

East-West Game Football Today

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—Some forty-four football stars of colleges and universities throughout the country will participate in the second annual east-west game here Saturday.

San Francisco shiners inaugurated the plan last year as a means of raising funds for their hospital for crippled children and initial success has made the game an annual feature.

Hill Ingram, head Navy coach, has rounded up a group of eastern players which includes Neal of Western Maryland and Diehl of Bucknell as quarterbacks, Kirkleskie of Lafayette and Rauber of Washington and Jefferson as halfbacks and Amos and Pritchard of Penn State as fullbacks. Linemen include Hawkins of Michigan, McHenry of West Virginia, Strubel of Wisconsin, Flora of Michigan, Weston of Penn State, Yoder of Carnegie Tech, and Johnston of Northwestern.

The men will alternate at the various positions so that the entire squad will get into the game.

Western stars include: Kelly of Montana, Guttmerson of Washington, Cook of California, Cravath, Behrendt and Correll of Southern California.

Football Profesh Was Not Success

NEW YORK, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—One of the few sporting failures of 1926 has been professional football. The intercollegiate game attracted 15,000,000 spectators last fall, but promoters of the professional contests have lost \$300,000 thus far. "Red" Grange's Yankees was the only team to make money.

Rain and snow cut down attendance at pro games in the east, where as nothing has yet been found which will keep interested spectators away from a college scrap.

When there is \$25,000,000 available as gate receipts for intercollegiate football, C. C. Pyle and his fellow promoters haven't yet figured out why they cannot cut in upon this juicy melon.

The fact is that they haven't got anything to offer that compares with the gridiron game, as played by college men.

As is the case in a number of other sports, competition is the essence of football.

Professional golf is just as interesting as amateur golf, for it is the individual shots which thrill the spectators. But the most perfectly executed forward pass in the world loses all meaning if eleven youngsters aren't striving heart and soul to make it successful and eleven others striving equally hard to break it up.

If one watches closely, the difference between intercollegiate football is not difficult to detect. As a general rule, every man on a college team throws himself into every play whenever possible. Professionals, on the other hand, avoid risks and bruises when the play does not directly concern them.

A college football player courts injury for his alma mater; your professional knows that his sacrifice will be in vain, and that no spot cash money is paid to those who sit on the bench or go weak after week crippled by injuries.

Tunney Proving Unpopular Champ

NEW YORK, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—Gene Tunney, our new heavyweight champion, grows more unpopular every day.

Embroidered in legal bickerings, chumming with Dudley Field Malone, snatching at publicity and paying no attention to the business of fighting, Gene is not doing himself or the boxing game a bit of good.

Some day the time will come when the public will inquire: "Why should we grow excited and pay several million dollars to provide a pedestal upon which some young man can prance for a year or two in most unamusing fashion?"

For this is what happens. Granted there was drama in the Dempsey-Tunney fight, whether it was poison or destiny that swung the issue. All the fuss seems less and less worth while as one contemplates the new champion.

Boxing being a business, it is vain to wish that Tunney would say:

"Well, I owe the public a fight and I want to show I'm a real champ. Bring on the best man you've got."

That's ridiculous. Even if Gene wanted to, he probably wouldn't be permitted to indulge in any such reckless gesture. His friend Dudley Field Malone, probably would see to that.

Ridiculous—yes. And a little sad, at that, to think what 5,000,000 boxing fans want they cannot have, and what one puppet and his managers want is what they get.

So Tunney clown about on the stage and in the courts, suing here and being sued there, posing and strutting and making money.

He's heavyweight champion, all right, but why call him heavyweight boxing champion?

Third Big League is Now Suggested

NEW YORK, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—When the major leagues held their annual winter meetings recently, there was a disposition to deride the suggestion that a third big league was a possibility.

The idea is not as fantastic as it sounds.

In the offing, there are several gentlemen, well heeled, well backed, well versed in the intricacies of our national pastime, who are hiding their time before stepping into the spotlight as the founders of a third major circuit.

They will be called "outlaws," and if John Harder, Ben Johnson and Judge Landis can pull together, the venture probably will meet with failure. A similar attempt failed several years ago.

But those who believe the position of baseball as organized at present to be impregnable overlook a number of facts.

Dissatisfaction among players is the best held any "outlaw" group can acquire, and such dissatisfaction is likely to crop up at any time.

Baseball, as controlled by two major leagues, attracted nearly 9,000,000 paying customers in 1926. That leaves a pretty wide mark for the "outlaws" to shoot at.

Stars are what draw fans to ball parks. The American league has just cut adrift three of its greatest and most popular players, Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker, and Eddie Collins. George Sisler has been deposited and Rogers Hornsby is dissatisfied with his contract. Zach Wheat and Jacques Fournier are pretty good ball players out in the cold.

Elsewhere there is dissatisfaction. It might even be that Judge Landis wasn't any too well pleased with his treatment at the recent major league meeting. It might.

Foreign Heavies Blow Up Easily

NEW YORK, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—Even before the winter boxing season was well under way, a couple of foreign heavyweights blew up from the pressure of too much press agency, and practically passed out of the picture as championship possibilities.

Harry Persson, the big Swede in whom wise old Jimmy DeForest had confidence, lost to Bud Gorman on a foul, and then was outpointed by Pat McCarthy, a third rate Boston heavyweight.

Franz Diener took his disfigured grin back to Germany, along with a few million marks, but no prestige. He had submitted to several lucrative beatings and had convinced everyone that he was no good.

It seems that the old maxim about the incompetency of foreign heavyweights still holds good. Still to be heard from is Paolino, the Basque woodhopper, but unless he springs a real surprise, the battle royal which is about to start, with a Tunney match as the prize, will be strictly American in scope.

Here are half a dozen American heavyweights who can be backed to beat any foreigner in the ring: Jack Sharkey, Jimmy Maloney, Jack Dempsey, Monte Munn, Bud Gorman and, of course, Gene Tunney.

And here are two light heavyweights who probably could do the same: Jack Delaney and Paul Benenbach.

As a matter of fact, Mike McGigue and Tommy Loughran probably would be sufficient to stem any foreign heavyweight invasion.

ANITA STEWART IN RUSTLING FOR CUPID

Anita Stewart takes a big leap when she appears at the Liberty Theatre Sunday in "Rustling for Cupid."

It is a jump from a south sea isle to a little New Mexico village.

"Never the Twain Shall Meet" showed Miss Stewart as a child of the tropics, the center of a little world apart from civilization, while "Rustling for Cupid" pictures her as Sybil Hamilton, a beautiful Boston school teacher, among a lot of cattle barons, cowboys and herds of steers.

George O'Brien has the masculine lead and is cast as Brad Blufford, son of the Swastika ranch's owner.

The play is a wonderful balance between drama and comedy woven together with fine character drawing and closely connected situations. It is from the pen of Peter B. Kyne.

Other than the leads the cast includes Russell Simpson, Edith Yorke, Herbert Prior, Sid Jordan and Frank McGlynn, Jr.

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Sam Langford Was Entitled to Crown

NEW YORK, Dec. 31. (U.N.)—If ever there was an uncrowned heavyweight champion, it was Sam Langford, the Boston tar baby.

Sam never won any titles except the championship of Mexico, but he whipped all the heavyweights of his day and made Jack Johnson jump out of the ring.

Boxing was conducted along slightly different lines in those days, however, and Langford never made a great deal of money at it. What he did make went for expenses, mostly pork chops.

Now Sam is blind and in need. Three years ago this coming spring a benefit boxing show for the purpose of assisting the popular negro was held, but none of the money ever found its way to Langford.

There are many who saw Sam fight in his prime who realize how much better he was than any heavyweight fighting today and who would like to help him.

Former Alderman George W. Harris of 135 West 135th street, New York City, has received the following letter from the old boxer:

"My dear Mr. Harris: May I appeal through you to the sporting public and ask that all of you intercede with the National Sports Alliance, which many months ago gave a large benefit for me and other veteran prize fighters? My information is that many thousands of dollars were raised through this benefit for this fund. The origin of the fund was the occasion when my unfortunate financial condition on the Pacific coast was made known to thousands of my friends in May, 1924.

I have been unable to find any of the gentlemen who were responsible for the benefit who are willing to give me any satisfaction as to whether or not I am entitled to consideration in the apportionment of this money. I have tried repeatedly to get in touch with Mr. Jimmy Johnson, head of the Sporting Alliance, but to no avail. May I be sufficiently candid with you to tell you that I could use the few dollars that should be given me very well at this time, as I of course cannot work owing to my almost total loss of sight. Anything you can do for me will be appreciated by your old friend. (Signed) SAM LANGFORD.

NOTICE
I will not be responsible for any bills contracted by anyone other than myself.
(Signed) C. F. MORGAN.

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The Old Year Dies
Happy New Year

from

THE SANITARY MARKET

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If you came to America looking for a girl, whom you knew only through letters and a worn photograph, how would you find her? Especially if she had moved from her last address, and you couldn't even speak English?

Those are only a few of the predicaments which faced Harry Langdon as the Belgian immigrant in "The Strong Man," his laugh riot.

which is at the Pine Tree Theatre today.

The stranger got himself into many scrapes because of his inquiries for the girl, although his final discovery of her was worth all the trouble.

Langdon's search for the girl gives rise to the various back-grounds of the story, which include New York, a northern border town, and many intermittent localities.

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