

A REVIEW OF SPORTS. How Matters Stand Among the Magnates of the National League and Association. LOCAL DEALS COMING ALL RIGHT. A Few Words About the Alleged Fast Time Made by Smothers in a 100-Yard Race. FEATURES IN THE LIFE OF COBURN.

The week's events in baseball have only shown that tremendous difficulties there are to smooth down before the national game is shaped into its old structure again. They also remind us of the fact that it is the easiest thing in the world to wreck anything, it requires very able men and considerable time and money to restore things to their normal condition.

Matters in the local clubs are just as difficult, almost, to fix up as the affairs nationally. It is not wide of the mark to say that there has been a meeting or two every day for the last several days, and still we haven't the new club. But as events have turned out there is no hurry, because A. G. Spalding and A. W. Thurman have declared that no player can be signed or engaged before next month at latest. It is intended to enforce this condition very rigidly.

Local Club Affairs. Matters in the local clubs are just as difficult, almost, to fix up as the affairs nationally. It is not wide of the mark to say that there has been a meeting or two every day for the last several days, and still we haven't the new club.

Is He a Phenom? Since the sprint race between Smothers and a young man named Lehman, there has been any amount of talk regarding the time of the race. I did not witness the race, but one gentleman assured me that the winner covered the "century" in seven times the time of the other. I declined to believe it, but subsequently an old and experienced authority assured me that the time was 10 to 15.

with knowingly violating any rule of amateurism. He is no I believe that amateurism is not more or less tainted in the keeping of that man. It has been in the past and certainly will be again.

The Question of Expenses. Assuming that the only object of the R. A. C. and the L. A. W. in having the wheelmen in question suspended to, as Mr. Mathewson says, have the matter of paying training expenses definitely settled, it may not be out of place to say a few words on the subject. The question has long been a troublesome one, not only in the United States but in England.

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law. If he is poor, as many in the past have been, I do believe that amateurism is not more or less tainted in the keeping of that man. It has been in the past and certainly will be again.

Effects of Club Rivalry. But there is a feature of this amateur question which is in my opinion the cause of many violations of amateur rules and also of an endless conflict in amateur circles. I refer to the rivalry between amateur athletes. If the rivalry between the R. A. C. and the New York club had not been so great probably the present trouble would not have been heard.

The Death of Joe Coburn. One of the important events in the pugilistic world during the last few days has been the death of Joe Coburn, ex-champion pugilist of America. His death reminds one of many interesting features in pugilistic history, and recalls vividly a period when the good old style of fistie combats was just beginning to wane.

indeed, some very trustworthy authorities state that it was waiting fast then. Since Coburn's death there has been much written regarding him that is absolutely untrue. For instance, a prominent New York paper very wrongly informs us that Coburn had defeated also, Sayers, Gross and Tom Allen. It would be absurd to stop and explain how statements of this kind are ridiculously untrue, because there were many features in the life of Coburn that are interesting and more interesting.

The Huge Pugilistic Fiasco. It has often been stated and quite wrongly argued that Jim Maco was the first to introduce "fake fighting" into the honest system and method that obtained when he stepped into the ring. While I am not going to argue this matter today, I am convinced that there is a very strong case against him.

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for money, and in the three hours Coburn and Maco were in the ring they were compelled to fight 15 rounds, and two or three black eyes between them was the result as far as damage was concerned.

Coburn's Day and Now. But Coburn's death suggests another thought which if space had permitted would be very interesting to discuss fully. I refer to pugilism as Coburn found it, and pugilism as he has left it. Only a period of about 30 years has elapsed in the interval, but oh my what a change. When Coburn appeared on the scene there were no \$10,000 prizes to be had for a fight with five-ounce gloves.

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approximately measure the comparative merits of Coburn and Maco as pugilists. The Latest About Slavin. F. P. Slavin evidently is not one of those public characters that will do well in business and stand hostile criticism at the same time.

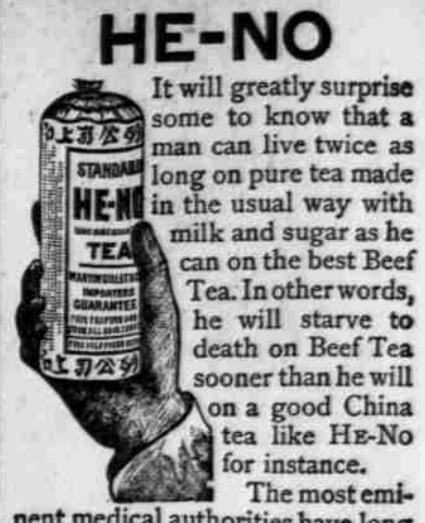
Slavin's career was more than the Australian could stand, chiefly because, I suppose, it went on to the evidence that the Slavin-McAuliffe trial went to prove that the affair was a farce. But there is a funny feature in the affair. McAuliffe was knocked out in the second round; that is, he was knocked senseless; and yet all the witnesses for the defense argued that the affair was quite harmless and that the size of the gloves would not allow the principals to hurt each other.

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freely. The latter will have to do something very wonderful to prove to me that he is of the thoroughly game kind, because I cannot forget the miserable rank of a great in Sullivan's show he made against Peter Jackson. President Fida, of the California Athletic Club, is quoted as saying that the winner may have to fight Sullivan. What nonsense. Sullivan has already proven beyond a doubt that he is no match for him.

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