

# THE STANDARD'S PAGE OF SPORTS

## SOME DOPE ON THE BIG SCRAPPERS

(By Bill Curtis.)

As a rock tossed into a placid pond sends ever increasing circles, telling of the splash, to the uttermost shores, so the announcement that Al Kaufman has signed a two years' contract with Barney Goary was dashed into the quick waters of heavyweight pugilism and the word went spreading to the outmost circles of fight fandom. Only it wasn't such a great splash after all.

There has been so much of this signing contracts calling for enormous sums of money by pugilists with the athletic men that they fall to arouse the interest they once felt in the sport. Kaufman has leased for 24 months next ensuing for the sum of \$50,000.

Money is a loud talker, especially when it is of the stage variety. We do not wish to indicate any doubt concerning the sum that Kaufman is to receive, but we merely wish to make it emphatic that if he is to receive a two years' contract we are greatly surprised. That's all.

How can Al be supposed to earn this money? The way is clear enough. Not by fighting but by being transported about the country in company with a truckload of theatrical trunks and a burlesque show, being widely advertised as the greatest "white hopes" and the man who will fight Jack Johnson and wrest from the colored race the title.

The time has passed apparently, when a heavyweight fighter gets into the ring and fights his way to the top. Nowadays he proceeds in his attempt to get a match with the champion much as a corporation goes to work to put a bill through the state legislature—only he has to do more lobbying.

Kaufman is the best white heavyweight right now. It is true, but in a year from now this may not necessarily be the case. There are several bunches of rough heavyweights who are working their way towards recognition, who give promise of developing into something worth while if they stick the fighting game and don't go money mad and want to start upon a theatrical career.

If Kaufman were to fight Johnson at once we should be ready to cheer him, but when his plans seem to contemplate a complete retirement from the ring in favor of the show business we fail to see where any applause is due. He might much better go after these minor heavyweights and clean them up as preliminary steps to a match with Johnson. It is difficult to see how the stage is going to help him any.

There is just one thing that will drive Johnson back into the ring in a hurry, in my opinion—that is the loss of his money. This seems unlikely to happen for Johnson is a capable hand at business, and should be separated in some way from the big chunk of kale which he has salted away. He would be ready to take on any kind of a match with anybody under any kind of conditions that were anywhere near reasonable, I believe.

## WILL LEAD AMERICAN LEAGUE BATTERS, SAYS JOE JACKSON



JOE JACKSON

Should Edward Payson Weston accept the bet which William Gentleman has issued, there will be seen the extraordinary event of a walking match between two septuagenarians. Weston recently celebrated his seventy-third birthday, while Gentleman admitted seventy-one years on the twenty-seventh day of last December. William Gentleman, whose present home is in Montreal, where he has been, and yet is a notable figure, during a career of years, has performed some remarkable feats both at heel-and-toe and go-as-you-please styles of walking, winning the championship of England by covering 526 miles in six days at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, between October 28 and November 2, 1878.

In that event Weston, a competitor in a field of twenty-six, finished nowhere. The second man, "Blower" Brown, was twenty-two miles behind Gentleman, and the third man, "Charley" Howe, was sixty miles behind the winner.

On one other occasion did Gentleman and Weston meet and that was some months after the former had won his championship medal and belt. It was again in a six days go-as-you-please event, which took place in the same hall, but this time Brown won the event, although to this day Gentleman solemnly asserts that he was "huddled" out of the race. George Hazel was second, Gentleman came third, while Weston was a poor fourth.

In the first race when Weston was out of it after covering 300 miles, he turned to and helped Gentleman and the latter today gratefully remembers the American walker for that kind deed.

"I would like to walk Weston any time from an hour to twenty-four," said Gentleman today, "but I don't want to walk on a road. I want to walk on a track, where people can see what you are doing."

Gentleman is today a well known figure as he swings along Montreal's streets. Street cars have no attraction for the diminutive Englishman. He wants to use his limbs and he does. He is employed at McGill University as a rubber and an athletic attendant and none of the younger men can give a better massage than this sturdy man who has passed the three score and ten of the Psalmist. He jogs about seventy miles each week just to keep himself in trim and he thinks he can reel off seven and a half miles an hour as a test.

"Gentleman is about five foot nothing in height, but his spindly legs will beat off many a younger and bigger man."

## IS ANXIOUS FOR A RACE WITH WESTON

The Blacks Alleys team, with the small majority of one pin, defeated the St. Croix team of Calais, Me., last night in the Balke Callender championship and once more the big silver pin remains in John's hands.

Never in bowling history was there such an exciting finish to a tournament.

When the regular number of games had finished at eleven o'clock last night, Blacks and the St. Croix were tied, having each won five and lost one. The St. Croix men were in the lead when the teams played off for the championship. There was a large crowd of spectators present and good plays were cheered to the echo. At the finish of the first string, Blacks had a lead of 46 pins. When the second string was finished the St. Croix teams had 51 pins of a lead on the string, and five pins lead on the two strings. The excitement was intense as the pins were bowled down. At one o'clock the Blacks were in the lead and then St. Croix would lead. Searing the finish McKean for St. John, and Moore for Calais, each made a spare.

The Calais man made 18 on his spare while McKean made 19 and the one extra pin was a winner. When the last ball had been rolled it was thought the teams were again tied, but an error in the totaling of the last string showed that Blacks should have an extra score and the game finished Blacks 1313; St. Croix 1312.

The St. Croix men are excellent bowlers and worked gamely to capture the championship.

The deciding game for the championship shows the following individual scores:

Blacks.	
Olive	77 78 81 236-78 2-3
Lunney	88 85 92 266-88 2-3
Black	77 86 109 272-80 2-3
Wilson	87 83 86 266-88 2-3
McKean	98 79 96 273-91
437 411 465 1313	
St. Croix.	
Murphy	89 88 95 272-90 2-3
Trumble	81 97 103 281-83 2-3
Bates	70 81 90 241-80 1-3
Rutherford	73 81 74 228-76
Moore	78 115 97 290-96 2-3
391 462 459 1312	
Chatham.	
E. Bernard	102 74 100 276-92
MacEachern	97 97 97 291-97
Snowball	86 95 93 274-91 1-3
Mann	86 95 84 265-88 1-3
G. Bernard	69 88 87 244-81 1-3
440 449 461 1350	

## VERY EXCITING FINISH TO THE BOWLING TOURNAMENT; BLACK'S WON OUT BY 1 PIN

The following is the standing of the teams in the tournament:

Won Lost	
Blacks	5 2
St. Croix	5 2
Y. M. C. A.	3 3
Marathons	3 3
Chatham	3 3
Woodstock	1 5
Browns	0 6

H. C. Olive, of the Blacks team, won the prize for having the highest average in the tournament, and Carson, of the Browns, won the prize for having the highest single string, making 121.

The Trophy History.

It was on Jan. 21st and 22nd, 1908 that the Blacks' game was played. They were contested on Black's alleys, and St. Croix won the silver pin.

The second tournament was at Calais Mar. 24th and 25th, 1908, when Blacks team won.

On Nov. 12th and 13th, 1909, Blacks alleys, Blacks were again victorious.

April 28th, 1909, Blacks again won. On Nov. 17th and 19th, 1910, on the Victoria alleys, the Victorias won.

Oct. 18th, 1910, on Victoria alleys, Blacks won.

Mar. 28th, 29th and 30th, 1911, Blacks again captured the championship.

## CHANGES IN WOODSTOCK RACE TRACK

A syndicate is being formed at Woodstock to take over and conduct the race track at that place and put on race meetings this season in conjunction with the Maritime circuit.

James W. Gallagher and some others are interested in the scheme and at Woodstock this week some of those interested said that they expected their plans would work out successfully.

On the other hand it is said that C. W. Dugan is interested in getting a lease of the track and conducting it this summer as a private enterprise.

The lease which Gallagher Bros. had of the track expired last year and it is definitely stated that that enterprising firm who conducted so successful racing at Woodstock for so many years will not get back in the game at the present time at least.

## BIG HOCKEY SCHEME FOR THE PACIFIC

Montreal, Mar. 29.—Mr. Lester Patrick, the great hockey player, who has hosts of friends in Montreal, is here on a visit which is part of his honeymoon trip.

He just returned from Boston on his way back to British Columbia and what time he can spare. From showing Mrs. Patrick to him familiar sights of Montreal is given to discussing hockey with his friends.

Creates Hockey League.

He unveiled to them the scheme of his new project for the Pacific Coast Hockey League, which he is creating. There are to be rinks in Victoria, Calgary, Vancouver and Edmonton, and these are to cost a hundred and ninety thousand dollars each, and two will be provided with artificial plants which will cost thirty thousand each.

The Managers.

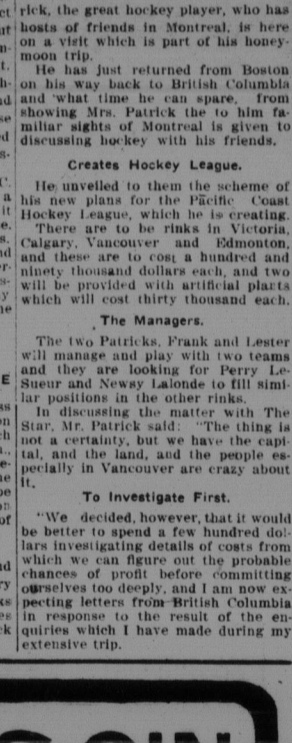
The two Patricks, Frank and Lester will manage and play with two teams and they are looking for Perry LeSueur and Newey Lalonde to fill similar positions in the other rinks.

In discussing the matter with the Star, Mr. Patrick said: "The thing is not a certainty, but we have the capital, and the land, and the people especially in Vancouver are crazy about it."

To Investigate First.

"We decided, however, that it would be better to spend a few hundred dollars investigating details of costs from which we can figure out the probable chances of profit before committing ourselves too deeply, and I am now expecting letters from British Columbia in response to the result of the enquiries which I have made during my extensive trip."

## JOHNNY KLING TALKS



JOHNNY KLING

Although John Kling, the Cub's famous catcher, did not play up to his best form in the world's series last fall, he still receives credit for knowing all of the fine points behind the bat. Kling was asked the other day to give a talk on the scientific methods employed in baseball, and this is what he said:

"When I was pitcher in semi-professional teams around Kansas City I lost many games by trying to do too much, by throwing too often and by wearing myself out by wasted efforts. I was a failure as a ball player in several towns before experience taught me that one play at the right instant is worth 10 at any other time. It was the old stitch-in-time-to-save-nine idea, but it did more for me than anything else to win games and to bring me up in the profession.

"When I began catching one of the first things I learned was that the catcher can break up a team quicker than anyone else can. He need not even make an error to do it. One of the easiest ways to lose a game is for the catcher to throw too much. He may throw perfectly, and yet be keeping the infield moving in and out of position, expecting his throws and standing him instead of watching the batter, he may cause the game to be lost.

"My idea has been to make plays when they count and not to use too many signals. The infielders have a lot to watch, and if the catcher keeps them watching him all the time he takes their minds off their other duties and causes them to make blunders.

"First and foremost in importance in winning is that the catcher never shall make or attempt to make any play, especially a throw, unless absolutely certain that the other men in the play have caught the signal, understand what is to be attempted and are prepared to make the play with him.

"There comes a time in almost every ball game when the opposing team has a good chance to win by scoring a lot of runs in a bunch. The inning in which that happens is the one in which the catcher ought to pull off his play. In such a situation when a team is having a batting rally it is twice as easy for a catcher to catch men off bases by fast throws as it is at any other stage of the contest.

"The team that is rallying and sees victory almost in hand always is excited, and the base runners take more liberties, longer leads and lose their heads quicker than at any other time. Excitement robs them of their natural caution and the catcher who keeps cool and keeps thinking can catch runners off their bases frequently, and perhaps break up a winning rally and save the game.

"The Cubs have done that many times, and it helped them win pin games. I am not claiming I won those games. Confidence in each other is one of the big elements in winning."

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