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FIFTEENBALL POOL

Something of the Tournament to Be Held in New York.

PORTRAITS OF THREE PLAYERS.

A Few Points of History Regarding the Game, Which, While Not So Scientific as the Regular Game of Billiards, is Still of Interest to Many.

The game of fifteen ball pool is not considered to be quite so scientific as the regular game of straight carrom billiards, but there is such a marked difference between a good and an average pool player that the few and select half dozen professional experts who will contend for the individual championship enjoy a well earned distinction among the numerous amateur and professional lovers of the game. Until last year all the championship matches at pool were played either under pyramid rules or "sixty-one" rules, but a new game was inaugurated last year, called continuous pool. It was invented by Albert Frey, who has held the championship for any kind of pool for a number of years. It is far more scientific than either of the two former standard games, for it requires that all the balls in each frame shall be pocketed, in place of simply the majority of the fifteen, or enough to aggregate a count of the numbers on the balls of sixty-one, which is a majority of one hundred and twenty.

In continuous pool the count is the same as in a game of billiards. Each ball a player holes counts a point, and the one putting the last ball in of a frame shoots first on the new frame. The game is full of pretty plays, for it is much harder to hole the last seven balls than the first eight, which last figure is where the old game stopped.

The players who will contest in this year's tournament are Albert Frey, J. Louis Malone, Alfredo de Oro, commonly known as Balbo the Cuban champion, William Clearwater, of Ohio; Albert G. Powers, of Chicago, C. H. Manning, of New York, J. T. King, of Philadelphia. The tournament will be at Harshman's hall, Fifth avenue and Nineteenth street, and will be played on a regulation 5x10 table. Each game is 100 points for a purse of \$1,000 and net gate receipts added, the whole to be divided among the first four men in 40, 30, 20 and 10 per cent. parts respectively. The winner will also receive a prize emblematical of the championship.

Albert M. Frey, the inventor of the continuous game, used to be known as the "boy champion," for he played such remarkable pool when he was but 16 or 17 years old. He is now 28, and has held the championship successfully against all comers for the past seven years. The secret of his wonderful playing is the great command he has over the cue ball. His position playing is so good that when he gets going he gives himself easy shots, for with different twists, draws and follows, he, in making a shot, brings his cue ball around to just about where he wants it to go for the next shot. He has rather a quick and yet easy looking stroke, and is always an interesting player to watch. His knowledge of combination shots is superior to any other player, and there is rarely a frame played without his finding some apparently invisible combination in the bunch which enables him to scatter the balls over the table. His game has proved to be the hardest to beat, for he takes few risks in scattering the balls, and he has the generalship of a veteran.

Alfredo de Oro, the Cuban, is a daring player. He has lost many a game through his attempting to make a hard shot to break the bunch, and having his opponent step in and take advantage of his recklessness. Do Oro plays a brilliant game, and if his aim is so good that he makes most of his hard shots, Frey says no one would beat him. He has finished among the front ranks in all tournaments he has played in, and with more generalship would be almost invincible. He was born in Havana, but spends nearly every spring in New York. He learned to play pool on the big 6x12 English tables which are used almost exclusively at his home.

J. Louis Malone won the championship tournament in 1884 and has always been looked on as next to Frey. He is a tall, well built young man of about twenty-nine years, in marked contrast to the other experts, who are as a rule small and wiry looking men. Malone is considered the most careful player in the profession. He figures on his chances of making a hard risky shot a long time before playing it, and he plays many more safety shots than most men. It is his extreme caution that makes him so hard to beat. He has a slow, steady stroke, and seldom plays a shot without giving the impression that he is sure of making it. He plays the best safety game known.

Albert Powers is from Chicago. He finished third in last year's tournament, but has greatly improved since then and great play is now within his capabilities. He is 24 years old, of medium height, and rather slender. He is known to be very good when hard pressed, and plays a great up hill game. He has taken part in numerous private matches and is generally successful. With a quiet and unassuming manner, one would not take him for the demon at pool which he is, for he has been known to give as fine an exhibition of the game as ever was witnessed.

J. T. King is the first one who beat Malone after the latter made his reputation. He has not figured in public since 1887, in which year's tournament he was a prize winner. He is 28 years old and has been playing on and off in public for ten years. His game is considered uncertain, and he is liable to defeat any contestant for a single series.

Charles H. Manning is a good, steady player, who lets no opportunity pass for gaining an advantage. He has been playing in tournaments for the past five years, and has always made a creditable



FREY.



ORO.



MALONE.

showing. He was one of the contestants in the preliminary tournament for the selection of the seventh competitor for the main one. In this preliminary tournament he defeated Erickson, known as the "California Wonder," and Kutzsch, of Syracuse. Manning is 23 years old and has good generalship at the game.

William Clearwater made his debut last year in a mostly local tournament in Syracuse, which he won. He is not more than 19 years old, but plays strong pool and with more experience will undoubtedly play stronger. He showed great form at the game several years ago, and has been improving steadily since then. After winning the tournament last year he visited New York and tackled what experts he had not met in Syracuse, and in some cases defeated them. He has been keeping quiet for this tournament, which is indicative of a strong showing.

BEHOLD! THE ANISE SEED BAG.

Swells and B-a-a-d Sports Are Now Chasing It 'Cross Country.

THE CHASE OF THE BAG.
And lo! it comes to pass, in various portions of the United States, especially in the vicinity of Chicago, that the inhabitants, that is, verily, those of ye inhabitants who are of sporting proclivities, do turn out on the backs of ye horses and do break their everlasting necks chasing an anise seed bag!

Not rabbits; not foxes; not coyotes; anise seed bags!
When a much headed young diplomat in Washington organized, not long ago, a troop of fashionable society men and women, who mounted horses and widely rode after little pieces of white paper which were distributed by another equally much headed youth about two miles ahead, the world held its breath for a little while, then yawned, and wondered, in their agony, what was coming next. It has come, the anise seed bag.

IMAGINATION IS NEEDED.
In this charming "sport" the sportsmen are mounted and ride after foxhounds. There isn't any fox, but the hounds run the trail of an anise seed bag, which some kind soul has previously yanked along over the ground. The hunters have only to imagine that the bag is a fox. That is the only difficulty, and that, of course, is slight. Once with the idea firmly fixed that the bag is a fox, and that to hunt the fox is really English, the terrific swells enjoy themselves tremendously.

With reasonable care on the part of the whippers in that the hounds don't fly the track and get into the fox pit of the park, and with a general caution to the hunters that it is their coats which should be red, and not their riding breeches, these sportsmen have so far made a prodigious success in their imitation of England's imitation of a sport.

In commenting on the absurdity of this kind of thing the able sporting editor of The St. Louis Globe Democrat says, after describing the anise seed chase:



IT MAKES ST. LOUIS MAD.

"The above proceeding is ridiculous and un-American. It is false, in that it vitiates the good pastime of horseback riding and offers no element of sport in compensation therefor. It is a pseudo sport, an imitation, a pinchbeck thing, and is especially wrong in this country, because we have not here such limitations upon genuine sport as exist in the country which originated it. In that country itself it is not looked upon as genuine, and is practiced mainly as a training for the puppies of a pack. Our young men don't get it straight. If they did they would not be so eager in their aping."

In regard to anglo-manic American imitation of unfair English sports, the same authority trenchantly remarks:

"Why should Americans demean themselves by application at such unworthy shrines, when there remain so many better; while there remain all this big country, all this blue sky, all this innate gallantry and fairness of spirit which, in spite of its own occasional aberration, does surely exist in the American heart! It is true we have not foxes near our large cities. Why pretend we have? There are not any wild hares in our parks. Why cage them, murder them, and try to call it sport, at the strain and penalty of every gentlemanly instinct? Why not cast about for a sport which we may take up and improve, and not seek for one whose use will only degrade it and ourselves?"

Meyer and McAuliffe.

The pugilistic world is still talking earnestly about the Meyer-McAuliffe fight and the pluck of the untrained Stretator lad. Here is a little aftermath concerning the matter:



Meyer and McAuliffe.
After the battle Meyer and McAuliffe chatted pleasantly together, and the latter remarked: "it's hard to whip a man that can't box."

Billy laughed and replied: "I couldn't afford to be whipped. Too many poor fellows backed me, you know." Then they shook hands and parted.

Only one man in North Judson, Ind., was satisfied with the McAuliffe-Meyer fight. He was a town marshal or sheriff. His satisfaction price was in the shape of good cold cash. If ever there was a gentleman well versed in the art of "shaking down" a crowd, Marshal Jones is the man.

Billy Meyer asserts that he could have won the fight if he had taken chances by rushing McAuliffe, but having in view the fact that many of his friends had staked all their earthly possessions on the result he would not under the circumstances run a risk of losing the fight. McAuliffe claims to have been in the same boat.

President John B. Day will allow Crane to play with the All Americas until the League season opens without charging Spalding anything for his services.

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Authorized Capital, \$2,000,000.
Subscribed Capital, \$621,300.
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JOSEPH F. SWIFT, Agent, Kingston.

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The last and only chance of getting
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SIMPLY BECAUSE WE BUY IN LARGER QUANTITIES, buy for cash, save the discount and give the purchaser the benefit. In the undertaking, as every one knows, the one who does the largest business can do it the cheapest. It requires the same number of horses, hearses, carriages, etc., to do 50 funerals for one year as it does 350. We also do our own engraving which is a great saving. Attend personally to every funeral and with the long experience which we have had can attend to funerals better and cheaper than any one in the business.

JAMES REID, 254 and 256 Princess Street.
R. REID, Manager.

NEW CORSETS.

Four new makes of Corsets just received. Our assortment is complete in every line. Corsets from 35c; 3 different makes at 50c; 4 different makes at 75c.

Auraline, Bonanza, Agave, Parisienne, Crompton, Coraline and French Wave Corsets in all sizes. A full range of the two new makes--Yatsi and Watch-spring. Every pair of which is guaranteed to give satisfaction or money refunded.

A. J. McMAHON, 102 Princess-st.

NEW SPRING DRESS GOODS AT WALDRON'S.

New All Wool Henrietta Cloth, 50c.
New Silk Warp Henrietta Cloth, \$1.
New All Wool Veilings, 20c.
These Goods are all the newest shades--Terra Cotta, Mahogany, Walnut, Strawberry, Faded Flower, Lizard Green, Mulberry, Fawn, Grey, Electric Blue, etc.