

ATHLETES IN PINK OF CONDITION MAY HAVE VERY BAD TEMPORARY SLUMP

OFF-FORM COINCIDENCE MAY BE ANSWER TO THE TENDLER-O'KEEFE FIASCO

It Is Possible, but Not Probable, That Two Athletes May Be Affected at the Same Time

CAN two athletes—well-trained and in the pink of condition—be off form at the same time? Is it possible for two boxers like Eddie O'Keefe and Lew Tendler to tumble into a slump, go stale—call it what you may—and use this as an excuse for their poor showing in what was supposed to be one of the star bouts of the year? Such a thing is likely to happen, but only on rare occasions. If these boys were off form last Monday night they will have a chance to prove it in their special bout next Monday. It is up to the public to decide.

We have often read of a popular race horse being defeated by a bunch of selling platers; Grover Alexander has been knocked all over the lot by a tail-end, weak-hitting team. In fact, in every line of sport the participants have their "off days"; but it generally happens that the other fellow is "right" and gets the best of it. If O'Keefe and Tendler put on a brother act with this slump stuff it is something new in the sport game, and we are anxiously awaiting the answer.

Majors Might Do Well to Follow Minors

"Stalling" to prevent the completion of a game, or calling off a contest for any reason which the home club believes to be beneficial, will not be tolerated in the American Association this year. According to the new rule in that organization, the game can be called off by the captain of the home team, but the postponement, regardless of cause, carries with it a fine of \$125.

Many games every season are postponed when they might be played, but the home club, and possibly the visiting team also, will take a chance on getting more money by playing a double-header the following day.

It would not be a bad plan for the major leagues to adopt this rule also. There are more unnecessary postponements in the majors than in the minors, consequently the rule would eliminate much unpleasant talk among the fans and unfavorable criticism in the newspapers.

Not only that, but in case a whole series has to be postponed on account of bad weather, it is no more than just that the home club should bear at least a portion of the visiting team's expense.

Kicking Against Referee Lowers Sport's Standard

Constant wrangling with the referee because he has called fouls is not only unsportsmanlike, but it is hurting the De Neri team, of the Eastern League. The chief offenders in this respect are "Bill" Dark and "Doc" Newman. They have talked the team out of several games, and appear to be doing it more frequently in proportion to the times the team is defeated.

The De Neri is and has always been a very popular team, but such tactics as these will soon bring the wrath and disgust of their followers on their heads.

Basketball players, as well as baseball players, should know enough to realize that when once a referee has called a foul he is not going to reverse his decision except under very unusual circumstances. In case there is such an occurrence, the captain of the team should do all the talking and do it in a sane manner.

Joe Wear Played Football at Yale

It is not generally known in local club circles that Joe Wear, the partner of George H. Brooke, in the Racquet Club's double racquet team which is making a strong bid for the national championship this week, was a former star football player at Yale. In 1909 Wear played quarterback on Gordon Brown's famous team which defeated Princeton, 29 to 5, and Harvard 20 to 0.

At that time Wear was an all-around athlete at Yale, and following his college career he settled in St. Louis. He always retained his interest in athletics and teamed up with Dwight Davis, a St. Louisian, former national tennis champion and donor of the Davis international tennis challenge cup, in racquet play. This pair won the national double championship in 1914, but a short time later Wear, who is a son-in-law of William Potter, former United States Minister to Italy, moved to this city and became a member of the Racquet Club. Last season Wear still played with Davis, but the latter was not in the best form and the title went to Pell and Mortimer, the New Yorkers.

This season Wear teamed up with another football star, George Brooke, and this formed a happy combination. Twice already Wear and Brooke have beaten Pell and Mortimer, and are favorite for the championship.

The most remarkable fact about the present championship tournament is the unusual number of old football stars who are in competition, this number including Percy Haughton, the Harvard coach; Norman Cabot, the old Harvard captain and halfback; Barrett Wendell, Jr. and J. W. Cutler, two other Harvard stars; Brooke and Wear, Hatch, Cutting, Stockton and Crane.

Negro Was Star in American Association

From time to time in the past few years great colored baseball players have been developed either on independent teams or in Cuba, men who have been of a calibre that would have warranted them playing on major league teams. Some of them have been so light of color that efforts have been made to smuggle them into organized ball under the guise of Cubans of Spanish descent.

All of these attempts have failed, for it is an unwritten law that colored players cannot play in organized ball. Yet the fact remains that a colored player of undoubted color did play in a major league at one time and made an exceptionally fine record. He was Oscar Walker, a catcher, and a player of considerable skill in hitting and throwing to bases.

He played with the teams in the old American Association from 1884 to 1887. At that time the American Association was a major league, in fact a league of equal or greater skill than the National League. There was never any protest against Walker, and he enjoyed considerable popularity. This riddles the belief that the major leagues have always held the bars up against colored players.

Leland Stanford University plans to send its track team East to the intercollegiate games. As the crew is also coming East for the Intercollegiate Regatta at Poughkeepsie, it can be seen that Stanford has mapped out an ambitious and expensive invasion of Eastern sports for the coming season. It is estimated that it will cost the Pacific coast institution's athletic association \$8000 to send the two teams East. This is an expense that any but Eastern colleges would go to for any sort of an athletic competition.

Fred Fulton's greatest argument in asking for a match with Champion Jess Willard is that he is the seventh son of a seventh son, and, therefore, is bound to be successful in any line of endeavor he undertakes. This is indeed an odd freak, and it is strictly the truth. Fulton has six brothers, all of whom have been rather successful in business, and Fred says that as he is the seventh son he is bound to be more famous than all.

Bill Hanna has gathered some interesting "inside stuff" about the trouble between Fred Toney and Garry Herrman. Bill says "Garry Herrman's letter to Fred Toney, offering him a \$4000 contract, contains 241 words and only six sentences. Punctuation periods are as scarce in Clincy as pennant periods."

Just how fond the Southwark fans are of Allie McWilliams was shown last night when he appeared on the floor at Greystock. Allie was given a wonderful ovation in spite of the fact that it had been announced he would not play. McWilliams has been afflicted with "double vision" and has not yet fully recovered.

Connie Mack states that those who expect to see the Athletics again at the foot of the American League ladder may have some surprises in store for themselves. With Lapp released and Schang on the infield, we didn't know Connie had any "Masked Marvles."

According to the local dailies "Aurora Defeats Vesper." There must be some mistake, John Milton plainly says: "Zephyr with Aurora playing," etc.

Frank Baker declares he will join the Yankees if he gets the proper terms. Judging by his last year's performance, he should be at least five years.

When Rube Oldring announced last fall that he was going to retire, he must have been referring to that particular evening.

GOOD MORNING—ARE YOU AN AMATEUR?



TENNIS CRACKS WILL ENTER THE INDOOR TOURNEY

Matches Will Begin February 25 on Court at First Regiment Armory

COMMITTEE N A M E D

By W. T. TILDEN, 2d

There is no event in the athletic world of Philadelphia more interesting to all than the Sportsmen's Show which is annually held in the First Regiment Armory. Broad and Calwell streets. This year the attractive show will be greatly aided by staging the first annual indoor tennis championship of Philadelphia, held under the auspices of the Philadelphia and District Tennis Association.

- The following events will be held: 1. Women's singles and doubles. 2. Men's singles and doubles. 3. Junior boys' singles and doubles, open to boys under 16 years of age.

The entrance fees, which include admission all week to the show, all exhibits, swimming pool, shower and locker facilities, etc., are \$2 in the singles and \$3 a team in doubles for men and women, while for the juniors it is but one dollar and \$1.50 a team in doubles. This is a most attractive offer to those who wish to play in the tournament, since it affords them not only the fun of the play itself, but also most interesting and instructive entertainment under the hospitality of this progressive management. It should assist materially in drawing a large entry list. Trophies cups will be presented for the ladies' singles and men's singles. These cups must be won three years, not necessarily in succession, to become the property of the individual. Suitable prizes will be given to the winner and runner-up in all events.

The ladies' events will be run in the morning from noon to 4, during the afternoon and evening, the misses' and junior events will be run off.

Play will start Friday, February 25, at 10 o'clock and will continue until a week following Saturday.

A most attractive court has been arranged and will be erected a week before the tournament to allow entrants to practice there. For this reason early entries have been requested. The court will be covered with a heavy rough canvas, thus forming a surface which will hold the bounce of the ball and will give secure footing. Sevens and one-half feet behind each baseline will provide plenty of room to make any shot.

The lighting will be indirect overhead lighting from gas and electric lights. It should be remarkably easy on the eyes as there is no chance of getting the full glare of the direct light.

The tennis committee is representative. It includes P. W. Gibbons, Cynwyd Club; William T. Tilden, 2d, Germantown Cricket Club; Dr. Philip B. Hawk, Merion Cricket Club; A. A. Caspelle, Wilmington Country Club; William P. Rowland, Belmont Country Club; P. S. Osborne, Point Pleasant L. T. A.; Joseph M. Jennings, Philadelphia Cricket Club; Edward C. Hall, Moorestown Field Club; Wallace Johnson, Merion Cricket Club; Homer W. Hanna, Stenton Athletic Club; T. H. Martin, Cynwyd Club.

The following prominent tennis men have entered: Wallace P. Johnson, P. W. Gibbons, L. C. Wister, William T. Tilden, 2d, Alex. D. Thayer, Joseph B. Rowland, William P. Rowland, Homer W. Hanna, T. H. Martin, P. S. Osborne, E. B. Dewhurst and others. G. Carlton Shafer, ex-national indoor champion of the United States, will probably play also.

Fifteen entries are already in for the junior event. The tournament promises to be a great success.

Special Bowling Match Hancock Knitting Mills rolled on Casino alley, Pearson and Wright won two out of three games from Taylor and Miller.

MORGAN AVERS BASKETBALL RULES ARE AIDING THE GAME

He States That Keinath Is Wrong in Saying Code Is About to Kill the Indoor Pastime

By RALPH MORGAN

I HAVE read with a great deal of interest excerpts published in New York newspapers from an article by Charles Keinath to the effect that basketball rule-makers were killing the game by the over-technical changes. In fact, Charles was the same sort of thing to me many times.

Keinath, I really think, was the greatest player of the college game—and that is quite a statement when one considers all of the very great college players of the last 12 years. There are Fisher, Hurley, Wetzler, Ryan, Klend, of Columbia; "Gill" Kinney, Haak, Noyes, Will Hyatt, and of this day Dutch Arnold, of Yale; Vanderbilt, of Princeton; Griffiths, Walter Randall and Amberg, of Harvard; the Halsteads, of Cornell, to say nothing of Captain Brown, of this year's Cornell team, a star of the first water; Schommer and Pat Page, of Chicago; and last, but not least, of our own great players, Artie Klefaher, George Flint, Lew Walton, Matty Pearce, Harry and Eddie McNichol. All of these great players that he has seen repeatedly in action, the writer would rank Keinath as the best. Keinath "played with his head" all of the time. When Pennsylvania had the ball Keinath would let himself or be in a position to get the ball in position to score. When the other team had the ball, Keinath immediately became a guard. He was the best defensive player I have ever seen. Up and down the court in every game Keinath was always in close to the ball—and in basketball possession of the ball is control. Keinath and the Intercollegiate League many things he taught us the value of the foul point of efficiency. He taught the league the efficiency of the dribble. He developed the dribble to such an extent that it pretty nearly wrecked the game.

The Old League The old intercollegiate League disbanded after the season of 1907-8. Harvard dropped the game because it was too rough. President Eliot had been a bitter foe for several years. A foe of football, he said in his reports to the Harvard corporation that basketball was worse—rougher, more brutal.

The writer had been a member of the Collegiate Basketball Rules Committee since its formation in 1905—when the college ball is formed. The writer saw the light when the Intercollegiate League disbanded in 1908. Harvard did drop basketball. It was on the verge of dropping it. The writer taught Fisher, of Columbia—a great player and coach and a dominating personality—stood for the old order of things. Harry taught his teams to hold on to their opponents and made the game a close guarding one of actual bodily contact. It had to be pretty blatant to be called a foul by Harry Fisher. He says today the same thing that Keinath says, namely, that the rule makers have killed the game.

Became Convinced In the other camp of the Rules Committee were Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft, then of Chicago, now at Princeton, and the writer. Doctor Raycroft convinced me that the game was played differently in the West—the Western conference has a fine attitude toward college athletics generally—and I was much impressed with the style of play of Doctor Raycroft's Chicago team, which Pennsylvania played in 1908. So Doctor Raycroft and I formed an alliance—without saying so—I do not mean to imply political collusion. I mean we seemed to think alike on the needs of the game and on the method of saving it.

As so we have studied the game from its beginning, the tendencies that have crept in and the remedies. We agreed that bodily contact must be eliminated; that there must be a curb on running and on dribbling, so as to make guarding without bodily contact possible. Then there must be a curb on fouling—to stop intentional fouling. Five years ago we made these fundamental changes that put a premium on clean, hard play and made the winner of the game win its laurels by speed, skill, clean work. We have stopped intentional fouling by dividing fouls into two classes—technical and personal—and by disqualifying a player for making four personal or bodily contacts fouls.

PRESENT AMATEUR CODE IS A FARCE, DECLARES RICE

Sentiment Has Changed Regarding Athletes During the Last Two Decades, He States

By GRANTLAND RICE

THERE are a lot of Subud and Francis Bystanders, innocent and otherwise, who are wondering how this Amateur Code was ever started. Nothing could be simpler. The bulk of it is due to the widespread foolishness of the American Sporting Public. Of which we have extended proof.

Then and Now Forty-five years ago in certain American cities there was a law to the effect that any ball player caught on the street after dark was to be arrested and locked up as a bum.

Ten years ago any man caught with a golf or tennis outfit on his person was immediately branded in business circles as a loafer and No-Not-At-All.

In place of being a help, golf and tennis cramped the bankroll and left a dent in one's business status. But when, everyone, as the saying is, began doing it, sudden change arrived. In place of being a drawback, ability to set around in 72 or at least one to the back line suddenly became a keen financial asset. A champion golfer or a champion tennis player, whether engaged in the insurance, sporting goods, tailoring or whatever business, began to find his bankroll bulging through the fame secured upon the field.

The Change Quite naturally, this sudden change in affairs upset those controlling, or attempting to control, the destinies of amateur sport. Now the tangle is terrific. The sudden change in the viewpoint of the sportsman public has created various censors into unplumbed depths.

This is shown in the case of the Lawn Tennis Association. It has ruled that one who sells tennis goods exclusively is a professional; but that one who sells tennis goods in fair proportion with other products is not a professional.

Obviously, this ruling is a farce. If McLoughlin and Bundy are to be rated "professionals" for opening a sporting-goods store, so must all tennis players be so rated as well as engaged as workmen in any sporting-goods house. There is no other way out.

The man who sells \$100 worth of tennis goods a week is as much a professional—or as much an amateur—as one who sells \$1000 worth. A player who gets \$5 a month playing ball is as much a professional as Ty Cobb.

\$1000 on the Browns Red Sox Tigers and White Sox have the way to first place in the American League pretty well blocked from any other club.

But there is at least one camp-follower who figures otherwise. Regardless of the fact which has pursued the Browns for many seasons, this man believes that Fielder Jones is genius enough to merchandise the hoodoo and report with the mercantile. He recently put before Jack Doyle the proposition to bet \$1000 against \$10,000 that Fielder Jones landed not only the 1916 pennant, but the world series championship. Any pop-eyed fan with \$1000 would do better to bet that Jones will be 1916 Champ can get action here in a brief interval of time. Perhaps, Jones is virtually the sole survivor of

NOTES OF THE BOWLERS

Philadelphia Council has replaced La Ribida with the Council of Columbia League. Like their predecessors, they talked to win. Mount Holly, N. J.; Edward B. Allen and W. A. Townsend, of Flemington, N. J.; Harry B. Schall, Allentown; John A. Bullman, Lebanon; C. M. Shaver, Easton; John Reinhardt and W. K. Shimer, Nazareth; S. H. Heffner and R. P. De Turk, Kutztown; Abner S. Deysher and Daniel J. McDermit, Reading; Harry C. Heckert and H. D. Snyder, York; Thomas J. Clemons, Fred R. Shreve, Al Saunders, Walter E. Baker and Robert Laycock, of this city.

Lawler compiled a score of 86 pins for Pines in his third game against Sam Salvider.

Enterprise won two games in the "Phillie" series. The deciding game was won by Enterprise.

Keen-Kutters and Shell Manufacturing Company teams, the leaders, showed superiority over their opponents in the Industrial League series. The deciding game was won by Keen-Kutters in his first game, while Edouard compiled over 70 in his first game with Shell.

Maleski again came to life with 1005 pins at White Elephant, he being the solitary triumph over the ex-humans. He was a 200 pin player for 200. Linwood totaled 221 and Tomham made Morgan total 222 and Shaffer 178 to the big aggregate.

Billy Knox topped over 250. His easy delivery makes it seem a simple matter to score strikes when needed.

The White Elephants rolled six games last night, winning four. Against Wynnham's 1010 score, they were 1000. The score was 87 to 80, and concluded with 1024 to Wynnham's 944.

Sam Rodgers scattered the pins for a 231 score against Wynnham.

Bert Frazier showed consistency against the White Elephants, his score reading 302, 233 and 261.

Howard Price began his series with a 224 score.

Alonquib, by defeating Giants two games, are the White Elephants for first place in the Quarter Circle League.

The rival Wynnham quintet had quite a battle, the Coles taking the odd game.

Wynnham dropped four out of six games last night.

Considering the handicap to Anti-Cobden by the absence of Fobson, who is in a bad fix, who is out of town. Anti-Cobden has been holding Mutual in form shape in the German-American League series.

Dynes, the one-armed bowler rolling with United topped over 200 pins in his second game against Quarter.

Charles Lambert's 208 fisted in nicely with McCorkle's 214. Riewar's 180. Hutchinson's 167 and Miller 184 for an aggregate score of 952 against Girard in their second match.

The Interclub games this week resulted in numerous fine individual efforts by the club men. Lynn knocked down 210 and Trout 203, while Federal League led by Merton won all three from Union League clubs.

Schelle, of Manufacturers' Club Blue squad, got going in his final game against Racquet Club Maroon, and concluded with a 238 tally.

Tigers showed a return to form in winning against the Blue squad. The Blue squad winning the first two matches. In the third, Federal League led by Merton won all three from Union League clubs.

Rice of Merion White, was high for his team with 557 against Union League White.

Interclub League will send five teams to the Atlantic Coast championships at Washington.

FAIR CIRCUIT DATES ARE ANNOUNCED

Racing Will Open at Flemington Track August 8—Uniform Classes

The annual meeting of the secretaries of the Big Fair Circuit was held yesterday afternoon in this city, with all the nine members of the circuit represented. It was the best attended meeting in the history of the organization, five States being represented in the meeting, as follows: William H. Gocher, secretary of the National Trotting Association, Hartford, Conn.; Henry Meyerhoff, New York; S. H. Wilson, Jr., Joseph Davidson and J. Leonard Johnson, of Wilmington, Del.; L. P. Randall, of Trenton, N. J.; Richard W. Willis, of Easton; J. J. Edwards, B. Allen and W. A. Townsend, of Flemington, N. J.; Harry B. Schall, Allentown; John A. Bullman, Lebanon; C. M. Shaver, Easton; John Reinhardt and W. K. Shimer, Nazareth; S. H. Heffner and R. P. De Turk, Kutztown; Abner S. Deysher and Daniel J. McDermit, Reading; Harry C. Heckert and H. D. Snyder, York; Thomas J. Clemons, Fred R. Shreve, Al Saunders, Walter E. Baker and Robert Laycock, of this city.

BASEBALL MEN BANKRUPT

Federal League Fiasco Blamed for Pittsburgh Officials' Failure

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 29.—Dabbling in baseball with the Federal League has proven costly to William A. Kerr, vice president of the club. Federal League vice president of the club, has been forced into bankruptcy. It was stated here that the firm of William A. Kerr, contractors, who in comparison with the men mentioned, are involuntary liquidators. William A. Kerr's assets are \$12,000, while those of his brother are, assets, \$38,500, and liabilities, \$1,203.65.

INTRODUCTION 'LORD' CIGAR "EXCEEDINGLY BETTER"

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Bainbridge MONDAY NIGHTS 8:30 JACK KETTER vs. EDDIE MULLIVAN GED. BECKER vs. WILLY HANNEY W. H. BROWN vs. BILLIE MANN Micky Donnelly vs. Bobby Reynolds

John Kilbane vs. Packer Hoyer Johnny Adams vs. Akeny Res. 7:30, 8:15

FIVE—GREAT BOUTS—FIVE TONIGHT—TONIGHT—TONIGHT National A. C. Jack Cunningham Prop. Eddie Miller vs. Benny Kaufman Chas. (Kid) Thomas vs. Jack Constance Joe Rosen vs. Willie Merhan Eddie Morgan vs. Frank McManus Joe Arvello vs. Eddie May

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—IT DOESN'T RING REAL, RALPHURIUS, SO DO NOT HARP ON THE MATTER

