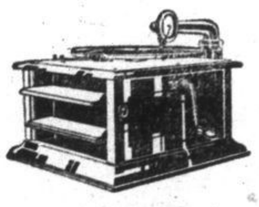

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In The World Of Sport

Sporting Notes

Manitoba hockey would be in a vastly more desirable condition today had not its former moving spirits been obsessed with the delusion that the winning of the Allan Cup was the summum bonum of the game.

"El Paso" Jimmy Wilson, middleweight pugilist, of Akron, Ohio, died in a Cleveland hospital as the result of a fractured skull received when his head struck the floor during a boxing match here last night with Otto Wenzel of Pittsburg. Wenzel is being held by the authorities.

New Westminster British Columbian: "Lacrosse knee" has robbed the overseas forces of another good soldier in the person of Hugh Gifford, son of Thomas Gifford, who has returned from Montreal, where he has been under treatment. "Hughie" went east some months ago with a reinforcement draft of the Canadian Engineers, but his knee, on which he has worn a bandage for many years, began to give him trouble, and as treatment failed to relieve the condition he was turned down by the medical board. His brother Jack is still in the East.

Of the Canadians who last week received their decorations from the hands of the King at Buckingham Palace, Lieut.-Col. Bartlett McLennan is a Montrealer, who went early to the war and stayed late, in spite of mishaps and injuries. Colonel McLennan was at the head of some of Montreal's great transportation and manufacturing industries, but will be remembered in Toronto as a clever player on the Back River team that Montreal psed to send up for the polo matches at Woodbine.

Lieut. J. K. L. Ross will campaign eighteen thoroughbreds at New Orleans this winter. The Ross string will be the second largest at the track and will be in charge of H. G. Bedwell.

In settling up the estate of the late Robert B. Ward, one of the leading backers of the Federal League, it is said that his baseball losses amounted to nearly $1,500,000.

J. G. Griffith has sold the three-year-old filly Fox Trot to A. B. Hancock. It is the intention of the latter to breed this young mare to the stallions Celt and Wrack.

Simon Healy, the trainer, reports that Buckboard, the three-year-old racer belonging to Major E. B. Cassatt, has recovered from an attack of lockjaw. For a time it was thought that it would be necessary to destroy the son of Aeronaut.

Sports

Montreal reports say that Quebec did not succeed in standing up the owners of the Toronto pro. hockey team—whoever they may be—for a bonus for suspending operations this season in order that Toronto might get into the N. H. L. Instead, Quebec players will be utilized and divided up among the other teams, and Quebec will be "reimbursed at the end of the season in proportion to the earnings of the other clubs."

BALL WAR THREATENED.

Between the Majors—On Verge of Split.

The American League is being made the "goat" in the Baltimore Federal League club's $900,000 suit against organized ball. The National League disclaims responsibility.

Those on the inside declare that the existing friction between the two major leagues is bound to result in the elimination of August Herrmann from the chairmanship of the National Commission.

It may further result in the interruption of amicable relations between the two principal forces of organized baseball. At the special meeting of the National League board of directors following the recent world series, the parent major practically pledged itself to a schedule of 140 games for 1918. This was for several years a pet idea of Ban Johnson. The American League president some time later came out with an announcement that the two leagues would play only 140 game schedules next season. The National League, which believed no announcement would be made till its annual meeting, believed itself betrayed to American League interests.

Now Johnson says his league will play the shorter schedule in any event. Different schedules mean one of two things, a direct break of friendly relations or cessation of the world championship series. The American League must begin the campaign at the same time as the National. If it closes two weeks earlier an unfair handicap is imposed upon its championship entrant in the annual classic.

The American League may well afford to make the National eat crow. It has nothing to lose in the severance of the world series relations. In the last eight years the American League teams have triumphed seven times. They have won 28 games and lost but 16, including the four straight which the Braves took from the supposedly invincible Athletics in 1914.

Dentals Alone in Field.

There is now only one senior team definitely in the field in the O.H.A. senior series, viz., the champion Dentals of this city. Some of the other clubs which have operated teams in bygone seasons are considering the advisability of remaining idle this season, rather than face the prospect of financial losses which they do not feel like incurring again.

The proposal has been made that a representative of these clubs interview the management of the Arena with a view to readjustment of the terms under which the teams practice and play their games. It is probable that such a conference will be held very soon.

AMERICAN ATHLETES GET COMMISSIONS

The List Includes Rugby, Golf, Tennis, Baseball Players, Trapshooters, Swimmers.

Nearly 200 athletes from thirty colleges are in Chicago wearing the symbols of army rank received after three months' intensive work at the Officers' Training Camp at Fort Sheridan.

These new officer-athletes include enough all-star football players to make up three elevens, shining lights in college baseball, several golfers of championship class, tennis players who hold inter-state records, swimmers and trapshooters of more than local reputation.

Watts Valentine, one of the six to win the rank of major at the Fort Sheridan Camp, is a former athlete from Shattuck Military Academy, Minnesota; Jess Spalding, Yale's football captain in 1912, and Dean Henry Gordon Gale, of the University of Chicago, star baseball player twenty years ago, received captaincies.

Eight all-American football men who received commissions were: E. J. Allmendinger, Albert Benbrook and James B. Craig, University of Michigan; Paul Des Jardien, University of Chicago; Jesse Spalding and Knox P. Walker, University of Virginia; E. F. Ver Wiebe, Harvard, and James Turner, Dartmouth.

FOOTBALL TOLL LIGHTER.

Three Were Twelve Victims During 1917 Season.

Football exacted a toll of twelve victims during the 1917 season in the U.S., which ended with Thangsgiving day games, according to reports to the Associated Press. The number was six less than in 1916.

Defenders of the sport pointed to the fact that not a fatality nor even a serious injury occurred in the big universities and colleges where the game is conducted under expert physical direction. All the victims, with one exception, were either high school students or players who, with little or no training, participated in semi-professional games.

A majority of the cases showed that the players entered the game without previous knowledge of it, and with no preparatory physical condition for so rough a sport.

The open style of play, instead of smashing game, which readily is being discarded, has eliminated much of the danger, in the opinion of the experts. The players, they say, also proved heavily-padded uniforms and headgear.

TWO WINTER TRACKS OPEN.

Racing Will Commence at Havana and New Orleans To-day.

Two winter race meetings begin today—one at New Orleans and the other at Havana, Cuba. The new Jefferson Parish track, near the Crescent City, will open for the first time and will operate up to and including December 31st. Joseph A. Murphy will be the presiding official. The Havana meeting will run for a period of ninety-five days. H. D. Brown, the promoter, states that 800 horses are on the ground and that President Menocal will attend the opening ceremonies. C. J. Fitzgerald, the Canadian, is the chief steward.

No Skating Championships.

The thirtieth annual meeting of the Canadian Amateur Skating Association was held in the club rooms of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association, when reports for the year were presented and adopted. The officers of a year ago were all elected by acclamation.

It was decided to abandon the championships again this season owing to the increased number of members on active service. A prize will be donated for figure skating, the competition to be held at the Winter Club.

Tia Juana May Operate.

There may be racing after all at Tijuana and Juarez. The State Department at Washington has issued a ruling that persons wishing to visit the Tijuana and Juarez tracks need not have passports, but may carry instead identification cards issued by Federal authority. Since this despatch was given out nothing has been heard from the promoters at these tracks as to their intentions.

Benny Leonard knocked out Frank "Sailor" Kirke, of Denver, in the first round of a scheduled ten-round bout at Denver.

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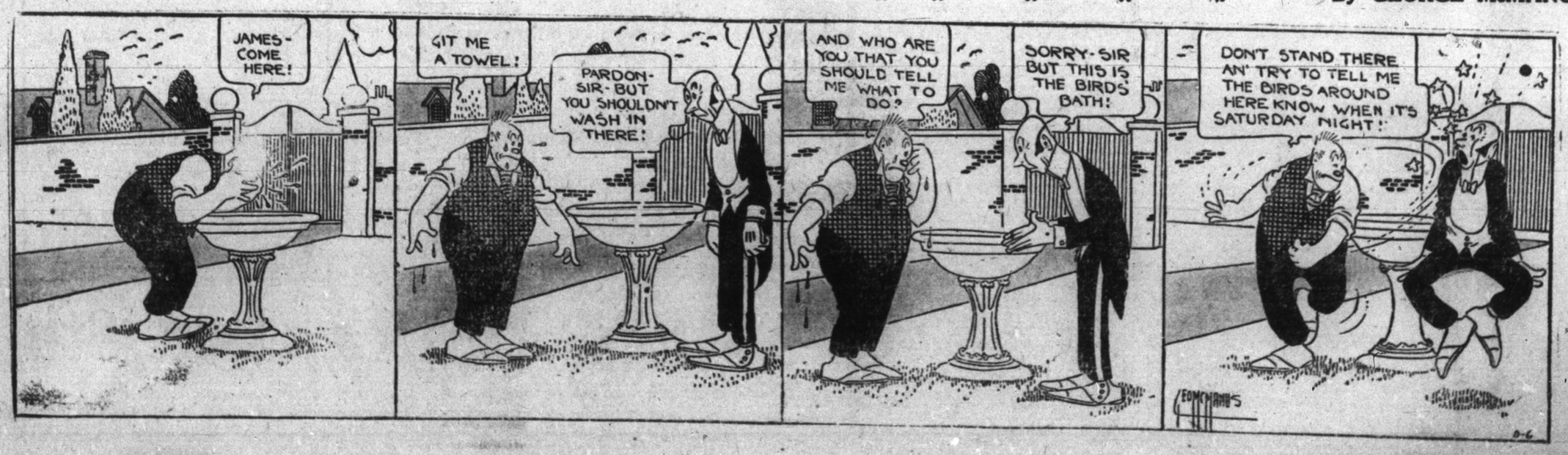
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