

# Late Gossip Of The Sporting World At Home And Abroad

## THE VERY LATEST TOPICS ON CHIEF CLASSES OF SPORT

### Olympic Games

New York, Mar. 28.—Recent correspondence between prominent athletic authorities of this country and Germany indicates that the German Olympic Committee has not abandoned the idea of holding the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1916. So far as can be judged from these letters it appears to be the plan of the German committee to stage the meet according to the original schedule but to restrict the entries to such nations as are or were on friendly terms with Germany at the time the communications were written. The attitude of the International Olympic Committee on this plan for restricted entries is not mentioned but it is doubtful if that body would sanction such a scheme.

That such a plan has been under consideration is shown in the following paragraphs from a letter written by Dr. Walter Eitner, secretary of the Berliner Sport Club to friends in the United States:

"Up to the beginning of December it was not possible to get a clear view of the conditions facing us. At that time we received two letters from Baron de Coubertin, of Paris. In the first one addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the President of the International Olympic Committee stated very loyally that, according to him, the present complications arising from the war would be no reason for not holding the games in Berlin. In the second letter to Carl Diem personally, the president of the French Sporting Associations assured the German Committee of his undiminished esteem, repeating his official communications, and expressed his desire that all German people with whom he has become acquainted and whom he held in high esteem should live through the hard times of the moment, so that, once the great struggle was over, the mutual work might be continued with the same vigor and success.

"Though we all applaud this noble sentiment, and agree with it to its fullest, we have our doubts as to its success. But for the reason we hope that the European war may not affect the pleasant understanding existing between our American sporting friends and ourselves, which was sealed by the negotiations carried on in the summer at Lyons and Paris, and we still surely expect to receive the visit of our American friends in Berlin in 1916."

### Base Ball

The records of the American League show that on March 1 there were 217 baseball players under contract with the eight clubs of the junior major organization. The Chicago White Sox roster is the largest for Comiskey's club was carrying on that date thirty-two players. Washington had the smallest number of players signified there being ten less than the Chicago list. The number of players under contract to each club follows:

Chicago, 32; Boston, 31; St. Louis, 30; Detroit, 28; Cleveland, 26; Philadelphia, 24; New York, 24; Washington, 22.

The Chicago club of the Federal League was also carrying the largest number of players of any club in the independent organization on the same date. The Chi-Feds had twenty-nine players enrolled, while Baltimore, with twenty players represented the other extreme. All told the eight clubs of the Federal League had 199 players under contract on the first of the month, the men being distributed as follows:

Chicago, 29; Brooklyn, 26; Pittsburg, 26; Newark, 23; St. Louis, 23; Indianapolis, 22; Buffalo, 21; Baltimore, 20.

### CHESS.

The European war has created havoc with the continental chess players and their schedules. Five hundred and eighty-four players, members of the German Chess Association, have been called to arms according to latest reports. Fifty-nine of these have been decorated with the Iron Cross, thirty-two killed and fifty-five wounded. The German master Spielmann was among

those called to arms, while engaged in a tourney at Vienna. The captain, when told that Spielmann was a famous chess player, assigned him to a fortress artillery regiment.

### FOOTBALL.

The question as to the value of spring football practice is up for debate again. Pennsylvania has declared against the practice and the Quaker eleven candidates will not figure in gridiron work until early in September. Other university coaches hold the opinion that spring practice is essential in these days of the highly developed football machine. Cornell, Harvard, Yale and Princeton will all have their candidates out late this month or early in April for a two or three weeks course in the rudimentary features of the gridiron game. John H. Rush, the new head coach at Princeton, in discussing the benefits and advantages of spring football training, said recently at a meeting of the Princeton squad:

"Coach Zurke told me that his team won the championship of the West last season entirely because of the work done in the spring. The team that is best prepared is the one that wins. I have heard that the spring practice here in the past has been a farce. Of course, I know there is a good deal of drudgery connected with it, but we hope this year to introduce more fun along with the serious work. It is essential to drill your men in the spring in the fundamentals. Each season before the more advanced practice taken up, the squad must have a thorough grounding in the rudiments of the game, in order that such things as holding the ball, tackling, etc., may be intuitive."

### CRICKET.

Reports from Australia indicate that cricket is losing its place as the premier sport of the Antipodes. Ten years ago cricket was the most popular outdoor game in the island continents. The pastime had among its votaries the best players in the world and thousands of followers. The test matches between All-Australia and All-England played successively in the larger cities of the Commonwealth were witnessed by throngs of enthusiasts of both sexes, and when in the alternate seasons All-Australia played in England the bulletin boards in the Commonwealth were scanned by crowds in the same manner as the world's baseball championship series is followed in the United States.

Within a decade a strange change has taken place. The Australian internationalists of note have retired from the game, but this is not by any means the sole cause of the "dry rot" which threatens the future of cricket in the Commonwealth. The main complaint is that the game needs more snap and brevity, such as featured in the baseball games which continue to grow in popularity. An evidence that this last is the chief cause of the decadence of the sport is found in the attendance which is growing meagre even at inter-state matches. The whole situation has so alarmed the cricketing authorities that measures of reform have been undertaken by the New South Wales Cricket Association, which, it is said, when promulgated will considerably change the game as now played and astonish cricketers not only in Australia but elsewhere.

### Athletes at War.

Reports from the battle fields of the European war indicate that the fighting is taking heavy tolls from among the athletic ranks of Great Britain and the continental nations. J. W. F. McNaught-Davis of Cambridge University Lightweight Interschool cham-

## BRITISH FOOTBALL RESULTS

London, Mar. 27.—The following are the scores in today's principal football matches in Great Britain:

### English Cup; Semi-Final Round

Everton 0, Chelsea 2.  
Bolton 1, Sheffield United 2.

### First League

Bradford 2, Middlesbrough 0.  
Manchester United 1, Tottenham 1.  
Oldham 1, Newcastle 0.  
Sheffield Wednesday 0, West Bromwich 0.

### Second Division

Woolwich Arsenal 0, Huddersfield 3.  
Clapton 2, Bristol 0.  
Derby 1, Grimsby 1.  
Fulham 1, Leicester 0.  
Glossop 1, Blackpool 3.  
Hull 0, Preston 1.  
Leeds 2, Bury 1.  
Lincoln 0, Birmingham 1.  
Stockport 1, Notts Forest 0.  
Wolverhampton 4, Barnsley 1.

### Southern League

Bristol 0, Cardiff 1.  
Millwall 2, Exeter 1.  
Queens Park 0, Luton 3.  
Reading 1, Gillingham 0.  
South End 0, Portsmouth 2.  
Swindon 3, Crystal Palace 2.  
Watford 3, Plymouth 0.  
Croydon 1, Brighton 0.  
Southampton 2, Norwich 2.  
Northampton 1, West Ham 1.

### Scottish League

Hearts 2, Clyde 0.  
Celtic 3, Raith Rovers 1.  
Rangers 1, Aberdeen 1.  
Queens 0, Morton 2.  
Ayr 2, Hamilton 0.  
Falkirk 0, Hibernians 0.  
Kilmarnock 2, Third Lanark 1.  
Motherwell 0, St. Mirren 2.

## LUSTIG WAS EASY FOR WELSH

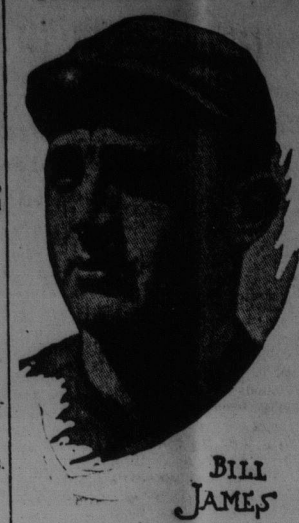
Montreal, March 28.—Freddie Welsh, the world's lightweight champion, made a show of Young Lustig, New York, in their ten round bout before the Canadian Athletic Club at the Solmer Park, Saturday night. Welsh was satisfied to outpoint his right-weight rival, without attempting to dispose of him by the knockout route. In order to have won, Lustig would have had to knock Welsh out, which against the remarkable defense of the English fighter, seemed practically out of the question.

Welsh, who is doing their training in the South, was served with divorce papers filed by his wife, Helen N. Donovan, at Reno, Nev. Mrs. Donovan recites in her petition that she was married to the Yankee manager at Windsor, Ontario county, N. Y., in March, 1905, but that for the last year her husband has neglected her and failed to contribute to her support.

### Aquatic.

Among the candidates trying for the place of coxswain in the Syracuse varsity eight oared shell this spring is Harry M. Au, a Chinese undergraduate who weighs 110 pounds. Au is the first native of China to try for a place upon a Syracuse Varsity team although a number of his countrymen have from time to time attended the university. If Au makes the position of coxswain he will be seen in the Intercollegiate regatta at Poughkeepsie on June 28.

## "BIG BILL" JAMES, WHO SURRENDERED TO BRAVES

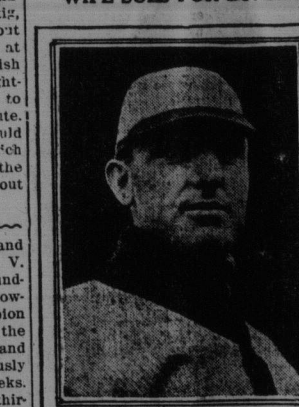


After receiving the cold shoulder from the Feds "Big Bill" James has reported to the Boston Braves. James several weeks ago declared that he would not return to the Braves unless he received a substantial increase in salary. But President Gaffney stood firm in view of the fact that James was bound to him by a legal contract. Gaffney also warned the Feds to refrain from negotiating with the noted twirler, so that the latter soon found himself backing a stone wall. Now that James has returned the incident has closed, but Boston fans will not forget the player's willingness to turn his back on them.

### FIGHT CANADIAN TRACKS.

New York, March 27.—In order to attract the best class of thoroughbreds and prevent their shipment to the Canadian tracks for the spring meetings the Westchester Association (Belmont Park track) will offer overnight races, worth from \$500 to \$700 each, the latter amount for handicaps, during the meeting which will open at that course on May 20. The races for the first few days will have \$400 and \$500 added to them and some of the handicaps \$600, but after the first few days the \$500 and \$700 rate will prevail. If the gate receipts should warrant improvement in the money value this will be made as the meeting progresses.

## "WILD BILL" DONOVAN'S WIFE SUES FOR DIVORCE.



"Bill" Donovan, manager of the New York Yankees, who are doing their training in the South, was served with divorce papers filed by his wife, Helen N. Donovan, at Reno, Nev. Mrs. Donovan recites in her petition that she was married to the Yankee manager at Windsor, Ontario county, N. Y., in March, 1905, but that for the last year her husband has neglected her and failed to contribute to her support.

Donovan acknowledged that he has not lived with his wife for several months.

## TY COBB IS FUSSY AT PLATE

Batters have their peculiar notions about taking their position at bat, and most of them have some little oddities they indulge in just before stepping into the batsman's box. A few really believe that by going through a certain set of motions and ridiculous dicos it will bring good luck. Others do it for effect, a grandstand play, or for their own amusement.

However, the great batsmen of the game, with few exceptions rarely indulge in any of this fancy stuff either before or after getting to the plate. Sam Crawford, Jajoie, "Honus" Wagner, "Home Run" Baker and a few others of our famous batsmen have a very businesslike air about them when taking their positions at the plate. The fact that they are there is sufficient to worry any pitcher.

A chap by the name of Lewee, who used to play with Buffalo when Dan Shannon was manager of the Bisons, had a stunt he always pulled off before hitting at a ball that reminded through his mysterious incantations of invoking aid from the father of the great waters. Just before his turn came to face the pitcher, Lewee would take his cap in his left hand, then swinging it slowly around, would face the sun—that is, if it were visible—then walk slowly to the plate, stop on it with both feet, carefully turn around twice, step back and hit the ball—that is, if he did not strike out.

"Ty" Cobb makes a great fuss before going to the plate, and generally creates a great fuss after reaching it. "Ty" has some stunts that are annoying to the pitcher that he pulls off in between balls and strikes, which over the case might be. He will pose as if ready for the onslaught, then suddenly stoop down and grab a handful of dirt just as the pitcher is about to pitch. "Ty" does not seem to worry whether the ball goes over the plate or not, Cobb takes a strike about as weekly as any man.

## HEAVY-WEIGHTS FIGHT

New York, Mar. 27.—Tom McCarty, Montana heavyweight, outought Battling Levinsky of this city in a ten round bout in Brooklyn last night. McCarty was the aggressor throughout. At another club Jim Coffey, the Dublin giant, knocked out Soldier Delaney of Brooklyn in the second round of a ten round match.

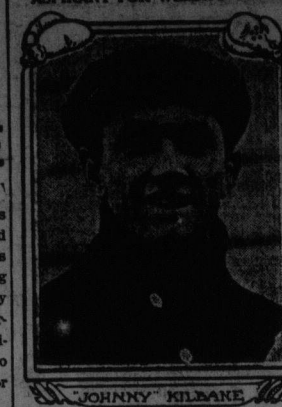
A right to the jaw ended the contest after Coffey had scored a knockdown in each round. Coffey weighed 200 and Delaney 204.

### WILL TAKE MEDICINE.

Chicago, March 27.—Jack Johnson is tired of expatriation, and hopes to return to his home in Chicago, where he is under conviction of violating the Mann Act, according to a letter received by his mother yesterday. "I am getting tired of knocking around," Johnson's letter read. "As soon as I have whipped Willard I will come back to Chicago and take my medicine, as the government has fixed it up for me."

United States District Attorney Clyne laughed when the letter was quoted to him and said: "I guess Johnson wants to come back bad enough. For the last month there have been more lawyers here to see me on his behalf than Jack Johnson will be able to pay in years. He is hiring more lawyers than any man in Chicago."

### ASPIRANT FOR WELSH'S TITLE.



"Freddie" Welsh now has another aspirant for the lightweight title camping on his trail, the same being "Johnny" Kilbane, who recently delivered such an artistic lacing to "Kid" Williams in Philadelphia. Kilbane made the critics sit up and take notice in that encounter by his hard punching, and there are now many persons who believe he would have an exceptionally good chance to defeat Welsh by a knockout, despite the difference of ten or twelve pounds in their respective weights.

### POWER BOAT RACE TO BERMUDA

New York, Mar. 22.—There is possibility of a motor boat race from this city to Bermuda this spring. At an informal meeting yesterday it was agreed that a race would start from off the Crescent Athletic Club's Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, house at three o'clock Saturday, May 22.

The present craft, which are to start in the race, are: Cruisette, 32 feet long, with an 18-horsepower Lamb motor, to be in command of Captain Thomas Fleming Day, and owned by Irwin Chase, and Cero, a 40-foot craft designed and now being built by the Luders Marine Construction Company of Stamford, Conn., for W. P. Frost. This craft is to be equipped with an 18-20-horsepower Mianus motor.

It was decided that the 1914 A. P. B. A. rules, with the added conditions regarding revolutions, govern the ratings on half time allowance and that, so far as possible, craft between thirty and forty-five feet over all take part. Possible entries, other than the two already mentioned, are S. P. Cochran's Eromel, W. T. Wheeler's Tec, Dream, no wowned on Great South Bay, and one or two others regarding which there is considerable secrecy, though it is believed one of them will hail from Philadelphia.

### PURPLE CROSS PRESIDENT.

Lord Buchan, as president of the Purple Cross Society for the Care of Sick and Wounded Army Horses, has lately come into the limelight. A few days ago a branch of this society was organized in Montreal. Lord Buchan is the smallest and most member of the British peerage. On account of his diminutive size, his good looks and care he attaches to his dress, he is known as "The Pocket Adm." The family title goes back to 1469, when the second son of the Queen Dowager of Scotland was created Earl of Buchan.

### UNABLE TO MAKE TRIP.

Stockholm, March 27, via London.—The proposed expedition of Swedish sportsmen to the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco in August of this year has been cancelled. Some of the most prominent Swedish sportsmen who had planned to make the trip will be prevented by the mobilization regulations.

### EASTER HOLIDAY

### EXCURSION FARES.

Canadian Government Railways. Round trip tickets will be issued at single first class one way fare, going April 1 and 2, returning April 2, 1915, and for fare and one third ticket will be good going April 1, 2, 3, 4, returning April 6, 1915.

## A GREAT BASEBALL LEADER

New York, Mar. 27.—Joseph P. Tinker is a Federal League first, last and all the time. From a player's standpoint, Tinker made the outlay league a reality. But Joe Tinker is first of all a man in every sense of the word, and in speaking of his former associates in organized ball, he never stoops to the petty knocking that a few of the men in the Federal League are at times guilty of.

Joe recently got talking of the great managers of the game. Tinker, of course, was Chance's Lieutenant in the palmy days of Frank's Cub regime and spoke glowingly of the former mentor. However, to everyone's surprise, the Chilled leader waxed the most enthusiastic over none other than John J. McGraw.

"All things considered," said Tinker, "I regard McGraw as the greatest of baseball managers. He has done more with inferior material than any man in baseball."

"He went to New York when that city was the joke of the National League and made it the strongest link in the circuit. He did it by winning five pennants with second-rate ball players."

"I like a man who fights the hardest when the odds are all against him. That is McGraw. He is always confident, ready to take a chance on anything, and go through with it to a finish."

"Look what he did with Merkle. He made him a very valuable ball player when naturally Fred was one of the worst that ever came up to the big show. He has done the same thing with countless other men."

"I figure him fifty per cent. better than the average big league leader, and even a shade beyond the great Connie Mack. He has no weakness as a manager."

"The trouble with a lot of people in New York, who do not appreciate Mack, is that they are too close to him to get the right viewpoint. I have played against him for years and know just what he is capable of accomplishing."

"Of course there have been a number of great managers in baseball and their rank is purely a matter of opinion. Personally, I rank McGraw as the top. Others may think differently, but no one can dispute his greatness and value to the game."

"He has accomplished things. That, after all, is the only test of greatness. Not what you might have done, could have done, or may do, but what you have done. McGraw's record is baseball history. In the face of his achievements, all arguments as to his ability must cease."

### A NEWSPAPER GUY.

I see a man pushing his way through lines Where the work of the terrible fire friend shines, Chief Blake, I inquire, and someone replies, Chief nothin', just one of them newspaper guys.

I see a man go on the trail of a crook, While he scorns the police and brings him to book, Sherlock Holmes, I exclaim, and Chief Simpson sighs, You're wrong kid, he's one of them newspaper guys.

And one night I walked by the depot of a show, Where great throngs were blocked by the sign S. R. O. A star, I remark, and Manager McKay replies, Star nothin', just one of those newspaper guys.

And some day I'll walk to the great gates of gold, And see a man pass through unnoted and bold. A saint, and St. Peter will surely reply, He carries a pass, he's a newspaper guy.

## Bringing Up Father



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## NEW YORK

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