

LATEST LOCAL

SPORTING

GENERAL REVIEWS

NEWS

TIMELY COMMENTS

AIMING AT PRESTIGE INSTEAD OF VICTORY

French Committee Not Hopeful of Carrying Off Many Olympic Events.

The French Olympic committee, directors of sporting federations, clubs and close followers of athletics in France in general are bending every effort toward making a creditable showing at the 1924 Olympic Games but are under no misapprehension as to the prospects of French athletes winning the games while not unduly pessimistic they readily admit that France will not finish first, but find solace in the thought that the Olympic Games are, the greatest manifestation of international sports in existence and that the vanquished do not necessarily emerge from them with a loss of prestige.

"While we would much rather win the Olympic games than finish among the also rans," said Frantz Reichel, general secretary of the French committee, "we feel that great benefit will be derived for athletes in France by the mere presence and participation in all branches of sport of the 4,000 or 5,000 athletes—the best in their lines of endeavor in 52 countries. There is one thing, however, that we may win and that is the acknowledgement of all interested that the 1924 Olympic Games were the best organized since their revival. This we try to do."

In the winter sports which are to be held at Chamonix from January 20th to February 5th, the opinion was general that France would only place behind the Canadians, Scandinavians and Americans, in hockey, skiing, bobsleigh and curling. They are outclassed in speed skating and only hold out the hopes of getting points in the figure skating where Mademoiselle Yvonne Bourgeois, who incidentally is one of France's upper 10 rackets in women tennis, has more than an even chance of winning.

French rugby experts were sanguine that the team representing France in this event had a good chance of winning, especially if

Great Britain maintains her present decision of not being represented.

In association football every one admitted that France stood no show. England stands alone in this sport and the French team has been regularly defeated by the Belgians and Czechs, while the teams representing Italy, the Scandinavian countries and Spain have won more matches from France than they have lost to them in the international clashes of the past few years.

With the advent of polo in June, teams from the United States, England and even South Americans are regarded here as likely finalists as France has no combination which can place any of the foregoing in danger.

In track and field events, the winning of which was conceded by all to be the real aim of all countries entering the Olympic Games, France is not expected to total up many points.

AGAIN ?

Persistent rumors about Belleville are to the effect that Jack Williams, Indian pitcher, who made his name, and incidentally much baseball history for this city, with the Grand Trunk team here, has jumped to the pro. ranks and has signed with Knotty Lee for Toronto Leafs. Another rumor is that he has even joined a higher class team than the Leafs, although it is impossible to make sure of either rumor here.

If Jack has scratched his John Henry across the bottom of a pro contract, it will mean a sorry blow for Belleville baseball, and yet it is generally believed that the wiry Verona youth can make the grade with plenty of coaching, and that is saying something. Pro ball scouts do not make a practice of grabbing off amateurs who they fear will not make good in the money class. Jack is at his former home, Verona, it is believed.

Bryan Downey, Cleveland middleweight boxer, announces his retirement from the ring. His recent setback at the hands of Harry Greb decided Downey to quit the ring. He plans to remain in Cleveland and will probably engage in business.

FROM THE OUTSIDE—LOOKING IN.

Down in Ottawa the senior amateurs practice with the senior pros. That's something we'd rather watch than a regular fixture in either class.

News now comes to us that McGill will take up rowing seriously. University of Toronto has already done so. Perhaps the day is not so far distant when we will see "eights" and "fours" wearing Queen's University colors, on the harbor or the St. Lawrence.

Intercollegiate sport is bound to break into many new fields as the universities expand and Canada's three largest institutions of that kind have every facility for rowing. McGill is close to the St. Lawrence, Toronto has Lake Ontario and small rivers, and Queen's has the lake, the St. Lawrence, the Rideau.

Something interesting should crop up at the meeting of the Interprovincial Rugby Union to-morrow. It is likely that both Ottawa and M.A.A.A. will strive for some changes in the interference rules.

Didier Pitre, the veteran of professional hockey ranks in Canada, has retired at last. But few of us will be surprised if he is found on the ice again if Canadiens happen to get "stuck" during the season.

The Toronto papers do not seem to be overly sweet on the Toronto professional baseball team. There has been a little too much attention to money and not enough to baseball in the camp of the Leafs, it would seem.

Last night's meeting of the local O.H.A. division to draw up schedules should bring forth something interesting. 14th Regiment may take up the skates and sticks again this year.

Judging from the reports that are coming from the big conferences in Chicago, we'd say that the majors and minors in big baseball will do something different next spring. It has mostly consisted of talk up to the present.

DONOVAN SAID THIS HIS "WILDEST" GAME

Seventeen Innings of Pitching, Freak Plays and Free-for-All Fights.

The late Bill Donovan always said that he never remembered the game in which he was the wildest but that he always would remember the wildest game in which he played, if "wild" means weird.

Donovan referred to that memorable 17-inning game between the Athletics and Detroit at old Columbia Park in Philadelphia which decided the American League championship, virtually, in 1907.

The game caused a controversy that lasted for several seasons. Donovan and Dygert started pitching. Donovan was wif... at the start and was hit but Dygert lasted only two innings before Rube Waddell replaced him.

The Athletics were leading 7 to 1 at the end of the sixth and looked unbeatable, but in the seventh a furious batting spree gave the Tigers four runs. The Tigers scored another in the eighth and when the ninth started the score was 8 to 6.

In the ninth a man reached first and Ty Cobb smashed one of Rube Waddell's pitches over the rightfield fence for a home run and tied the score. Donovan often said he never saw Waddell leave the box. "I was watching Cobb's hit go over the fence," he said later. "The next time I looked Eddie Plank was pitching."

Plank, always a nemesis for Detroit stopped further scoring and the game went overtime. In the eleventh Detroit scored a run and the game seemed "in." Then the Athletics went to bat. Two were out and a man on second. The next batsman hit an easy fly to left field. A telegraph operator, set to "leave" every second for his newspaper, flashed the word that "so-and-so" fled to Jones, ending the game. But Jones muffed the ball, the run scored, and the game again was tied.

The play that caused the game to reach fever pitch came in the twelfth inning. Harry Davis, of the Athletics, hit a low ball toward the crowd in right centre. The ball hit Crawford's glove and bounded out and free. The hit would have decided the game in favor of the Athletics but Crawford rushed madly toward the infield, claiming interference. Crawford insisted that a policeman befuddled by the ball coming at him, tried to get out of its way and ran in front of Crawford. Crawford said he lost sight of the ball.

Crawford made his plea to Silk O'Loughlin. O'Loughlin ran out

and conferred with Tom Connolly, the umpire on the bases.

"Did that cop interfere with Crawford?" O'Loughlin asked Connolly. "He did," answered Connolly. O'Loughlin ran back to the bench and declared Davis out. The decision touched off a mine. The Mackmen were in a frenzy. O'Loughlin ran back to Connolly at second base, and asked him the same question over again.

"Didn't I tell you once that he did?" shot back Connolly.

By this time players of both teams were rushing at each other and fists and arms were flying Monte Cross, of the Athletics, started a swing at a Detroit player. Donovan, who was in the thick of the fight, knocked down Cross with a right.

The knockdown was the climax of the quarrel and the umpires were fuming at Donovan although they were not sure it was he who hit Cross. At that moment Claude Rossman announced that it was he who hit Cross and Rossman was banished from the game. Donovan staying to pitch through the 17 innings when darkness prevented further play.

Mlle. Lenglen and Bill Tilden Stars

French Woman Holds Five World Titles, According to 1923 Records.

Mlle. Susanne Lenglen, and William T. Tilden, II, stand at the top of women's and men's tennis ranks for 1923, completion of the season's championship records reveals. The French star holds or shares in five world titles while Tilden has four American national championships to his credit, though he also proved his superiority over the holders of so-called world's crowns.

Lenglen swept through all opposition abroad, including an invading American party headed by Mrs. Mollie Mallory. Her only rival for honors appears to be Helen Wills, the youthful California, who dethroned Mrs. Mallory as American titleholder after the latter's seven-year reign at the top. But as the Western girl's accomplishments were confined to this country, no real measure of comparison is possible. Critics point out, however, that Miss Wills triumphed over members of the invading English women's team, as well as over Mrs. Mallory quite as decisively as Mlle. Lenglen had done abroad.

Tilden's pre-eminent place is unquestioned. "Big Bill" conquered decisively William M. Johnston, his California rival, who had won the world's hard and turf court titles abroad, and won the national all-

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comes singles for the fourth successive year. In addition, Tilden vanquished in the Davis Cup challenge round James O. Anderson, the Australian ace, who, in the opening match, had defeated Johnston.

The Davis Cup contest, attracting a record entry list of 17 nations, proved one of the most interesting in the history of the trophy, winding up with a sensational title round in which the United States defeated Australia after a hard battle, four matches to one.

Firpo Also Busy.

At Buenos Aires, referring to a report that James J. Jeffries, former world heavyweight champion, had accepted an offer of \$75,000 to train him for his next bout, declared that he knew nothing of any such arrangement. Firpo added that Hugh Gartland, of New York, and Billy McCamey were attending to his business affairs in the United States and it was possible they might have conferred with Jeffries regarding training. He said, however, the sum mentioned was excessive.

Firpo declared that he could not accept the challenge for a bout with Quintin Romero-Rojas, the Chinese heavyweight, as he would return in a short time to the United States.

The burning question of the hour is "Who will get up and start the fire?"

Dempsey Getting Busy.

Jack Dempsey will arrive in New York today to join his manager, Jack Kearns. More than likely the champion is already signed for a series of bouts next summer to be conducted by Tex Rickard. Luis Firpo will be tossed in once more with the boss of the heavyweight brigade, and then if the politicians O.K. it, a bout between Harry Wills and the champion might be arranged. Right now the folks who have the say are fearful lest a match with Wills and Dempsey engender criticism that would result in a repeal of the New York State boxing law, and the promoters are evading the mixed match idea for the time being.

Jim Coffroh, the Western promoter, might be able to stage a bout between Wills and Dempsey for his Tia Juana racecourse. That is, Jim might if Kearns will cut his price somewhat. Another candidate who may get another chance at Dempsey next summer is Tommy Gibbons, who went 15 rounds with the champion in Selby, Montana. Gibbons deserves some consideration; he stayed longer with Dempsey than any of the others.—Globe.

Neighbors are people who cook cabbage with the windows open when you are going to have company.

Neighbor women are people with their hair in papers who come over to borrow a cup of sugar.

FOR QUITTING IN BOUT BOXER IS HEAVILY FINED

At Milan the Italian Boxing Federation announced its punishment of Merlano Barbarelli for the bad showing he made in his recent bout with Ermilio Spalla for the Italian heavyweight title. In which Barbarelli was charged with having shown the white feather and quit in the fifth round after Spalla had inflicted considerable punishment on him.

By the decision of the federation, five thousand lire are to be deducted from the twenty thousand lire which constituted Barbarelli's portion of the gate receipts, and in addition Barbarelli will not be permitted to participate in any fights for a period of three months.

It was voted by the federation to turn over to Spalla forty-five thousand lire as his portion of the gate receipts.

FRENCH TENNIS STAR CRAVES EXCITEMENT

Allain J. Gerbault, French tennis star, who crossed the Atlantic in 142 days last summer in a 30-foot sailboat, sailed home on Wednesday to be decorated by the Legion of Honor.

Gerbault plans to return to the United States in February and rig up his small craft for a treasure-hunting cruise in the South Sea Islands of the Pacific. He will make this voyage alone, and expects it to last three years.

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GALLAGHER AND SHEAN—(Sing the words to the tune of Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Shean)

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

By JO SWERLING

NOTICE

Watch This Space!

QUEEN'S ATHLETIC BOARD of CONTROL

OH, MR. GALLAGHER, OH, MR. GALLAGHER! CAN YOU EXPLAIN THIS AWFUL WAVE OF CRIME... YOU'RE NOT SAFE ON THE STREET, FOR THE GUNMEN THAT YOU MEET WILL SHOOT YOU FOR A QUARTER OR A DIME!... LAST NIGHT, RIGHT ON THIS SPOT A GUY SHOT TWO—THAT'S WHAT!... TWO VICTIMS, MR. GALLAGHER?... TWO DOLLARS, MR. SHEAN!... COME ON, SNAKE EYES!... ROLL DEM LEOPARD CUBES!