

Late Gossip Of The Sporting World At Home And Abroad

WISEACRES BET BOSTON BRAVES WILL NOT REPEAT

New York, Mar. 1.—A bet of \$500 to \$100 was made down in Wall street the other day that the Braves wouldn't win the 1915 fixture. That wager seems to express pretty generally the opinion of the betting public concerning the Braves' chances during the coming season.

The Braves played the most wonderful baseball over a stretch of ten weeks that has ever been played in the history. They beat a team in the world series that was considered to be the greatest ever welded together. And they beat that outfit in record time. And yet, despite that great showing, despite the fact that the Braves have been strengthened considerably, only the stoutest hearted Boston fans are predicting another pennant for the Braves.

The so-called "wise men" of baseball think that the Braves will not repeat simply because lightning isn't supposed to strike twice in the same place and that accidents rarely happen twice in the same way.

The Braves' victory in 1914 was of a miracle of nature, one of the "wise ones" tells us. "You can't expect too many miracles in this day and age. Of course I don't say that the Braves haven't a chance to repeat in 1915. They may win. All things are possible. But I don't think they will win."

"Why?" we asked.

"Well, their 1914 success was due to a certain extent to great ball playing and it was also due to luck. They got nearly every break in the games between mid-July and the close of the season. Time and again they seemed to be hopelessly beaten in games, yet they won out, either through some hit made at a timely moment by a man,

who never before hit a ball in a pinch, or by some error made by an opposing player who averaged about one error in twenty games.

Look over the 1914 record of the Braves—that is from mid-July to the end of the season—and you will see that they won a large bulk of their games by one run. Time and time again they were returned victors in 1 to 2 or 3 to 1 games. That was when their pitchers were going good. In the early part of the season the Braves' pitchers were working in wonderful fashion and their batters weren't hitting. Later on when the pitchers slumped the batters got busy and won the games with their clubs.

That's luck. You can't tell me it is anything else. The Boston batters tried as hard to hit when their pitchers were pitching shut-out ball as they did when they were touched up for six and seven runs per game. But the Braves' batters were in a slump when their pitchers were going good. They were lucky enough to get out of it just in the nick of time.

"The trio of Boston pitchers—Tyler, James and Rudolph—who did such wonderful work in 1914, won't repeat in 1915. Achievements like theirs of last season occur only once in a decade. All three may have a poor year in 1915—and they may not."

"Maggie" will strengthen the outfield. The Braves infield ought to work up to standard in 1915. So should the catching department. The Braves, on paper, may look better for 1915 than they did when they beat the Athletics. But will they have the same luck? If they don't they may finish no better than third."

What think you of all these sentiments?

"ROOKIES" WHO MAY MAKE THE YANKEE "VETS" DO SOME TALL HUSTLING



New York will be represented in more ways than name only when the Yankees begin training at Savannah. Four of "Bill" Donovan's recruits hail from that vicinity, and all four of them are highly recommended. They are William H. Tamm, of Brooklyn; Paul Lewis, of Hoboken; Robert J. Kelly, of Manhattan, and James Ring, of Brooklyn. "If all that I have heard about them is true they are bears," said Donovan. "And there is another who is well recommended. He is Walter Clarkson, who played semi-professional baseball in Milwaukee last year." Tamm played third base for the Newburg Atlantic League club last season. He batted .285 and fielded .985. He is twenty-one years of age, weighs 175 pounds and is five feet eleven inches in height. Clarkson is a right handed pitcher of twenty-two, weighing 175 and standing six feet one inch. Lewis is also a right handed pitcher, and he played semi-professional ball in Hoboken. He made a reputation by striking out eighteen of the Washington club's players in an exhibition game last season. He is twenty-two, weighs 160 pounds and is five feet nine inches in height. Kelly covered first base for the Lowell New England League team last year. He is twenty years, 162 pounds and five feet eleven inches. He batted .226 and fielded .967. Ring is a right handed pitcher who won 17 and lost 14 games while with the Lowell club. He batted .218 and fielded .988. He is nineteen, weighs 164 and stands one inch taller than six feet.

FEDERAL LEAGUE TO BEGIN EARLY

Buffalo, N. Y., March 1.—The selection of April 10 as the opening date of the Federal League's playing season, four days in advance of the first games in the other major baseball leagues, and the recommendation by the umpires of some minor changes in the playing rules, marked the opening sessions of the league's annual schedule meeting here today.

Although the injunction proceedings instituted at Chicago to prevent the transfer of the Kansas City franchise to Newark interfered with the formal adoption of a schedule, the owners went ahead with their work, with the expectation that Newark would be the eighth team in this year's lineup.

The tentative schedule provides for Newark to open at Baltimore, Buffalo at Brooklyn and Indianapolis at Chicago at home, with St. Louis and Pittsburgh as the contending teams.

"It looks like a favorable sign," said James A. Gilmore, "when Federal clubs begin fighting for franchises. The umpires of all around look good to me for 1915."

The new rules recommended by the umpires provide for a fine of \$200 and thirty days suspension for pitchers using the emery ball, and ruling out of play a ball batted foul that strikes any part of the grand stand or passes into foul territory beyond first or third bases, the latter rule being designed to prevent delay.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT LIVE RING STARS

There is no reason to get excited about a six-round affair between Kilbane and Williams. Viewed from any angle, it is sure to be unsatisfactory. It is easy to figure what will happen. Kilbane will dance off with the popular decision without extending himself or taking a chance, for Williams is not in his class at the jab and run game.

A twenty-round fight would be a different thing. That would be a match worth while. Kilbane's title would really be at stake and there would be reason to doubt whether he could defend it successfully against the rushes of the Baltimore terror. The latter's wonderful endurance would go far to make up for what he lacks in boxing skill and his vicious drives to the body would have time to take effect.

Packey McFarland is again threatening to come back for that long talked of bout with Mike Gibbons. The Chicago boxer will find few willing to have that he is seriously considering such a match, however. There is a particular reason to think that McFarland would be a dangerous opponent for the St. Paul middleweight, especially now that he has been on the retired list so long.

From all accounts McFarland is plenty big enough to tackle the job without having to give away weight. Since he retired his shoulders have broadened and his limbs have thickened. He is now a bigger man than Gibbons, but there is little doubt that his former speed has departed never to return.

Bob Fitzsimmons is back in New York again, this time as a regular actor. The hero of Carson City has discarded his boxing act. Evidently he has given up the idea of making a white hope of his stalwart son. The latter never did show a trace of his father's fist ability, despite the glowing accounts of his prowess.

LOOKS LIKE THE BEST FINISH OF PITCHER TY WRESTLING EVER SAW

The wrestling game in St. John received a severe jolt last night when fifty people were present at Dan McDonald's room in the Old Oddfellows Hall, Union street. It was intended by McDonald to have had an unknown from the United States to wrestle Harry Ludecke, but on Monday day McDonald gave notice that the unknown would not appear as the immigration authorities had refused to allow him to enter Canada. McDonald then announced that in place of the unknown he would have a good wrestler from Montreal to meet Ludecke. When the fifty people were seated about the ring last night McDonald announced that the man from Montreal was not present and he would have one of his pupils to go on the mat in his place. This announcement did not suit a few of the spectators who demanded the return of their fifty cents which they had paid for admission, on having their money returned to them they left the hall. There was two matches and McDonald was referee for both.

In the first match as a preliminary a man named Brooks, weighing 160 pounds, wrestled with a fellow named O'Toole, who weighed 135 pounds. The men wrestled about the mat for 15 minutes without a fall and the match was declared a draw.

The audience waited for some time for the second and final bout when McDonald introduced a pupil whom he called Jack Seymour. Seymour (?) was much lighter than Ludecke and proved most aggressive. The two men rolled about for 15 minutes when Ludecke got a head scissor and arm hold winning the first fall. There was then a wait for about fifteen minutes when McDonald entered the ring and announced that he awarded the bout to Ludecke owing to the fact that Seymour had sprained one of his arms and could not continue the match.

The audience did not complain but fled out of the room, some of them wondering if they would ever attend another wrestling show. McDonald stated that as the attendance at the shows was so small that it would not pay to bring a good wrestler to the city, but he intended to promote one more match and that would be the last.

BOUTS THIS WEEK.

Tuesday.
Ed McGorty vs Mike Gibbons, Hudson, Wis.
Bob McAllister vs Kid Wagner and Johnny Dundee vs Ben Leonard, New York.
Jack Dillon vs Tom McCarty, New York.
Pal Brown vs Joe Azevedo, Windsor, Ont.
Bill Fleming vs E. McIntyre, Bangor.

Wednesday.
Jimmy Duffy vs Frankie Callahan, Buffalo.

Thursday.
Arthur Pelky vs Jim Coffey, New York.
Terry Brooks vs Ed Ketchel, North Adams.

Friday.
George Chaney vs Cal Delaney, Baltimore.
"One-Round" Hogan vs Tom Callahan, New Orleans.

Sunday.
Jack Dillon vs George Chip, New Orleans.

THE JOHNSON STATUS.

A traveller from Buenos Ayres writes as follows concerning the meanings of Jack Johnson:

"He never trained or took a particle of exercise through the twenty odd days on shipboard. He had chunks of fat on his stomach, expressed his confidence in winning, kept regular hours and behaved decently enough. On his arrival at Barbados he had at least half of the 160,000 negroes following him. Incidentally, the Argentines were not so enthused—only fairly so—and one night in a cafe he was roundly hissed."

A perusal of Buenos Ayres papers shows Johnson still around with the same old stuff. While there he became engaged in a public brawl, attempted to beat up an actor known as Senor Ducaud and was promptly arrested and hauled into court.

Yes, Johnson's a fine type for a champion. It's only a matter of time before they will have to step up and build a jail around him where he lands.

CANADA AS A GREAT PRODUCER OF CORN

Much interest is centering around corn and its products at the present time, in view of the abnormal conditions in the world of wheat. As is well-known, there is none too large a supply of wheat in the world, at the present time and if the price of wheat goes much higher, flour and bread will be most expensive luxuries. Corn, therefore, will come into greater demand.

As a corn-producing country, the United States ranks foremost, producing well nigh 75 per cent. of the world's total output. In that country, the production is about four times that of wheat.

In Canada, from the time of the early settlers, corn has played a very important part in agricultural circles. Indians, the first settlers, found great uses for corn and as a food it ranked next to the meat of the wild animals which they hunted in the virgin forests. Their methods were of the most primitive sort and early writers state that they girdled the trees, to cut off the supply of sap and when the foliage had dried and fallen and let the sun come through, they scraped holes in the ground, dropped in the seed and thus secured a crop of wheat. With the early white settlers, wheat and rye was more of a favorite, but until they could clear the ground for the proper production the Indian method was used.

Modern methods of cultivation show a long step in advance of the Indians. By the aid of science, great progress has been made in extending and improving the corn crop of Canada, as these figures will prove. In 1881, thirty-three years ago, the corn crop of the Dominion was 9,025,142 bushels, while in 1913 it had increased to 16,772,600 bushels, an increase of well over forty per cent. In 1893, the yield of fodder corn was 1,049,524 tons. Once more, a greatly increased production is shown, for the 1913 returns show a yield of 2,616,300 tons, while the quality of the product has improved to a very great extent.

The total world's crop of corn exceeds 3,500,000,000 bushels. The following figures show the world's crops by weight and by bushels, of leading cereals for the average of the five-year period—1908-1912:—

	Tons.	Bushels.
Wheat	104,339,000	3,477,985,000
Corn	102,348,000	3,887,465,000
Oats	66,871,000	3,933,678,000
Rye	47,057,000	1,680,629,000
Barley	33,857,000	1,410,731,000

total corn output of the country is practically at capacity. In this manner alone can the Dominion ever hope to increase her production to any very marked extent.

The opportunities offered in an export way for grains has been shown in many ways, of late, to be great. The warring nations are at present consuming great quantities of all cereals, and it has been pointed out that long after the war has ceased and the nations are in process of reconstruction and rehabilitation the demand will continue. Therefore, it behooves Canada to increase her production as much as she possibly can, now, not only from a business but also from a humanitarian viewpoint. Other producing countries cannot bear the whole burden of this demand. Canada must do her part, and in doing it she will have the opportunity of increasing her export grain trade to no small extent. Corn will figure very largely in the demand and this fact should not be overlooked.—Montreal Journal of Commerce.

BOXING NOTES.

Bombardier Wells, the English heavy weight champion, settled the ambition of another English boxer who aspired to the title. He defeated Dan McGoldrick of Scotland in seven rounds at London the other night.

The Milwaukee promoter will not attempt to stage another bout between Freddie Welsh and Charley White, as he is out of pocket on the receipts of the battle the other night. The bout only drew a little over \$7,000 and Welsh got \$3,014.

Gus Christie is going to meet Geo. Chip at Grand Rapids April 5, but before going so will take on Ed Nearing at Plattville, Wis., March 17.

Sam Langford and Battling Jim Johnson are going to have another session at Tommy Burns' arena in New Orleans. Promoter Burns does not state the date. Johnson is tied up in a match with Harry Wills for March 12.

SKI JUMP OF 177 FEET.

Chicago, Mar. 1.—The world's record for ski jumping has passed from America to Norway, it was announced here today by Aksel H. Holter, secretary of the National Ski Association of America.

Ragnar Omdal, the Chicago professional, whose jump of 166 feet at Ironwood, Mich., established a world's record, Feb. 16, 1913, was outjumped by Amble Omdalson of Christiania recently when he covered 177 feet on the Eker Ski Club slide.

That Johnny Griffiths, the Akron lightweight, is no false alarm was again demonstrated Monday night when he took the measure of Young Shugrue handily. With victories over both Welsh and Shugrue to his credit, Griffiths can present as good reasons for a real try at the title as any light weight in the ring. Judging by his Australian performance Griffiths is just as good over the twenty round distance as in short bouts.

Bringing Up Father



FOREIGN REFLECTS

Markets and Considerable stock market favorable

New York, Mar. 1.—The market, despite the unfavorable and abroad. Trans professional showed little change when the decision to embargo on all German. Anticipated was seen in the exchange, all of unsettled, with a mitance to Ger and Switzerland, ceased selling of future delivery, traceable to German offerings, however, sion on quoted.

The most unfar as domestic, was found January earnings Penna Railroad. Pittsburgh a net was shown, while the loss amount figures were acc commissions in the Illinois Central expense account net increase.

Industrials were railway shares, absorbed a large with gains of 70 Copers made sponse to the metal and report day's new mine ville and Nash two points to 11 tive Express was For the first advice from the cated a lull in nage being merchan decrease. Mon as well as local tendency to local Two small imp were received fr having been ac ropose at the fortnight.

Dealings in b scale, with fair price level of 22.24 aggregated \$2.24 United States ed on call.

CHICAGO

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PRODUCE

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