

Sports

BIG BILL TILDEN HEADS MEXICAN TENNIS INVASION

By Alan J. Gould, Associated Press Sports Editor

NEW YORK, April 2.—(AP)—The Mexicans have acclaimed Big Bill Tilden as a new "ambassador of good will" as he leads his tennis charges up the heights of Mexico City for the opening round of the Davis cup campaign this week.

It may now be revealed, therefore, that it was probably and principally with the idea of entering on a good will tourney that Tilden forsook the stage, threw over his personally favored plan of going abroad early in the spring and concentrated his tennis playing and coaching efforts on the American zone competition.

It isn't so much that the American tennis authorities fear their team, with or without Tilden, would meet much opposition in the American zone, Mexico, China and either Canada or Japan do not make up a threatening barrier for Yankee talent that has only the French cup holders to worry much about.

The best minds of American tennis decided it to be diplomatically and politically desirable to throw their full strength into the preliminary play, rather than to toss second string players into the early competition and thereby run undue risks of being criticized.

In effect, Tilden was told that he owed it to the sport, to the nation and to the cause of better international relations to play through the American zone and captain the American team.

"When it was put up to me on that basis, what else could I do but accept?" Big Bill asked before he assumed his charges at Augusta for training and selection.

"Personally and from the competitive viewpoint, I would rather have passed up the American zone and gone abroad to get in shape. Suppose I should beat Robert Kinsey or Lock Wei or Tommie Alb or William Crocker in the preliminary matches, spread over a couple of months? What good would that do me in a tough five-set match abroad later against men who have been playing in the big leagues for months?"

"It takes a long time to get in form abroad. I know, for I have been over there a few times. I won the Wimbledon title twice, and I would dislike to go over there, say on a week's notice, and get bumped off in the first round. Not that I would mind the beating—I have taken those before and will take many more before I'm through—but it wouldn't be a fair test."

MAD BULL SIGNS FOR PASS DERBY

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 2.—(AP)—Mad Bull, winner of the 1927 Indian marathon from here to Grants Pass, Ore., has entered the 1928 race, headquarters for the marathon announced here.

He will compete for Josephine county, Oregon, his entry having been financed by the Oregon Caversmen.

The Oregon Caversmen also entered Flying Cloud, a 1927 entrant who competed closely for the prize. The announcement said Crescent City and Eureka would enter two runners, and that Healdsburg had decided to enter Healdsburg Bird, an Indian noted for his stamina. Natives from Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and Canada also are expected to compete. The race starts June 14.

HEENEY IS HOPE OF BRITISH FANS

NEW YORK, April 2.—(AP)—Through Tom Heenev, erstwhile New Zealand blacksmith, the British empire hopes to recover the world's heavyweight boxing championship, which she successfully maintained in the ripping bare-knuckle days of yore.

Only once since the inception of the modern mode of fistfights has a subject of His Majesty worn the laurel of pugilistic supremacy. This honor fell to the gangling-legged son of Cornwall, Ruby Dub Fitzsimmons, who captured the title from Jim Corbett, the bank clerk, and lost it to Jim Jeffries, the boilermaker.

RUMOR JOHNSON TUBERCULOSIS PREY IS SET AT REST

WASHINGTON, April 2.—(AP)—Fears that another great veteran baseball pitcher had fallen victim to tuberculosis have been set at rest here by doctors in discussing the illness of Walter Johnson.

In a formal statement issued last night, Dr. H. M. Kaufman, personal physician to the former Washington speed king and now manager of the Newark Internationals said:

"All physical examinations, X-rays and laboratory tests have failed to reveal the slightest indication of anything of this nature. On the other hand, these same tests have shown a positive indication of a low grade colon bacillus infection of the kidneys resulting from the poisons of influenza. This type of illness is not uncommon, and without any intervening complications Walter Johnson should be himself again within a reasonably short while."

While unable to see friends at the institution where he spent another restful day yesterday, the idol of Washington baseball fans has a room full of flowers to attest their regard for him, and the hospital is constantly answering inquiries as to his condition. His disposition continues cheerful.

SWIM ENDURANCE RECORD BROKEN

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., April 2.—(AP)—Thirty-two hours afloat, unaided, touching neither the sides nor the bottom of the pool in which the performance took place, is the new world's endurance swimming record set up by Mrs. Lottie Moore Schoenmel.

Noted for her part in marathon aquatic achievements, when Mrs. Schoenmel climbed out of the Deauville pool here Sunday, she had shattered the American record of 30 hours formerly held by Bill Erickson, of New York, and the world's record of 21 hours made by Miss Edith Johnson in England, a mark that had stood for 47 years.

While a brisk wind, blowing cold, kept most other swimmers from the water, Mrs. Schoenmel offered no protest, and continued her effort clad in a white wool bathing suit which she had been compelled to substitute for a grease coating which melted away in the water, which was warm when she began her swim.

Coffee, tea and bouillon, fed to her by other swimmers, provided sustenance while in the water.

TUGENE, Ore., April 2.—(AP)—Members of the Willamette Valley Baseball League will meet here this evening to select the novice list for the season, to post forfeits and to work over the by-laws of the league.

Members of the league include Salem, Albany, North Bend, Wendling, Cottage Grove and Eugene.

JOHNNY, DAN "PLOT" AGAINST GENE



Johnny Riske, Cleveland heavyweight candidate for a bout with Champion Gene Tunney, chats with his manager, Danny Dunn, over the possibility of divesting Gene of his crown. A majority of fight experts regard Riske as having first rights to a fight with Gene above all other would-be challengers.

MARATHON LEADER START DICKERING FINISHES FOURTH FOR WELTER BOUT

NEW YORK, N.Y., Apr. 2.—(AP)—With 1,026.3 miles of the race behind them, 24 survivors of the transcontinental marathon expedition, world's middleweight champion, has promised Promoter Jim Mullen he will confer with him here Thursday to discuss a probable match between Walker and Ave Hudkins, "The Nebraska Wildcat."

Mullen is confident he can land the title for Chicago on July 15. Hudkins, a welterweight, has announced he will join the middleweight class because of his increasing poundage. Mullen also plans to sign Jack McCarthy of Chicago and Jackie Fields of California for a bout April 29.

PORTLAND, Ore., April 2.—(AP)—Fire this morning destroyed Manny's Shack, a road house located on Powell Valley road, with a loss of \$15,000. It was insured for \$20,000, according to the owner, William Muss.

What makes a hand-saw slower than a bank of fire, the flower "which has a sword for its hat and a fly for its heart"? And they ask so little care, and offer a range of color from creamy white to almost black.

Latest Dope on the Big Leagues

(By Brian Bell, Associated Press Sports Editor.)

NEW YORK, Apr. 2.—(AP) Baseballers about to start another season, lack a brisk trading mart to complete its equipment. A few exchanges would make for a more equitable distribution of talent. Some clubs are long on outfielders while others have a surplus of infielders. Pitchers and catchers are assembled in convention in some cities and lack a quorum in others.

One of the most persistent beliefs is that if a rival is willing to trade a player, there must be something wrong with him. The first base situation is especially acute. Two clubs, one in each league, are overstocked. Washington has George Sisler and Joe Judge and could be happy with either if the other charter were away. Cincinnati has George Kelly and Wally Pipp and has not yet been able to figure a way to play them both on the bag at the same time.

In the meantime Cleveland is wondering whether George Burns will apply for a pension before the year is out, and Connie Mack shudders when Joe Hauser makes quick starts on a knee that was once very bad.

In the National, Brooklyn and Philadelphia are starting the season at first base with promoted minor leaguers who have yet to Boston is turning the assignment over to a player who is very, very good when he is good and horrid when he is bad—Harris.

The Giants have seven outfielders if Ott is included and only five infielders. The Yankees have the place all cluttered up with infielders but no understudy for Lou Gehrig, letter perfect in the part.

The St. Louis Browns are wearily shy on outfielders, so desperate that before the season gets under way Dan Howley may be found on a corner with a tin cup, hoping against hope that a fly-chaser may be dropped in. The Browns, moreover, are not in the best position to talk trade, to they need all the players they have.

Detroit has infielders almost beyond the dreams of avarice and would cheerfully part with one for another pitcher who would win for the Tigers.

Only the Athletics, Cardinals and the Robins may be regarded as satisfied with their pitching staffs. All the others would jump at the chance to part with valuable considerations for additional first-class pitching strength.

If the trading mart could function on a wholesale scale, some interesting combinations might be worked out. Boston could take Brooklyn's battery effectives and be practically assured of a one-two-three place. This goes for all the other National league clubs, and Pittsburgh with the Brooklyn catchers alone transferred to Forbes field would be regarded by many experts as "in" before the race starts.

The great equalization in baseball, however, will not come this year, and in many cases the rich will continue to grow richer and the poor grow poorer.

What will be the largest statue of his kind in the world is to be erected in the bay at Rio de Janeiro, a huge figure of Christ, 100 feet high. It is the work of the Polish sculptor Landowsky.

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