

## STRAIGHT NEWS AND SIDE SLANTS ON SPORT

## ARE GIBBONS AND DILLON FRAMING COMING BATTLE?

Charges That Middleweight Match Is To Be Faked Is Made Public in Chicago—Should Be Investigated—Feud Is Blamed.

Ugly charges of an alleged secret agreement between Mike Gibbons and Jack Dillon, whereby there will be absolutely no chance of a knockout in their forthcoming ten-round encounter at the Twin Cities next month, have been so widely circulated recently that it seems imperative a thorough investigation of the matter should be made. The charges affect the integrity not only of the boxers, but the promoters as well, and as the latter will assume a stiff financial burden by the promotion of this match, it is to their interest that the probe be far-reaching and above-board. Failure to do so will leave the match open to suspicion.

If proof can be found that Dillon and Gibbons are planning to give what will be in effect merely an exhibition, then the affair should be shown up in its true light so that the fans will be protected. They are the ones who will be called upon to pay the piper for the proposed ten-round dance.

Criticism of the approaching contest comes from a well-known sporting writer in Chicago, who claims to have heard of a secret agreement between the boxers. If the scrum in question has any evidence to support his charges, then in justice to all parties concerned he should be asked to make a public exposure of his source of information. If he is unable to furnish evidence, then the motive that has influenced him in bringing the charges should be stripped bare.

It is claimed by some persons who profess to know that the present controversy is the result of a feud now being waged between Chicago sporting editors and certain men who have been prominent in managerial roles for well-known fighters. Evidence to support this theory was published recently when the story was published that Charley White and Nate Lewis were on the verge of a split because of White's dissatisfaction with the arrangement for his title contest with Freddie Welsh on Labor Day.

In reply thereto, the sporting writer who has brought the present charges against the Dillon-Gibbons match, stated in his paper that the attack on Lewis was inspired by envy on the part of certain men who wished to assume charge of White's ring affairs, and thereby fatten their purses, by the rich revenues which would come therefrom.

The effort to bring about a break between White and Lewis is not likely to prove successful, however, as White, in a public letter to the press the other day declared his absolute faith in Lewis and his intention to stick fast to the man who has been his counsellor and friend ever since.

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## SOLDIER RUGBY BOYS PRACTICING ALREADY

149th Battalion Has Forty Men Out Monday.

KEEN INTEREST TAKEN

"Punk" Pollard, a Former Petrolia Star, Will Handle the Lambton Team.

The 149th Battalion (Lambton's Own) is not one to let the grass grow under its feet. The boys no sooner decided to form a rugby football team than one of their number was dispatched hot-foot for a rugby ball, and in consequence a fourteen that will do honor to the battalion has already been out to practice.

Forty Members Out. Monday morning 40 members of the pride of Lambton were on the job, and, under the leadership of "Punk" Pollard, former captain of the Petrolia Dominion champions, were put through a two hours' practice. A lot of good material was uncovered, and Sgt. Pollard is tickled to death with his team's prospects. It will take a good team to trim these soldier boys.

Officers Elected. At an enthusiastic meeting held after practice the club was formed and the following officers were elected: Honorary president, Major W. W. McVicar, O. C. 149th; president, Capt. G. G. Moncrieff; vice-president, Capt. W. A. Wykesmith; manager, Capt. J. Dunfield; secretary-treasurer, Capt. (Rev.) J. M. McGilvray; executive committee, Major Stewart, Sgt. E. E. Pollard and Pte. N. A. MacColl. Lieut. Knowles stated that an intermediate district in the O. R. F. U., including the 149th, Western University and Sarnia, was practically assured, and that two games a week would have to be played to insure the finishing of the series.

Two Hours' Practice. The commanding officer will be asked to allow the boys to practice during the two hours that are usually devoted to physical training. This will mean that the soldier team will develop rapidly into shape and be fit to give battle to the best of them. The men will be asked to grant \$100 from the canteen fund to defray expenses and to buy the necessary requisites for the team. Uniforms will be purchased immediately.

Colors Red and White. After a great deal of argument it was decided that the old battalion colors, red and white, would be the ones that they would play under. The Sarnia representatives wanted the Sarnia blue and white, while the boys from the hard-fought district were insistent that the Petrolia colors of green and white, which have carried many a hard-fought team to victory, were the ones that should fly for the battalion. The red and white colors were offered as a compromise.

There is keen rivalry between the 149th and the 148th, and the games pulled off between the warriors promise to be fast and furious.

SARNIA BALL LEAGUE GIVES TO RED CROSS

SARNIA, Oct. 23.—The executive of the Sarnia City Baseball League has donated \$75 to the local British Red Cross fund. This sum is part of the surplus which has accumulated during the past two seasons, and which was to have been expended in putting the grounds in shape for the next season, but the executive fully realized the need of ample funds to carry on this great work of caring for the wounded, and unanimously decided to vote this sum for that cause. Although the Imperial ball team were the leaders when the season closed, the trophies have not yet been awarded, but a meeting will be held in the near future, when the league affairs for the past season will be wound up.

BOYS' GYMNASIUM CLASS COMMENCES AT Y.M.C.A.

The boys' gymnasium class at the Y. M. C. A. commences this week. It is expected that there will be about two hundred members on the opening date. Because of this an additional night has been secured for the boys.

The swimming pool will also be exclusively for the juniors on one night of the week and neither seniors or soldiers will be admitted. F. H. Gopin, C. J. Markle and J. B. Ferguson will assist A. T. Taylor in the direction of the work this season.

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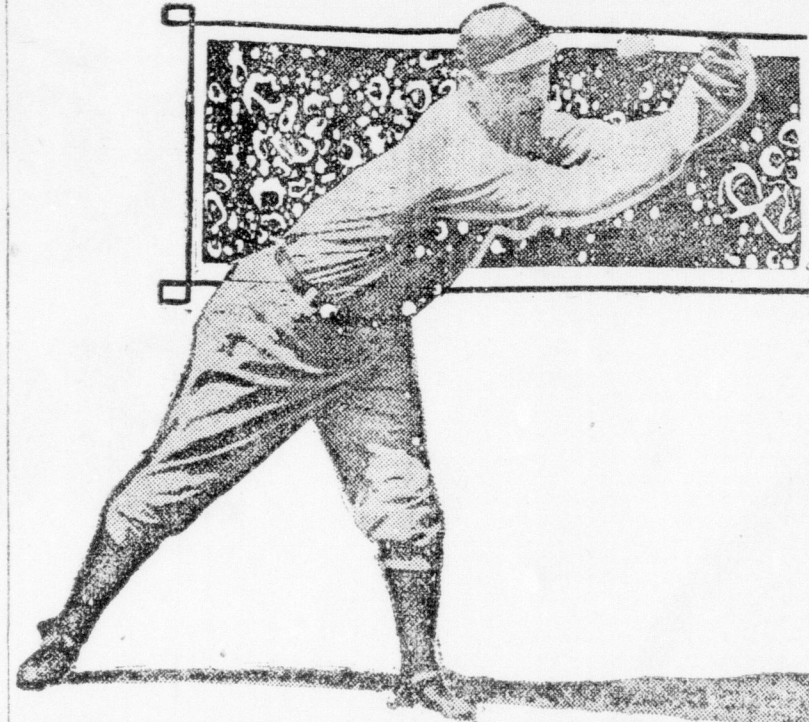
NEW YORK AND DETROIT TO PLAY SPRING GAMES

New York, Oct. 24.—Something new in exhibition tours was announced today by the management of the New York National League baseball club. After the close of their spring training season in the South, the New York and Detroit clubs will travel through several southern cities for a week or more, playing a game each day.

They will start at Tampa, Fla., on April 1, and will travel in a special train. Manager McGraw of New York said that he regarded such a tour as a battle practice for both clubs when playing minor league teams in the South.

PITCHER FOR CONNIE MACK, Milwaukee, Oct. 23.—Conrad Field, a student at the University of Wisconsin, has been signed by Connie Mack, manager of the Philadelphia Athletics.

## Lieut. Bill O'Hara, Who Is Gaining Fame on the Somme Front



## Bill O'Hara Recommended For the Military Cross

Former Toronto Outfielder Is Star Hurler of Bombs on the Somme Battlefield—In His Element as He Tosses Out the Germans.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—The Associated Press sends out the following under a Boston date:

"Bill O'Hara, once a star left fielder of the Toronto International League baseball team, and a former scout for the New York National League club, has been recommended the Military Cross in recognition of his bravery and skill in hurling bombs for the British army on the Somme battle front, according to advices received here today.

"When O'Hara played in the International League he was noted for his strong and accurate throwing. Baseballers here say it was a common occurrence for him to head off a too daring base-runner at the plate by a long, quick throw from the outfield. O'Hara, a lieutenant in a Canadian regiment at the front, is now hurling deadly bombs instead of baseballs. According to word from Toronto, the practice he had in baseball has stood him in good stead while heading a bombing squad."

Two Games a Week. "We will have to play two games a week to get through the schedule, but it can be accomplished before the snow flies," said Dr. Neville. "Our boys learned a lot in the Guelph game, and will be a much stiffer proposition for any team from now on. We have several new recruits, who will make the others hustle to hold their places on the team."

The local collegiate fourteen practiced against the Western, and showed great improvement over their past efforts. Tommy McDougall has a tidy squad, that should show all to the mercy against Sarnia and some of the other Western Ontario colleges.

SARNIA TEAM ANXIOUS TO TAKE ON PETROLEA

[Special to The Advertiser.] SARNIA, Oct. 23.—Following their victory over Strathroy on Saturday, the Sarnia Collegiate Rugby team is anxiously awaiting the game with Petrolia, to be played in this city on Wednesday afternoon. They hope to hand the Oil Town boys a thrashing.

The first game between these two teams resulted in a tie, 6 all, but having practiced faithfully since that date, and their victory over Strathroy makes them feel confident of victory over the Oil Town aggregation.

HENRI ST. YVES ENLISTS. Henri St. Yves, the well-known French Marathon runner, who four or five years ago won the distance relay race, is on his way to join the French army. He sailed from New York a short time ago.

President David L. Fultz stated here today that the fraternity cannot recognize the right of organized baseball to fine its members for such an alleged offense, and further pointed out that the players were acting well within their legal rights in taking part in such games. President Fultz's statement follows:

Within Their Rights. The fraternity cannot recognize the right of organized baseball to the players for taking part in games after the season is over and after their contracts have expired. The players have, of course, no right to represent any club without the consent of its owner, but as long as they trade upon their own personal reputations, they are clearly within their rights.

"If the national commission thinks the alleged offence of such importance and that the act would be a wise and dignified one, they have every right to withhold the word series entirely from the Red Sox, but as far as timing them is concerned, that is an entirely different matter."

Tener's View. President Tener of the National League takes issue with Fultz. Mr. Tener said that in each contract signed by the player there is a clause in which the player agrees not to play after the season without consent of the commission. This clause was inserted, he said, to protect territorial rights of the different clubs.

The National League president declared that the commission has power to fine players for any such infraction of the rules, but would not say that such fines have been levied against the Boston American players for participating in a game against New Haven a few days after winning the world series. He asserted that the New York Nationals and Philadelphia Athletics and several other individual players also had violated their contracts in this respect, and added "there undoubtedly will be a general disciplining."

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## WESTERN GETTING TEAM INTO SHAPE

Art Smith's Pigskin Chasers on Deck at Tecumseh Park.

NEW MEN TRIED OUT

Anxious to Play Against Soldiers in O. R. F. U., But Prefer City League.

All but two of the Western University rugby squad were on deck at Tecumseh Park yesterday afternoon. The boys went at the practice with grim determination, and Coach Arthur Smith was happy last night.

"We will sure bring a surprise on those Guelph Aggies next time we meet," said Art, "and it will probably be a big one."

New Men Out. Several new men were tried out, and a big husky youth by the name of Colvin, taking his first year in medicine, promises to develop into a real man. Colvin was tried out at right scrimmage and proved literally a huge success.

McLarty was moved back to quarter, and although green on the job proved that he has the makings of a good quarter-back. This shift enables Art Smith to go back to his old position on the back division. Art was the star half-back of the junior O. R. F. U. London champions in 1912, and it is a cinch that he has improved a whole lot since those days.

Art being on the back division will make the London team a formidable aggregation in the next game. "Erick's" and Kingswood absent.

There is a chance that Brickenhead will be tried out at flying wing in the next game. "Bricks" and Kingswood were missed at yesterday's workout both on the crippled list for the time being after the Guelph game.

Dr. Neville, who is one of the main springs in Western athletics, expressed himself last night as being perfectly willing to enter the Western team in the proposed O. R. F. U. district with the soldier teams, although he preferred a three-cornered city league.

Two Games a Week. "We will have to play two games a week to get through the schedule, but it can be accomplished before the snow flies," said Dr. Neville. "Our boys learned a lot in the Guelph game, and will be a much stiffer proposition for any team from now on. We have several new recruits, who will make the others hustle to hold their places on the team."

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## NO HOCKEY FOR VICTORIA

Victoria, B. C., has been dropped from the Pacific Coast Hockey League. The season will open December 1 with Seattle, Vancouver, Portland and Spokane holding franchises. Twelve games instead of nine will be played this year.

EVERYTHING READY FOR BIG PUBLIC SCHOOL MEET

School Boy Athletes Preparing for Field Day on Friday Afternoon.

All is in readiness for the big public school field day to be held in Tecumseh Park Friday afternoon. It is estimated that over 450 youthful athletes will take part in the afternoon's sports, and keen rivalry exists between the various schools, especially in the relay events. It is a common occurrence to see small boys puffing round and round the schoolyard determined that all the honors will come to their school. There are 25 events on the program.

Interest Among Girls. The girls, too, are taking great interest in their events, and promise some hair-raising finishes in the dashes. The Pottersburg girls defeated the Rectory street school last night in a basketball game, 13-1, while the Empress avenue school girls won from Leona avenue school, 10-5. The Pottersburg team will meet Empress avenue for the championship on field day. In basketball the girls from Alexandra school will endeavor to beat the Chesley young ladies for the championship of the schools.

"LITTLE BOB" JONES WINS FROM THE ONLY "CHICK"

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 23.—"Little Bob" Jones, the youth who made such a fine showing in the national amateur championship, today is being congratulated on his victory yesterday over "Chick" Evans, of Chicago, national champion, whom he defeated 2 up and 1 to play on both 18-hole courses.

YOUTH WILL BE SERVED. Philadelphia, Oct. 23.—George Chalmers, George McQuillan and "Chief" Bender, veteran pitchers of the local National League baseball club, will be released next season, according to a statement made by Manager Pat Moran. They will be replaced by younger players.

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## OWNER OF OTTAWA CLUB AGAINST LARGE SALARIES

Capital City Hockey Players Will Have Salaries Cut This Winter.

OTTAWA, Oct. 23.—Mr. Ted Dey, the new owner of the Ottawa Hockey Club franchise, has returned to the capital after a hunting trip in the north. Mr. Dey was busy on Saturday with hockey affairs, and will probably have something of interest to announce in a day or two. He will go down to Montreal next Saturday to represent the Ottawa club at the annual meeting of the National Hockey Association. The president will then be elected and all preparations made for the opening of the season.

"Intended to see the players and get our team rounded up as soon as possible," commented Mr. Dey. "We intend to be fair with the boys, for they have always given us their best, but they should and must realize that they cannot expect the salaries paid in other seasons. There would not have been any professional hockey in Ottawa this winter had the club not changed hands temporarily. It is a big chance, but I am willing to assist. Otherwise the franchise will be suspended."

At next Saturday's meeting Mr. Dey will discuss with Owner Livingstone of the Toronto the possibility of trading Sammy Hebert for Cy Deneny. There is no chance of Clint Benedict being disposed of. He is the last man in the squad whom the Ottawas would think of letting go. "Benny" states that he would like to go to the coast, if anywhere outside the capital, but there is no likelihood of his being let go.

Interest Among Girls. The girls, too, are taking great interest in their events, and promise some hair-raising finishes in the dashes. The Pottersburg girls defeated the Rectory street school last night in a basketball game, 13-1, while the Empress avenue school girls won from Leona avenue school, 10-5. The Pottersburg team will meet Empress avenue for the championship on field day. In basketball the girls from Alexandra school will endeavor to beat the Chesley young ladies for the championship of the schools.

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