

IN THE REALM OF SPORT

MANY EXCUSES OVER FAILURES

Poor Showing of American Olympic Track Men Cause Much Comment

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 3. (AP)—Rich food and too much of it. Climate, insufficient work, too much work, and last but not least, keener competition—these are reasons advanced in various circles to explain the relatively poor showing of the American athletes on the Olympic track.

Although the range of excuses advanced cover territories as remote from each other as the north and south poles, one thing remains certain concerning all of them—that a feverish search for explanations has begun as a result of the unprecedented succession of setbacks the Yankee favorites have suffered.

Opinions are as divided within the American ranks as without and the general dissatisfaction obtaining among the American official family while not being diagnosed from the houseposts is not being kept secret.

Even if America's failure to carry off the honors in one or more track events had been successfully explained to the satisfaction of the coaches of the United States team, the discreet snickers of their European rivals would have reminded them of their failure. While there is not likely to be any immediate action taken here, the cards appear to be stacked for a thorough shuffling upon the return home of the American team.

From the viewpoint of the official chief of the American delegation, General Douglas MacArthur, "stiffer competition from Europe as well as other parts of the world" is responsible for the startling defeats of the Americans.

"Our boys train on faster tracks and make faster times as the result," the general points out. "Consequently when they meet Europeans on the latter's own tracks their advantage is reduced. I think this is the best team we have ever had but I also think the opposition is better in every respect."

Head Coach Lawson Robertson who has sat glumly in the press box thus far while his athletes have been "taking it on the chin," blames the climate and training conditions for the failures. Robbie and his aides worked under unusual difficulties after debarking and were divided between giving the athletes plenty of work or risking injuries on poor practice tracks.

The athletes themselves, at least many of them, insist they did not have enough work to regain the peak of condition they reached for the final trials.

"I know I was short of practice whether or not that cost me the victory," declared Steve Anderson, University of Washington high hurdler, who came within inches of beating out Sid Atkinson, South African winner, in the 110 meter final.

Other American athletes shared Anderson's opinion, but in contrast to these views Trainer Peter Poole asserted "I never saw a staler athlete than Lloyd Hahn." Hahn, coached exclusively by Jack Ryder, was one of the biggest disappointments to the Americans and the feeling prevails that he was worked too hard. This is merely a sample of the divergent views.

Lavish feeding aboard the floating hotel of the American team, the steamship President Roosevelt, is the chief reason for the Yankee failures in the opinion of the boxing coach, Spike Webb. His views are echoed by British as well as Canadian observers who contrast the "luxurious" living and feeding arrangements for the Americans with the simple and isolated living accommodations provided for the British Empire's victorious sons.

League Standing

(By the Associated Press)

COAST LEAGUE			
	W.	L.	Pct.
Hollywood	23	9	.719
Sacramento	21	11	.656
San Francisco	20	12	.625
Oakland	17	15	.531
Minion	15	17	.469
Los Angeles	13	19	.406
Portland	10	22	.313
Seattle	9	23	.281

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
	W.	L.	Pct.
New York	71	32	.689
Philadelphia	66	36	.647
St. Louis	63	39	.619
Chicago	48	54	.462
Cleveland	47	57	.452
Washington	46	59	.438
Detroit	44	57	.436
Boston	38	63	.376

Fans Try Hand At Guessing Homer Totals



BABE RUTH	63
LOU GEHRIG	41
HACK WILSON	35
JIM BATTIN	34
DEL BISSONNETTE	32
ROBERTO HORNSBY	30
FRANK FRISON	22
GOOSE GOSLIN	20
CY WILLIAMS	16
GEORGE KELLY	14

By AL DEMAREE
(Former Pitcher N. Y. Giants)

The home run totals in my cartoon above represent the consensus of opinion of thirty-five hundred fans who wrote in and answered my query as to how many circuit clouts the above named men would hit. My original cartoon did not include Del Bissionette, but so many of the answers had his name written down and he has been clouting so long and consistently all season that I realized I had overlooked a good bet, and had to include him in the finals.

Almost without exception every one of the thirty-five hundred fans who wrote to me expected Babe Ruth to beat his record of 60 home runs made last year. Some of his most ardent supporters had him down for over seventy homers, but the general average was sixty-three and a fraction.

The dope on the homers expected to be made by the above sluggers ran very close to the way the ball-players themselves expect them to finish, except that many of them look for Hack Wilson of the Cubs, Del Bissionette of the Robins and Jim Bottomley of the St. Louis Cards to give Lou Gehrig a great run for the runner-up position to the Bambino.

SEALS WIN IN NINTH INNING

Portland Held Hitless for Eight Innings by Indian Twirler

(By the Associated Press)
It was a glum outlook for the Seals at the start of the ninth inning of their third game with Los Angeles. It looked much worse after the Angels had increased their lead to four runs by Wally Hood's homer that chased in Schulmerich. But the San Francisco club came back and Kid Crosetti followed Roy Johnson's trouble with a homer. Then in rapid order two singles, a walk and another pair of singles piled up three more runs and the game ended at 10 to 9 in the Seals' favor. Batteries: Jacobs, G. Jones, May, and Sprinz; Cunningham, Weatherby and Warren.

Hollywood held its lead of two games over Sacramento and three over San Francisco by winning again from the Missions, 7 to 6. Batteries: Schellenbach, Murphy and Bassler; Davenport, Hughes, Didier and Baldwin.

Sacramento stopped the Oakland winning streak after the score had been tied in the eighth and took the third game of the series 5 to 2.

Batteries: Kunz, Rachac and Severid; Dagila, McAvoy and Read.

Seattle made it two to one in the series with the Beavers by grabbing the third game, 4 to 2. Bushy Graham, Indian hurler, was too good for the Portland boys and for eight innings held them hitless and scoreless. Batteries: Graham and Borreani; Yerkes, French and Whitney.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W.	L.	Pct.
St. Louis	64	36	.640
Cincinnati	59	42	.584
New York	55	40	.579
Chicago	59	44	.573
Pittsburgh	49	47	.510
Brooklyn	50	49	.505
Boston	28	63	.308
Philadelphia	24	68	.261

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HEAVYWEIGHTS AFTER CROWN

Prefer to Place Claim on Crown Rather Than Fight For It

NEW YORK, August 3. (AP)—Although apparently basically sound, Gene Tunney's plan for the selection of a new heavyweight champion seems to be missing on a couple of cylinders. The retired champion's plan, based on a series of elimination tournaments, appears to be the one logical way of gaining a king for the vacant throne. But in order to have an elimination tournament it's necessary to get fighters who will stop broadcasting long enough to get into the ring and fight.

Just now the behemoths of the ring are busily engaged in filing claims to the title, pointing out the "logic" of their pretensions. When it comes to talking about fighting it out in the ring that's something else again.

No accurate check was available today but it is estimated that more than a dozen heavyweights have filed or will file claims for the title Tunney vacated. The most vociferous, thus far, have been Tommy Loughran, king of the light heavyweights, Johnny Risko, the Cleveland baker boy; Knute Hansen, the melancholy Dane; and Young Stribling, of Atlanta, Ga. Other claims may be expected on behalf of Jack Sharkey, Phil Scott, Paulino Uzcudun, Roberto Roberti and virtually anybody else weighing over 175 pounds. Luis Angel Firpo, one time "wild bull of the Pampas," had indicated he may get into the fun and there's always the chance that Jack Dempsey will decide upon a comeback.

Out of all the claims and counter claims since Tunney's retirement was announced, there has come no definite plan for getting the elimination machinery into motion. Tex Rickard apparently is inclined to wait until he gets some matches lined up before he does his talking.

Meanwhile Floyd Fitzsimmons announced a ten round battle between Sharkey and Pierre Charles, the Belgian, at Navin Field, Detroit on August 23. Risko and Roberti are scheduled to meet at Ebbets Field August 15 with Humbert Fuzari doing the promotional honors.

The elimination scheme suggested by Tunney and William Muldoon of the New York state athletic commission, was endorsed yesterday by Thomas E. Donohue, of the National Boxing association. Donohue tempered his approval with the statement that "no one survivor of a single elimination tournament will be a worthy successor to Tunney unless he has defeated the finalists of any other tournament that may be staged."

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YANKEES LOSE ANOTHER GAME

Athletics Now Only Four and Half Games Behind Leaders

(By the Associated Press)
It's a funny game—baseball. A month ago, every one including Cornelius McGillicuddy, conceded the 1928 American league pennant to the New York Yankees and fans turned to the National league to watch what seemed certain to be a ding-dong battle until the final bell.

Today the St. Louis Cardinals lead the older circuit by six and a half games. The Yanks, on the other hand, have seen a thirteen game lead crumble away day by day until the galloping White Elephants of Philadelphia led by none other than "the tall Mr. McGillicuddy," are but four and a half games to the rear of the champions.

George Earnshaw was a puzzle to the Cleveland Indians yesterday and the A's had no difficulty registering their tenth straight win, 6 to 0.

After pitching great ball for 14 innings, Herb Pennock weakened in the 15th and the St. Louis Browns trimmed the Yanks, 4 to 2. Stewart's single with the bases filled and none out in the 15th sent the champions down to defeat.

Taking Washington down the Detroit Tigers chalked up their ninth win in 11 games and moved past the Senators into sixth place.

Ted Lyons shook the jinx that has pursued him for two weeks and pitched the Chicago White Sox to a easy 6 to 3 win over Boston.

While the Cards continued their winning ways at the expense of the Boston Braves, 6 to 1, the rest of the National league standing suffered a shake-up, the New York Giants taking second place and the Pittsburgh Pirates moving up to fifth place a step ahead of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Cincinnati's Reds dropped to third place when they were nipped out by the Giants, 7 to 5, in a line, 5 to 4 in 12 innings, the free hitting game.

Hal Carlson, making his first start of the season, pitched the Chicago Cubs to a close decision over the Dodgers, 3 to 2.

The Pirates pounded out 20 hits to sink the Phillies, 15 to 4. Wright and Grantham hit homers, each when two men were on the bases.

MAY BE RELEASED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3. (U. P.)—A writ of habeas corpus contending that Eddy J. Downs, serving in San Quentin penitentiary for a robbery in Riverside county, is only 14 years old and should be released from the prison, was filed here today. Warren James Holohan of the prison was ordered to answer the charge on September 11.

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