

LATEST

Ring : Track

SPORTING

Field : Diamond

NEWS

BEAVERS' BRAINS
BETTER THAN ASH
SAYS LEADER MAC

Portland Baseball Head Thinks
His Club This Year Is Better
Than Any Set of Tossers He
Has Yet Handled on Coast.

"Took 300 sluggers to the curb, I'll
none of them."

Of course Walter McCredie, the sa-
tisfied manager of the Beavers, didn't
unburden himself of that exact sen-
tence, but he said the same thing in
somewhat less classical language. What
Walter said was this: "I had rather
have a team filled up with clear, quick
thinking heads and nimble feet than
any nine 300 hitters in the business."

On the surface that looks like a ven-
turous assertion but the big fellow
can show you all sorts of facts and
doesn't he chuckle when he thinks of
how he unloaded Tom Raftery, Hal Dan-
zig and Tom Madden on certain major
league teams. With the exception of
Madden all of them have occupied com-
pulsory berths in the minors.

Used for Comparison.

Just why Manager Mac used the name
of Madden, Danzig and Raftery will
not be clear perhaps to the casual fan.
He has no axe to grind with any of
these boys, but used them only as an
illustration and he drives his point
home by comparing his team of last
year with that of the year before.

"Yes," continued Mac, "I had rather
have a fast man on the bases and a
fellow who can use his head in a pinch
than all of your 300 hitters. That's
why I think my 1910 team will be faster
than the club last year, and I regard
that as one of the best I have ever had,
even though we did not carry off the
penant."

"Three hundred per cent hitters are
all right, but I have had too much ex-
perience with them. Take the 300 hit-
ters and in 99 cases out of 100 he is
playing for his average. You can talk
to him until your tongue lags from ex-
haustion and you can't get results.
Rather than miss that bingle he will
try to wallop out the ball. Well, it
may interfere with all your plans for
pulling off a run, and the best you get
is nothing."

Head Sluggers That Year.

"In 1908 I had half a dozen men who
were hitting close to the 300 figure.
Had their brains balanced up with their
hitting we would have won the pen-
nant in a walk. As it was we finished
second. With that team I sat on the
bench and signaled until I was blue in
the face. If they were lucky enough to
hit and get on the bases they acted like
a lot of numskulls. We could never get
away with a squeeze or a hit and run
play, because none of them could ever
get the signals. All we could do was
wallop the ball and depend on luck to
bring the runs across the plate."

"Now last year, I had a team of
thinkers. They didn't hit regularly, but
they got together in pinches. Any time
they were likely to win a game and
for that very reason we were the most
feared team in the league. These boys
were sent out on the diamond to do
things and they did them."

There were more brains there than
in any team I have ever managed. They
knew how to run bases, because they
learned it the first of the season and
they could remember it. I'll admit that
outside of Ote Johnson we had nothing
much in the hitting line, but for what
they lacked with the stick they more
than made up for with their brains."

Thinks Team Is Better.

"I think I have an even better team
this year than last. My own judgment
is backed up by no less an authority
than Fletcher Jones. Fletcher and I
talked the team over the other day, and
he agreed with me that my two weak
spots were at third base and in the
box."

"I look for Netzel to be a wonder be-
fore the season is over. I think that he
will more than fill Ote Johnson's shoes
in the fielding line and he will not be
lacking with the stick. And I have
nothing to fear from my pitching staff
if everything goes right from the jump."

Here's "Home Run" Johnson--By Scar



Ote Johnson, the hard hitting third baseman of the Portland Coast league team, who was sold by Manager McCredie to New York Americans for a sum said to be \$4000, is quite the talk of New York just now. So much has been written about Ote's ability to knock the boards off the fence, that the cartoonists are already getting busy with him. Last week "Scar" of the New York Globe, who dubs him "Home Run" Johnson, produced the above. After viewing this pen and ink effusion, the redoubtable Swede will probably hold out for \$500 more salary. Ote wants \$2500, and the New York club has offered him \$2000. Ote is at present in the United States Immigration bureau here, his duty being to see that no orientals sneak off shipboard while in the Willamette.

Of course they are most all youngsters
but I have had my greatest success with
youngsters.

"With Charlie Armbruster to coach
the kids along, I feel mighty safe, let
me tell you. Armbruster is one of the
greatest backstops to nurse young pitch-
ers along that I have ever seen. I
realize that my pitching staff is a little
uncertain, but I am hoping that we get
a good start."

"Let me assure the fans right now
that the Beavers will be up in the
running. If I see that we are slipping
back in mid season I'll call on Cleveland
to help me out. Manager Maguire told
me to flash the 'S. O. S.' signal as
soon as we found ourselves in distress.
It will cost a bit of money, maybe, but
then the fans deserve it."

Good Word for Speas.

During his talk Mac took occasion to
compliment Billy Speas. "Gee, I'd give
anything in the world if I could field
like that boy," he said. "I regard
Speas as the greatest outfielder I
have seen in years, and I look for him
to bat 50 points better this year. When
they get by Speas they are too hard for
any outfielder in the business, and he
can hit you in the eye with that good
right arm of his."

"Most of the boys are anxious to see
the Nelson-Wolcott fight near San
Francisco and it may be that we'll
start a little earlier than we intended
for the south. We would have to leave
here on February 20, which would put
us in San Francisco the day of the
fight. Speas writes that he is coming
out to see it."

"I got a letter from Bill Chinault to-
day and he says he has been working
hard on a farm all winter. I have the
signed contracts of all the boys except
Olson, Garrett and Gryn. Haven't ten-
dered them to Jess and Howard, but will
do so at once. Have had several let-
ters from Olson and feel sure that I'll
get his contract in a few days."

Baseball Invasions Simmering.

Two invasions in the baseball field
which mean much are simmering. The
first is the American association break-
ing into Chicago and the second is the
invasion of the Eastern league into New
York. With the scheme carried out
which has been outlined the only town
to suffer would be St. Paul, Minn.
The St. Paul American association club
would be given to Minneapolis and the
Minneapolis team would go to Chicago.
In the east a new team would be formed
by the Eastern league to play in the
Bronx, the upper end of New York.

HEAVYWEIGHT FIGHTER WHO SHOWS PROMISE.



Al Kaufman, the California heavyweight, who is scheduled to fight
Jim Barry, the Chicago pugilist, for six rounds before the National
A. C. of Pittsburgh within two weeks.

HEARTY INTEREST
IS DISPLAYED IN
COMING BATTLE

Naughton Says Increase in
Mail Shows Countrywide
Feeling and Partisanship Is
Cropping Out.

By W. W. Naughton.

San Francisco, Feb. 12.—To the
writer, one of the surest signs of the
widespread interest taken in the Jef-
fries-Johnson matter is the increase in
the size of the afternoon mail. I am in-
daily receipt of a number of communi-
cations bearing upon different phases
of the championship battle.

Many of the letters are not worth the
paper they are written on. They are of
a venomously partisan character. Others
are highly interesting, and one at
least which arrived a few days ago con-
tained a valuable suggestion.

Of a certainty, "Constant Reader" and
"Fair Play" are extremely alert just
now, and were better the critic who slurs
over anything or is adjudged guilty of
faulty reasoning in anything.

Here Is One of Them.

The letter I refer to is from San
Luis Potosi, Mexico. After working off
a compliment or two which modestly
forbids a repetition of the correspond-
ent says:

"There is one point connected with
all this pro and con talk, which I
have never heard discussed and I
bring it to your attention, hoping you
will touch upon it in one of your Sun-
day talks.

"Should not Jeffries' retirement have
worked to his advantage, since he has
been out of training and it has been a
period of rest? While Jeffries is a
couple of years older than Johnson, is
he not a younger man from a fighting
standpoint, and hasn't Johnson been in
active training longer than Jeffries—
and shouldn't Jeffries be classed as the
younger of the two? Didn't Jeffries
start in fighting later in life than the
colored gentleman and hasn't he had
less fighting to sap his strength. Isn't
it not also a fact that the physical life
of the Saxon is longer than that of the
Ethiopian?"

Some Great Reasoning.

"To the uninitiated it would look as
though Johnson should be getting stale,
his muscles becoming unresponsive to
the constant demand and losing some
of their elasticity, and that theoretic-
ally at least, Jeffries should be in bet-
ter physical condition—for I do not be-
lieve he has lived any fast during his
retirement than the negro?"

While the correspondent indulges in
frequent of the interrogation point it
seems to me that his letter is a com-
plete chapter in one phase of the Jef-
fries-Johnson debate.

It is easy enough for any intelligent
reader, who is the possessor of a book
of pugilistic records, to dig up the an-
swers to the queries propounded by the
man in Mexico, and thus decide for him-
self whether new and valuable testi-
mony has been unearthed in favor of the
contention that Jeffries "can come
back." As a matter of fact, after ran-

EDDIE DUGAN FORMER
\$5 A WEEK MESSENGER

Eddie Dugan, who will be one
of the star riders upon the
American tracks this year, and
who will go abroad to ride either
next year or the following year,
started life as a \$5 a week A. D.
T. messenger in Oakland, Cal.
Dugan had the benefit of the
turf wisdom of his brother,
Willie Dugan, who knew the
racing game from the ground up.
Eddie has earned nearly a
quarter of a million of dollars
in the saddle, and is good for
many years to come yet. He as-
pires to own a stable of his own
some day. After riding for
August Belmont he will prob-
ably sign with some American
millionaire owning a stable
abroad.

ATHLETIC EXPENSE
ACCOUNT SETTLED

Mel Sheppard Case Moves Of-
ficials to Eradicate Semi-
Professionalism.

By Manhattan.

New York, Feb. 12.—The combined
movement of the Military Athletic
league, the American Amateur Athletic
union, and the New York Athletic club
to wipe out semi-professionalism and
establish to the view of the world an
explanation of the question, "What is
an expense account?" is a movement in
the right direction.

For many years it has been the habit
of amateur athletes, upon being invited
to take part in a meet, to write to know
how much of an expense account is of-
fered. The money required is figured
up and the management of the pro-
posed meet wires back.

"Your expense account will be \$50."
The athlete immediately replies:
"Make it \$125 and I'll compete."

Colonel Garcia of the Military Ath-
letic league started the ball rolling in
the Mel Sheppard case when Sheppard
demanded and got \$30 for competing in
Philadelphia. Mat Halpin of the New
York club and President Brown of the
Amateur union next fell in.

This may be ridiculed by amateur ath-
letes, who claim it will hurt sport. But
their argument is the same as that of
the bookmakers, who claim that an ab-
sence of racetrack betting will give
America a breed of third rate pugils.

ENTER OLD ORT WELLS
AT NINE IN BRIGHTON

You all remember Ort Wells? Per-
haps many of you thought that Ort
Wells had cashed in or that his racing
days were over. But not so. The name
of this racer appears among the en-
tries for the Brighton mile, although
he is 9 years old and somewhat stiff
from disuse. In 1905 Ort Wells won
the Brighton mile and stepped the dis-
tance on that occasion in 1:28 1-5, beat-
ing Beldame and Delhi easily. Beldame,
at that time the cream of August Bel-
mont's stable, had won the Suburban,
while Delhi, of the Keene stable, had
won the Brooklyn handicap. John A.
Drake was very fond of Ort Wells, and
it required the strictest attention of
Trainer Wilsard to see that Mr. Drake
did not feed the horse too many sweet-
meats.

Powers to Ride Abroad.

From all accounts Jockey Vincent
Powers will not ride in the east this
summer but will probably ride for Baron
Rothschild either in England or upon the
continent. Powers' work was nothing
short of phenomenal at Jacksonville.
Powers was in first order in the east last
year and was only relegated on condi-
tion that he would not ride upon an
eastern track again.

Kaufman Opens Much Mail.

Al Kaufman has received offers to
box in many places since he tore up
Philadelphia Jack O'Brien's physio-
nomy. They came from Pittsburgh, Bos-
ton, New Orleans, San Francisco, Los
Angeles, Memphis, England, France and
Australia.

FORMER JOCKEY RACES
FAST TWO-YEAR-OLDS

George Odum, the erstwhile
jockey and former resident of
Columbus, Ga., is going to cut
some figure in the east this
year. Odum has an extremely
good looking string of 2-year-
olds, not counting Bonnie Kelso,
Nimbus, Traveler and Trance.
Odum owns all his horses out-
right, having purchased the ma-
jority of them last summer.
There has been some doubt
about Traveler and Trance, and
they are showing up well with
more of the stiffness gone now.
Trance is a daughter of Ben
Brush and Fair Vision, and two
years ago could beat anything on
the track save the very highest
topnotchers. She broke down
last spring at Pimlico.

FAMOUS MEL SHEPPARD

Harlem Tommy's Fit.

New York boxers are complaining of
the smallness of the purse being offered
by the boxing clubs in the south. Tom-
my Murphy will talk forever about that
\$500 offer from the West Side Athletic
club of New Orleans. The New Orleans
club wired Tommy the offer of a \$500
guarantee to meet several good southern
boys but when Murphy saw the figures
he suffered a stroke of apoplexy.

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Attell at San Francisco on March
17 for the championship of the
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AMERICAN GOLFERS
INVADING BRITAIN
KEENE'S COLTS WON
MORE THAN OTHERS

Yankee Slowness in Developing
Good Professionals Due to
Queer Courses.

Domino, Sysonby and Colin
Give Fortune to Famous
Old Horseman.

(Publishers' Press Leased Wire.)

London, Feb. 12.—With America the
possession of the international honors in
polo, yacht racing and aviation, now
comes another invasion next week,
when a team of Yankee professional
golfers will meet a team of resident
professionals upon a course near Lon-
don. The date set for the match was
February 16. J. H. Taylor has been
named to captain the English team and
Alec Smith the American.

There has been some question ever
since the Americans arrived here whether
they could be called, strictly speak-
ing, a real representative team of the
United States. Among them are Gil
Nichols, Isaac Mackie, James Madden,
David Hunter, Peter Robertson, H. H.
Barker and one or two others.

There is no question that Barker and
Smith are the best players in the party,
but, as expert as they are, it is hardly
likely that they will rank with Taylor
and James Braid. As an amateur here,
Barker showed up mighty well. Four
years ago he won the Irish open cham-
pionship at Portrush in fine form. He
tried for the British amateur cham-
pionship but "nerves" was his undoing, and
he lost to Guy Campbell. Alec Smith
is a good player. Three years ago he
took part in our open championship at
Hollylake and finished twenty-fifth.

But, as the players came over here
for a holiday, as I understand it, it
would scarcely be just to say they rep-
resent the United States. Gilbert Nichol
would doubtless set his place on a na-
tional team, for he was second in the
United States open championships two
years ago. He is a native of Folkestone
and his brother, Bernard Nichols, was
the only man to beat Harry Vardon on
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