

Whitney's Horse Favored to Win Kentucky Derby

By Jack Cuddy
New York, Jan. 13 (UP)—Col. C. V. Whitney's Pukka Gin apparently will be the winter favorite to win the Kentucky derby, because he was assigned today the top scale-weight of 126 pounds for the experimental handicap this spring at Jamaica.

The quite courageous and unquestionably able man who picked Pukka Gin from perhaps the worst two-year-old welter in the history of American racing is Jack Campbell, racing secretary and handicapper for all tracks in the New York area.

Campbell has had uncanny success in rating horses for the experimental—In picking the two-year-olds of yesterday, who will go to town as three-year-olds. He singled out Whirlaway, Alsab, and Count Fleet. Now he designates Pukka Gin, despite the fact that George D. Widener's Platter was voted the outstanding two-year-old of 1943.

Rates Second
Campbell rates Platter second to Pukka Gin, assigning Platter 124 pounds for the experimental. Next comes two fillies and a colt at 121 pounds—a rarity, indeed, to find two fillies so highly regarded. The fillies are Brownell Combs' Duranza and the Calumet farm's Miss Keeneland. They share the 121 stables with John Marsch's Occupy, widely publicized son of Bulldog.

Next at 120 pounds, come George D. Widener's Lucky Draw and Mrs. J. H. Mohr's Royal Prince. Below them are a flock of mounts of the 101 two-year-olds of '43 to whom Campbell assigned poundage. They include, in the upper brackets of 119 and 118, Black Badge, Booflana, Boy Knight, By Jimminy, Rodney Stone, Twilight Tear, and Dance Team.

For the benefit of those members of the A.S.P.C.A. who love dark horses let us say that Mrs. Mohr's Royal Prince, son of Dauber—that mud-running fool—should win the Kentucky derby at Louisville in May, if old Jupe Pluvius provides Churchill downs with a sloppy track. Royal Prince was bred for distance—for the derby's mile and a quarter—and he is an announced candidate for the derby.

Two Other Candidates
Only two others of the 101 are announced candidates—thoroughbreds that will be pointed for the Kentucky classic—Pukka Gin and Miss Keeneland.

Pukka Gin, son of Firehorn—

Out Our Way



By J. R. Williams

who displayed plenty of staying ability about seven years ago—is being conditioned at the fair grounds, New Orleans, although not racing there. He will be pointed for the derby. He raced successfully through the '43 season, climaxing his campaign by winning the Champagne stakes at Belmont. He finished second in the Ardsley handicap at Jamaica to Weyanoke, to whom he had given much poundage. Owner Sonny Whitney never won the derby, but he is ambitious to take this one.

Widener's Platter, son of Pilate, started seven times, but broke the maiden on the sixth time through the gate, winning the Pimlico futurity. He also won the Walden stakes in his seventh try. Both triumphs were over a fair distance, much longer than the Occupy sprints. But he was beaten by Pukka Gin both times he faced him, in the Champagne and Ardsley stakes. Moreover, Widener rarely has his best three-year-olds sharpened in time for the derby.

Modern battle weapons and ammunition require precision measurements accurate within a fraction of a thousandth of an inch.

Coasting Along in Sport World

By Grady Johnson
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

San Francisco, Jan. 13 (UP)—People who like to watch other people throw big balls through hoops and knock little balls into holes in the ground have their work all cut out for them here this week-end.

The gentlemen who encourage this sort of thing for profit hope to dazzle those who take their sport sitting down with a feud between the incredible Angelo Henry Luisetti and James Pollard at civic auditorium Saturday night.

Luisetti plays with the St. Mary's Pre-flight quartet while "Highpockets" Pollard shoots for Alameda Coast Guard.

Beginning tomorrow the peripatetic spectators will turn out for the \$10,000 San Francisco victory open golf tournament over Harding park's long fairways. Harold (Jug) McSpaden of Philadelphia and Willie Goggin are the principal reasons why the fans will take a four-mile hike over the Harding obstacle course Friday through Monday.

For the hoop contest, four other players from each team have agreed to appear. Just why, nobody knows. Luisetti, who once score 50 points in 30 minutes, and Pollard, who could do likewise if given the ball often enough, are expected to overwork the scorekeepers.

Remarkable thing about Luisetti and Pollard from the spectators' viewpoint is, of course, their one-handed push shots. Besides proving that one hand is better than two, these uncanny, albeit graceful, shots never fail to awe the customers. And Luisetti, who developed the maneuver, can take credit for adding luster to the game. No self-respecting hoop artist would think of using two hands these days.

Jug McSpaden comes to the victory open fresh from a win in the Los Angeles open where he sliced three strokes off Wilshire Country club's 72-hole record to win \$4,375 in war bonds. While Goggin could finish no better than 11 strokes behind the winner at Los Angeles, he is conceded an edge if McSpaden cools off because he knows the Harding layout so well he could play it blindfolded. He served as pro at Lakeside park here and has the long game necessary for the course.

Those long fairways, incidentally, are right down the alley of another slugger, Jimmy Thompson. His backers are willing to bet he can make the long 10th par five hole in two shots.

But he won't if the same thing happens here as befell the bull-shouldered wallop in Sacramento a couple of years ago. As the story goes, Thompson was to play an exhibition match with local talent and there was a little betting here and there. The Sacramento course is short. The day was hot and dry. Jimmy seemed a cinch to birdie the course to death. He sent a screamer down the first fairway. It looked as though it would make the green, but the ball dropped dead after hitting the ground. The same thing happened on the second, and the third and so on. Somebody had seen to it that the fairways were thoroughly watered where his long drives would land.

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Bertilli Makes Post War Plans

New York, Jan. 13 (UP)—Angelo Bertilli, the lean marine, did a little post-war planning today with emphasis on completion of his football playing career at Notre Dame, where he won the Heisman Memorial trophy as the outstanding college star of the 1943 season. After that he wants to play pro football.

The all-America quarterback came to New York yesterday to accept the Heisman memento of his brilliant but abbreviated season in which he led Notre Dame to six straight victories before being called to active training with the marines.

"Of course it all depends on how long the war lasts, but if it is over within a year or so I'd like to play that one more year at Notre Dame, then play pro football, and wind up as a coach."

The Springfield, Mass., Italian boy was given a furlough from Parris Island, S. C., to accept the trophy.

Over 100 Golfers Ready for Play

San Francisco, Jan. 13 (UP)—More than 100 golfers, including the cream of the nation's money players, toured the Harding park municipal golf course in final tune-up rounds today preparing for the start of the \$10,000 San Francisco "war bond" open tomorrow.

Based on practice runs on the lake-surrounded course, Byron Nelson, Toledo, O., links stylist, was ace high with the forecasters after slashing below par two days in a row. Yesterday he added a three under par to his record-equalling 66 of Tuesday.

McSpaden Favored
Still a favorite with the perambulating grandstanders to win the \$2400 top money in the four-day contest was steady Harold (Jug) McSpaden, Philadelphia, whose brilliant 66-stroke finish in the Los Angeles open Monday won him to money there.

McSpaden showed he was still hot yesterday when he took a two under par 70 in a practice round with Nelson.

Most of those finishing the Los Angeles event in the lead were at Harding yesterday, familiarizing themselves with the 6,600-yard layout, where the absence of bunkers makes estimation of distances difficult.

Cooper In Play
Among the well-known pros trying out the ship-shape course were Johnny Revolta, Harry Cooper, Jimmy Hines, Olin Dutra, Ed Dudley, Sammy Byrd, Willie Hunter, Ellsworth Vines, Leonard Dodson and Harry Bassler.

Dudley, Dodson and Bassler reported par rounds of 72, while Vines took 73 and Cooper 74. Jim Ferrier of Chicago shot a 70 and Pete Cooper, hitch-hike pro from Gainesville, Fla., came in with 71.

Playing with the professionals will be a group of amateurs and entries from nearby shipyards. Amateurs will be eligible for \$100 war bond awards and all winners will be paid off in bonds.

Millions of tons of coal are wasted annually through fires, deterioration in storage, and oxidation.

Basketball Briefs

(By United Press)
Southern Methodist 40, Texas Christian 30.
Camp Grant 64, Augustana 38.
Warrensburg, Mr., Teachers 41, Park college 40.
Long Island U. 51, West Virginia 39.
Mass. Institute of Technology 53, Harvard 40.
St. Joseph's 48, Princeton 31.
Pittsburgh 44, Geneva 38.
Rochester 41, Cornell 35.
City college 41, Brooklyn college 33.
Oklahoma A. & M. 59, Oklahoma 40.
Ottumwa Naval air station 48, St. Ambrose 45.

Hammerin' Hank To Meet Spoldi

By Tom Weiss
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Portland, Jan. 13 (UP)—Henry Armstrong, boxing's perpetual motion man, today told the United Press he plans to hammer his way back to one of the three world titles he once held. He said his bout with Aldo Spoldi here tomorrow night is but one step toward that goal.

"I feel good," Armstrong said. That has become a favorite phrase of Henry's in assuring fight fans that he is still in the pink at 31—an age when other fighters are merely fight-card guests being introduced before the main event.

But Henry said he wasn't ready to be led back through the ropes to a ringside seat where he would fall into fight-fan status. As a matter of fact, in addition to Armstrong's hope for another crack at Sammy Angott and the N.B.A. lightweight title, there is that little item of money.

To Aid Fund
Although the dusky boxer is fighting for an infantile paralysis benefit tomorrow night and has his fight gates get their usual G.I. haircut by old Barber Morgenstau, he still believes there is that honest dollar inside the ropes. Tomorrow night, however, the

Armstrong purse will be closed off the sports writers, who often both eyes on one Aldo Spoldi who will be out to close those eyes and have that chance at the title himself. But win or lose, Henry says he likes a fight and probably will continue his ring career in spite of the sports writers, who often have predicted that a particular fight would be Henry's last. Henry's waist may be a little larger than it was, but it still would fit the lightweight belt. He plans yet to try it again for size.

What They Tell Us!

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Writes the manufacturer,
Though your order's overdue
For a month—or maybe two—

We can't help it. Please don't swear!
Labor's scarce and material's rare;
We—like you—can't get supplies:
Can't get buttons, can't get dyes.

Harry's drafted, so is Bill;
All our work is now uphill.
So your orders, we're afraid,
May be still a bit delayed.

Still you'll get them—don't be vexed—
Maybe this month, maybe next.
Keep on hoping, don't say die!
We'll fill your order by and by.

We have trouble, so have you.
But altogether, we'll come through,
And if we think our lot is hard
Let's both remember something, pard.

A soldier's life is not much fun,
And we're not shouldering a gun.
If they can take it on the chin,
Let's meet our troubles with a grin.

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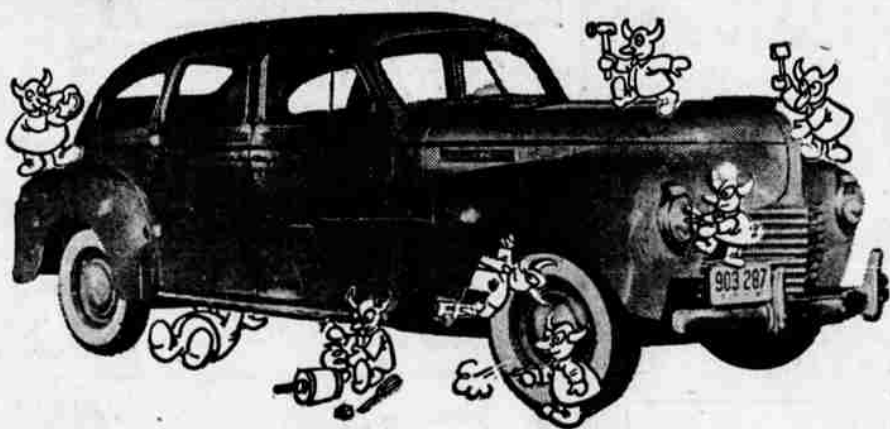
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