigars, gain, \$566.52; towels, gain, \$244.59; keys, gain, \$74.85; turkish baths, loss, \$474.71. The departmental loss was \$5283.36, and the departmental profit, \$3102.92. The net loss was \$2180.44.

The report of the membership committee will show a shrinkage of membership, but this was due to the fact that all the delinquents were erased from the rolls. There were at the end of the year 2134 members in good standing, while at the end of 1908 there were 2536. Many of those who dropped out are preparing to return.

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O'CONNELL MAKES WEIGHT FOR BOUT

Multnomah Instructor 2 Pounds Below Required Number for Jap Go Thursday.

Eddie O'Connell is down below weight—140 pounds. At least that is the story the scales told when he trudged into the Multnomah club's Turkish bath this morning after a five mile jaunt over Council Crest and into the Tualatin valley.

Eddie was overjoyed to find himself down so far and tried several scales to see that there was no mistake. He is worrying no longer over his ability to make weight for Matsuda, the Japanese grappler, in their wrestling match in Merrill's hall Thursday night.

O'Connell has trained faithfully for his bout with the oriental and will be in grand shape. The taking off process has not weakened him so far as he knows. He has been able to keep up his work with seeming tirelessness and will be in the best condition of his career. He hasn't made a seemingly prohibitive weight for so long that he had doubt about doing it, but was willing to take a chance.

Matsuda will leave Spokane tonight, arriving here early in the morning. He will go on the road at once to unlimber his muscles and will take a workout in the afternoon.

Track Coach Jerry Delany of the University of Iowa is giving undergraduates a chance to join a squad of prospective coaches of track teams.

A Connoisseur will tell you that the delicious flavor and bouquet of

COOK'S IMPERIAL Extra Dry Champagne

Never fails to give satisfaction Served Everywhere ARATA BROS. Distributors.

ENGLISH CHAMPION

COFFROTH HAS GOOD CHANCE TO WIN BET



San Francisco, Feb. 8.—If Jim Coffroth's luck holds good, he will reach San Francisco tonight about 9 o'clock, winner in his London to San Francisco race against time, and incidentally \$1000, the amount of his wager with Eugene Kory of the National Sporting club of London.

Coffroth is speeding toward San Francisco on the Southern Pacific's overland limited. The train is due to reach the Oakland Mole at 7:25 tonight. At noon today it was reported on time, and Southern Pacific officials declared they saw no reason why there should be a delay on the last leg of the journey.

Coffroth will have one unforeseen difficulty to contend with, however. Beginning today, the Overland will not be ferried across the Sacramento river at Benicia, but will be shuttled into Oakland by way of Stockton. This will add an hour's time to the running schedule. But allowing for this addition, and another hour for the promoter to reach his San Francisco office from the Oakland Mole, he will be able to win his wager with between two and three hours to spare.

By the terms of his agreement with Corri, Coffroth had eight days to make the London-San Francisco trip. His time expires at midnight. If he accomplishes the feat, Eddie Smith, who was agreed upon as referee, will flash the news to Corri by cable and Corri will mail Coffroth a draft.

Jack 72 feet over all to be named "1910" for the exposition, which this city plans to have five years hence.

She will be sailed in the race by Captain Low B. Harris, who had charge of the Lady Maud, from this port in the last ocean race to Honolulu. Arrangements for the 1915 were made last night.

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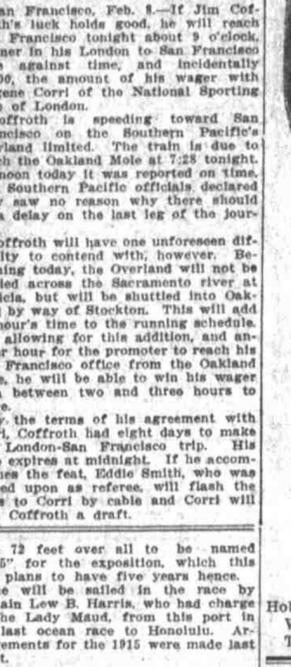
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WILL COACH ELEVEN

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During the past two weeks over 30 witnesses have been examined before the committee, and while in the majority of cases, they have declared that horse racing should be permitted and that it would be better to have certain regulations governing betting than to abolish the sport, others have gone before the committee and advocated the abolition of race tracks and everyone connected with the sport.

However, the committee has taken a very generous view of the situation, and, according to late reports from the east, the Miller bill, which is up for consideration and which is in the form of an amendment, purporting to govern the question of gambling will probably get the "ax" long before it reaches the members in the house. The proposed legislation is very drastic and it is believed that it is so far reaching that it can not encompass its defeat.

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