BASKET-BALL SCORES AND NEWS, BOWLING AND BOXING

SECTIONAL AND FINAL AMATEUR DATES CHOSEN

Local Basket Tourney Play Opens Jan. 29—State Finals in February.

STRONG TEAMS ENTERED

The Indianapolis sectional games in the Indiana independent amateur basket-ball championship tournament will be played on the Y. M. C. A. court Jan. 29 and Feb. 5, 12 and 15, and the championship rounds of play will be staged here, either at the Y. M. C. A. or Tomlinson Hall, Feb. 24, 25 and 26. Announcement of these dates was made today by Wayne Emmelman, manager of the tournament.

Local district play will be on the afternoon of the first three dates mentioned, with the finals carded for the night of Feb. 15. Play will be carried on through the afternoon and evening of all championship round dates.

More than 200 of the leading independent amateur teams of Indiana have entered the tournament and Emmelman has mapped the State out into twenty districts, which will be announced next week. District play throughout the State will open during the first week of February and will not be completed until a few days before the championship battles open here. Emmelman states that he has registered a larger and stronger list of teams for this year's tournament than that of last season, and he promises the fans of every district some high class entertainment.

The Indianapolis district play will be confined to Indianapolis teams alone and it is believed that approximately twenty of the fastest local quintettes will register for action in the big scrap.

The local sectional play, due to the intense rivalry among the teams, was probably a bit snappier last season than was the State title play. All of the strong teams are back in the field this year and anxious to get started in the tournament. The Joy-Glooms, last year's local winners, will be among those to bid for the honor this year, as will the South Side Turners, last year's runners-up.

Entries to the focal district play will close on Jan. 5 and teams planning to enter are requested to file application blanks as early as possible.

Entry blanks and complete information regarding the tournament may be obtained through communication with Wayne Emmelman, Em-Roe sporting goods store, 212 West Washington street.

British Golfers Brace Up Nerve Over Proposed Invasion of Yank Stars

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—All England is not so pessimistic about the proposed American golf invasion next summer.

When the British golfers first heard that funds were being raised here to send twenty American links experts to England next summer, after the British amateur and the open championships, many declared that it was all over. America, by such a drive, surely would succeed.

However, "Fairway," a British expert, writing in "Sporting Life," does not see such cause for alarm.

"If our leading amateurs keep up on their game throughout the winter months," he writes, "the fears of those pessimistic prophets who would have us bow to the inevitable as a result of American preparation for invasion may be dispersed when the time arrives for the international duel.

"Fortunately we are, or should be, quite immune from defeat with the talent we already possess. I do not care how well Robert Jones, Charles Evans, or Francis Ouimet play, they are here in the anticipation of success in the open championship, they are more optimistic than usual—even for Americans. We have the veterans headed by Vardon, Taylor, Braid and Herd; we have the intermediate stage of players, of whom Mitchell, Duncan and Ray are the most prominent, and we have the younger generation, such as Allis, Ockenden and Holland, a combination which should produce the individual who will defeat the strongest forces produced by America or any other nation.

"When it has been necessary, England invariably has found 'the man' and I am convinced we shall do so in the season of 1921."

BILLIARDS

ILLINOIS AMATEUR CHAMP.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—W. H. Leu of Rockford ended the annual State amateur pocket billiard tournament as champion, defeating C. A. Vaughan of Chicago in a lively match, 75 to 51, in seventeen innings. The places were decided on total balls for the tourney, Leu ending with 600, forty-three ahead of his nearest rival, W. S. Grant, the Chicago loop district qualifier. Vaughan took third place with 508. Leu, who won seven matches and lost one, eliminated W. A. Sellers of the west side, Chicago, as a title possibility, 75 to 36, and Grant fattened his total against Sellers, 75 to 56. Then Leu proved his supremacy over Grant, 75 to 36.

CITY THREE-CUSHIONS.

Anderson downed Houseman last night at the Board of Trade, 50 to 41, in 114 innings, each scoring a high run of three. It was a city three-cushion tournament match.

Kentucky Derby Value Now Placed at $60,000

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 24.—The purse for the Kentucky Derby, to be run at Churchill Downs, Louisville, May 7, 1921, has been increased to $5,000, it was announced here last night by Col. Matt J. Winn, general manager of the Kentucky Jockey Club.

This sum, together with entry and denomination fees, will make the total value of the race in excess of $60,000. The value of the race to the winner in 1920 was $33,000.

BASKET-BALL

COLLEGE.

Earlham, 28; Em-Roes, 21.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Bloomington, 37; Tech, 18.
Monrovia, 16; Emmins, 9.
Monrovia Seconds, 7; Stilesville, 0.
New Palestine, 63; Wilkinson, 7.
New Palestine Seconds, 16; Wilkinson Seconds, 4.
Shelbyville, 19; Richmond, 10.
Rochester, 33; Kokomo, 15.
Edinburg, 49; Scottsburg, 21.
Orleans, 21; West Baden, 19.
Wingate, 27; Marion, 17.
Greensburg, 20; Madison, 14.
Broad Ripple, 32; New Augusta, 21.
Greencastle, 23; Lizton, 12.
Whiting, 29; Valparaiso, 12.

INDEPENDENT.

Tartars, 48; Capital City, 10.
Ferndales, 25; Carmel, 21.
Lincolns, 22; Olivers, 12.
Kurt-Te-Se, 34; Pair-o'-Dice, 13.
Ft. Wayne, 28; Pendleton, 20.
Greencastle, 13; Coatesville, 5.

The South Side Turner hardwood athletes are in great shape for their clash with the Pottawattamie quintette at Turner hall tomorrow night, and they expect to tack up a victory. The contest will be followed by a dance. On New Year's night the Turners will stack up against the North Side Vets at Turner hall.

ORIOLES SIGN COLLEGIAN.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—Rufus Clarke, former star pitcher of the University of South Carolina baseball team, has been signed by the Baltimore club of the International League in response to "a very flattering offer," Manager Jack Dunn announced today.

Clarke had a wonderful record on his college team and had been sought by half a dozen big league clubs.

SANTA GUESSED JOE'S WISH

—Russell, Cincinnati Enquirer.

BANTAMS DRAW RECORD CROWD

13,953 Fans Witnessed Lynch Take Title—Receipts, $74,881.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The largest crowd that ever attended a match at Madison Square Garden—13,953 persons—was on hand when Joe Lynch defeated Pete Herman for the bantamweight title on Wednesday night. The gate receipts, $74,881, did not break a record, as they fell below the amount of $452,522 taken in at the Dempsey-Brennan contest.

Herman received $29,846 for his end. Lynch, for winning the title from Herman, got a guarantee of $7,500. According to the articles of agreement, Herman was to receive 52½ per cent of the gross receipts, less the State tax of 5 per cent. Out of this money Herman had to pay Lynch $7,500.

The gross receipts amounted to $74,881 and the State received $3,744. Herman's end, after the State tax was taken out, figured up $37,346, and, with Lynch's end of $7,500 deducted, he got $29,846. The tickets sold were as follows: 2,400 at $2, $4,800; 2,070 at $3, $6,237; 3,823 at $5, $19,115; 1,615 at $7, $11,305; 3,320 at $10, $33,200; total, $74,881.

There is some grumbling over the decision that gave the bantamweight championship to Lynch. The decision was absolutely fair. This grumbling may be due to the fact that the so-called wise money was backing Herman to win, or it may be due to the tradition that a champion should not be deprived of his title unless he is knocked out or very decisively beaten.

They held to this tradition in California when prize fighting was booming out there. If it had not been for this tradition Abe Attell would have been lightweight champion of the world as well as featherweight champion. Abe fought Battling Nelson fifteen rounds and gave the battler a beating in every round of the fifteen, but the tradition was that no champion should lose his title unless he was knocked loose from his intellect or whatever stood in lieu thereof.

The no-decision feature of the old boxing law puts a premium on stalling and loafing in the ring. This boy Herman, the bantam champion that was, evidently is mainly a defensive fighter, not a hard one to outpoint and not an easy one to knock out.

Em-Roes Lose Game With Earlham Five on Neutral Ground

THORNTOWN, Ind., Dec. 24.—Earlham College basket performers uncovered a neat array of tricks which, combined with the uncanny basket shooting of Hall, chucked the Indianapolis Em-Roes on the losers' end of a 28-to-21 count here last night. Earlham had it on the independent combination all the way, grabbing an early lead and sticking out in front throughout the contest. The first half ended with the 13 to 7.

Campbell, center, played a wonderful game for the losers, both on defense and offense. He was all over the court and shot baskets from all angles and positions. Hall played the same sort of game for Earlham that Campbell played for the Em-Roes.

Four members of the Earlham team—Hall, Cacey, Lawler and Beck—are products of Thorntown High School, and a large crowd cheered them last night as they stepped on the local floor in college uniform for the first time.

Columbus Fans No Doubt Will Welcome Rowland as Leader of Senators

Clarence Rowland, former manager of the White Sox, won't be numbered among the major league pilots this year. He has signed to boss the Columbus A. A. team. And it's a good bet the fans of the Ohio capital will welcome him and back him to the limit.

Rowland was unknown to big league fandom generally when he signed to pilot the Chicago club in 1914. He took Jim Callahan's place. His first year out he led his team to third place. In 1916 he almost nosed out the Red Sox with a spurt of sixteen straight games. Then, in 1917, he copped the league and world's title.

He's a Westerner—born in Platteville, Wis., Feb. 12, 1879. He broke into baseball in 1903 as a catcher with Dubuque in the Three-I League. Later he went to Peoria, became manager and won a pennant for the Illinois city.

Last year he was a scout for the Detroit Tigers.

Kentucky Spring Dates

Lexington, Saturday, April 23, to Wednesday, May 4. Ten days.
Churchill Downs, Saturday, May 7, to Monday, May 30. Twenty days.
Latonia, Saturday, June 4, to Saturday, July 8. Thirty-one days.

He's Field Goal Wizard

DECATUR, Ill., Dec. 24.—Millikin University basket-ball team won its fourth game of the season at Charleston from Eastern State Normal, 40 to 18. Captain Gill, with twelve field goals, featured. He has averaged ten per game.

English Not Ready to Recognize Lynch, but Reason Is Thin

British Promoter Advances Technical Point That Won't Hold Water.

By HENRY FARRELL,
United Press Sports Editor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—If all the English authorities figure like Rube Welch, Joe Lynch will not be recognized as the bantamweight champion by the International Boxing Union.

However, that will not mean much in the young life of the new champion.

Welch, who has billed the Jimmy-Wilde-Pete Herman match for the world's bantamweight championship, perhaps is trying to make his fight good when he says that by weighing in eight hours before the fight the two principals in the championship affair here Wednesday went in at catchweights and the title was not involved.

If Wilde wins from Herman it is very likely that the British will see things like Welch and claim the bantamweight crown for the Welshman.

According to the books Welch is wrong in his argument about weighing in.

The rules of the National Boxing Club, which govern boxing in England, clearly require weights to be made eight hours before the fight.

The Queensbury rules provide for weighing in on the day of the bout and rules of the International Boxing Union make it optional—either eight hours before or at the ringside.

The United States does not belong to the International Boxing Union, Americans objecting to giving equal votes to nations where boxing is not on the same scale as in this country.

Until last winter, when the union was reorganized, Johnny Kilbane had never been recognized as the featherweight champion because he had never defended his title against an European.

When he was placed on the official list of champions it was a direct move for American favor. Since the Americans failed to reciprocate for the concession, the union very probably will not recognize Lynch. But, as was said, it will mean nothing to Lynch.

Kilbane got along very well without the official recognition of Europe. Lynch can go on his way in America without considering the other side. No matter what attitude the union assumes, he is the recognized champion in America, and this is a very large country.

WITH the PUGS

NEW CHAMPION TO TAKE REST

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Joe Lynch is going to celebrate the winning of the bantamweight championship by taking a short vacation at Lakewood, N. J., he announced today.

After a month's layoff the new champion says he will return to New York and begin the stern business of defending his title against all comers.

BENJAMIN IS WINNER.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 24.—Jose Benjamin, Portland lightweight, won a ten round decision over Harry Schuman of Denver last night.

Benjamin floored the Denver fighter twice in the second round, but the latter, by a great rally, managed to stick it out.

In the ten-round semi-wind-up Frankie Murphy, Denver lightweight, stopped Lloyd Madden of Seattle in the fourth round.

PATSY McMAHON WINS.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Dec. 24.—Patsy McMahon of Indianapolis and Red Herring of Little Rock, Ark., boxed ten fast rounds here last night, with the honors in favor of McMahon. Jack Dillon, the Hoosier Bearcat, boxed a four-round exhibition with Harry Foley of Frisco, proving to the many fans that he can still step a bit.

MOORE VS. SHARKEY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Pal Moore, Memphis bantam, and Jack Sharkey, New York, have been matched to meet in a fifteen-round bout next Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden. Panama Joe Gans and Sailor Barden will furnish the semi-final and Earl Baird and Tommy Ellen the opener.

OLYMPIC STAR MATCHED.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 24.—Peter Zivic who was a member of the United States boxing team at the Olympic games, will turn professional here on Christmas afternoon, when he meets Patsy Young in one of the preliminaries of the Harry Greb-Jeff Smith bout. Zivic, who is a bantamweight, was one of the most consistent amateur winners in the Pittsburgh district.

RIXEY SOUGHT BY THE GIANTS

McGraw Strives to Obtain Star Southpaw From Philly Club.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—Despite that Philly officials yesterday denied they had received a bid from the New York Giants for a southpaw, Eppa Rixey, it was said the Giants had made Bill Donovan a flattering offer of Poll Perritt, Catcher Snyder, and a cash consideration for the big pitcher. Donovan turned it down.

If McGraw raises his bid it is likely that a deal for Rixey will be consummated.

COBB SIGNS HOWLEY.

DETROIT, Dec. 24.—Ty Cobb, new manager of the Tigers, has chosen Dan Howley as the coach of the pitchers, it was stated yesterday. Howley was pitching coach here in 1919. Last year he was manager of the Hartford club of the Eastern League.

Yost and Sharpe Sought by West Virginia Team

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 24.—Fielding Yost of Michigan and Al Sharpe of Yale are the two men the athletic authorities of West Virginia University are considering for the position of football coach to succeed Tubby McIntyre, who will not return in 1921.

There are a score of applicants, but according to Harry Stansbury, athletic director, who was here last night, Yost or Sharpe are the only men the West Virginia authorities believe might unite the factions at Morgantown and other points in agreeing upon a "big" coach.

Stinchcomb Picks Partner

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—"Pete" Stinchcomb, All-American star and brilliant half back with the Ohio State University football eleven, is to be married soon. Stinchcomb announced his engagement to Miss Anne Jane Summers of Columbus while en route to Pasadena, Cal., for the intersectional game with California New Year's day. Miss Summers is making the trip West to see Stinchcomb play his last game under the Ohio colors.

BOWLING

Jim Sheridan knocked out the feature count in the Knights of Columbus League. He hit for 237 in the first round, giving the Santas a good start in their three-game win over the Christaphores.

Jesse Gavin would have established a few new Casey records if somebody had handed him a Christmas present while he was tearing off those 190 scores.

It isn't very often that the "Gennies" drop three, but the extra defeat didn't seem to bother them any this time. Farmer got scores that made life easy for the opposing Marquettes.

Jimmie White of the Calumets went so far as to gather 221 pins in assisting the Calumets, but they dumped him and lost three to the Isabellas.

Foley registered two double centuries on the Ferdinand score card, but Kernel of the Columbians was swapping him tit for tat and the Ferdinands were nosed out at the finish.

St. Paul's Ducks waddled up for three more wins in the Evangelical Brotherhood circuit, Knopp and Graul doing the big shooting. The latter won the one-game honors with a 213.

Every match in this league went over the clean sweep route, the Zion Boosters, Cardinals and St. Paul Hawks being the other winners over the St. John Owls, Canaries and Eagles, respectively.

The Bemis Baggers were cheated out of the double hundred stuff, Hamilton of the Seamless crew going high with 199 pins.

The Papers came within a pin of losing three games to the Burlaps, when they took the third scrap, 739 to 738. The Seamless five beat the Cottons and the Twines won two from the Bleachers.

Farnan of the Claman Bros. No. 2 team in Beam's No. 3 league wins the Christmas turkey. He opened fire with a 222, came back for 246 and closed with 187. He and Hoyt of the American Express office did all the big shooting that was done in the loop.

Lemen of the American Express Depot was everything his name sounds like. He couldn't count a dime's worth of wood for his whole evening's worth.

Gastineau of the Abattoir Favorite Bacons didn't get away with much at the start, but he made up for lost time with his 209 and 222 scores.

Fulton of the Sunnybrooks bested Gastineau by a single pin in the game race, getting 223 in the second round.

The Calves staged an awful jam to win the odd game of their match with the Butcher Bulls.

The Wholesale Leaguers showed plenty of improvement this week, whopper counts being in evidence on the score card of every man.

Germer of the Van Camp Hardwares went just a bit better than the others in the league when he closed the night with a 225.

Vahle of the Hibben-Hollweg quintette was not in for the first bombardment, but he collected 199 and 220 in the second and third rounds.

Collier stood out as leader of the Mooney-Mueller team, with a trio of 190 counts. Faust and Young posted the double Cs for this team.

The Midwest Engines were thinking more about Santa Claus than they were about bowling.

A bowling league has been organized at the Athenaeum known as the Athenaeum Bowling League, with twelve teams rolling Monday Tuesday and Wednesday nights. The schedule calls for eighteen weeks of bowling. Prizes will be given for winners—high averages, high individual score, high team average and others—and the season will be closed with a banquet. Dr. Herbert Wagner is president and Gage Hoag secretary. All members of the Athenaeum and the Turnverein are invited to join the league. Those desiring to bowl should send their names to the secretary.

Cathedral Grid Awards

Monograms for the 1920 football season were awarded yesterday to the Cathedral High School players by Coach Feeney, at the Knight of Columbus hall. The following received their letters: Mooney, Ruckelshaus, Hartnett, Brezette, Sadilier, Glaska, Gavin, Royse, Arzman, Laffey, Harmon, Sexton, Kelley, Rowe, Wilberding, Harrington and Madden.

Captain Sadlier presented Coach Feeney with a silver loving cup in the name of the squad and took occasion to thank the coach for the efforts he had made in behalf of Cathedral athletics.

Mack Gets College Star

STILLWATER, Okla., Dec. 24.—Wilbur Ray, the only athlete who has won a letter in four different sports at Oklahoma A. and M. College, has signed a contract with the Philadelphia Americans as a pitcher, he stated today. Ray will report at Lake Charles, La., late in February.

GEORGES STILL THE FAVORITE ON OTHER SIDE

English and French Fans Stick With Frenchie to Beat Dempsey.

O'ROURKE EXPLAINS IT

By JACK VEIOCK,
International News Sports Editor.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—"Georges Carpentier should defeat your man Dempsey. There has never been another like Georges.

"Should Carpentier fail, even to the point of getting knocked out, Dempsey will never be able to really beat him; never crush his spirit."

Here is the English viewpoint of the French champion and the angle from which the average British fight fan looks at a fighter, according to Tex O'Rourke, matchmaker of the International Sporting Club, who has just returned to this country from a trip abroad, bringing back some of London's best amateur battlers.

"They have a different why of looking at a fighter over there," said O'Rourke today. "Once a boxer has established himself—got a reputation—he can go on and on, no matter how many times he is beaten. Look at Joe Becket, for instance. I'll venture we have ten men, or perhaps more, in this country who could knock Beckett cold, but the English still stick to him. He's the champion, and that settles it.

"When Carpentier and Dempsey meet there's going to be a lot of British and French money on the handsome Georges, and at odds. Why, you can get two to one on Carpentier in France right now and as good as ten to seven in England. Perhaps, if the fight is staged on the other side and Dempsey goes over there to train, the betting odds will fluctuate after the English have had a chance to look him over. But now they can't see anything but Carpentier.

"After Moran knocked Beckett out one of the members of the National Sporting Club asked me if I couldn't arrange to have Bill Brennan or some other good heavyweight come across to fight before his club. He even suggested Dempsey and wanted to stage Beckett on the other end of the match.

"'What's the matter with Moran?' I asked him," Tex said, "and he replied that Moran wouldn't do because he wasn't a champion and because he did not rank as a topnotcher among Americans. And this after he had knocked Beckett for a goal in two rounds. So you see the viewpoint?"

O'Rourke said that the English are enthusiastic over the plan of the International Sporting Club for encouraging amateurs, creating champions in the various industries and bringing together the leading amateur titleholders of different nations.

O'Rourke brought back the heavy and middleweight champions of the London police force and the Army and Navy titleholders. The American champions will be selected soon and the bouts will be staged by the International Sporting Club about the middle of January.

Tech Loses Bloomington Go After Leading Until Late in Second Session

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Dec. 24.—After holding the upper hand until late into the second half of their contest with Bloomington, the Technical High School basketeers slipped a cog and let Bloomington ramble up for a 37 to 18 victory.

Tech had things easier than was expected in the first half and when the rest period arrived, the Green and White carried a 12 to 9 lead. Griggs increased this two points shortly after the second half opened and everything was looking rosy until near the middle of the second session, then Logan, Krueger and Shousler started a bombardment of the hoops and were blasting away full force when the end came, with Tech trailing.

Logan registered nine field goals for his team, Shousler four, and Krueger three. Nipper and Griggs led the scoring for the Indianapolis five.

Swim Meet Arranged

Indiana has accepted the invitation of the I. A. C. to hold a dual swimming meet in the tank of the local club Jan. 22. The I. A. C. aquatic performers will return the engagement at Bloomington Feb. 16. The events agreed on for the meet are as follows: Fifty, 100 and 220-yard free style; 100-yard back stroke, four-man 160-yard relay, fancy diving (low board.)

The junior swimmers will be sent to meet the Kokomo Y. M. C. A. tank artists some time in February, the date to be decided later.

Joins Columbia Staff

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Columbia University's football coaching staff will be reinforced next year by Joe Brooks, who has resigned as coach at Williams College, it was announced Thursday. He will be first assistant to Head Coach "Buck" O'Neill.

Ohio Staters Swing Into Hard Practice for New Year's Game

PASADENA, Cal., Dec. 24.—Ohio State's football team arrived in Pasadena early today from Palo Alto ready for a week of practice and acclimating prior to the big game New Year's day with California.

Coach Wilce had the team at work at Palo Alto yesterday despite the rain. He put the men through a lot of fundamental stuff with the backs and ends in one corner tackling a dummy and the forwards in another bucking a charging machine. Then he turned loose Hoge Workmen to do some kicking and there was a general signal practice.

Coach Powell of Stanford aided Wilce and is understood to have told the Ohio coach all the secrets of California football which Stanford learned in its clash with the Bruins.

Gotham Sport Fraternity Works to Protect Games

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Any attempt by the next Legislature to change the present liberal interpretation of laws governing sport, including Sunday baseball, will meet with decided opposition of every element responsible for placing the present laws on the statute books.

This was made clear when representatives of various sporting interests were approached with a plan to present a solid front when the matter is brought before the Legislature. State Senator James J. Walker, father of the present boxing commission law, will be chosen to represent them in the Legislature.

In the meantime the sporting fraternity purposes to make a campaign to educate the people regarding the desirability of maintaining the present situation.

'Tiny' Forgot to Study

GREENCASTLE, Ind., Dec. 24.—"Tiny" Hirt, local athlete who has been playing back guard on the De Pauw basket-ball team, was yesterday declared ineligible to play for the remainder of the season because of delinquency in his studies. This announcement was made by Dr. W. M. Blanchard, secretary of the faculty, and Coach E. C. Buss.

Hirt was making an excellent showing at the back guard position and Coach Buss is puzzled as to how he will fill the hole.

Rowing Classic on Harlem

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Childs cup race, the classic of collegiate rowing, will be decided next spring on the Harlem River here, according to Charles H. Mapes, of the governing board of stewards. By an agreement the race will be rowed on Lake Cayuga in 1922 and on the Schuylkill River in 1923.

The Naval Academy crew, winner of last year's race and the world's champions, will not be invited to compete, but probably will row into the Poughkeepsie regatta.

GOVERNMENT RED TAPE GOES ENDLESSLY ON

State Bureaus Wander 'Round Robin Hood's Barn in Duplicating Effort.

FEW EXAMPLES GIVEN

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—If the proposed budget bureau is created by Congress, we may at last have an office with power to help cut some of the yards of red tape out of government routine.

Year after year government bureaus go on duplicating effort and wandering all around Robin Hood's barn, instead of taking the shortest route. In some cases, an alteration in office procedure can be affected by order of the secretary of the department or some lesser official. In other matters, only Congress or the President has the power to act. Either way, the red tape goes on endlessly unrolling because nobody is sufficiently interested to start unwinding a few more yards of it in order to bring about a change.

When, once in a great while, some official simplifies procedure, the change is so unusual as to cause surprise and comment. General Harris a few days ago attracted widespread interest when he put through the starting order cutting down the number of endorsements on army correspondence. The idea itself is not original. For years, people have ridiculed the army regulations which required a soldier applying for a furlough, to send the request to his sergeant, who referred it to the captain, who had an endorsement written and copies of the papers made, and then referred it to the major who made some more copies, and so on to the officer sufficiently elevated to have the final word. The remarkable fact is that somebody has finally thought of doing something about it. Hereafter, papers will in some cases skip some of the intermediate officers and those officers who have to endorse them will in most cases be permitted to stamp an endorsement on the document and send it directly on without making and keeping records. This is a typical instance of a reduction of red tape.

People are inclined, however, to denounce all Government formalities as red tape. If we write a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury about Liberty bonds and an answer is not found in the return post, red tape is considered the only possible reason for the delay. And when we read in the paper that a skilled agriculturist is leaving important experimental work in the Government for lack of a few dollars more in his pay check, we bewail the red tape which prevents the department from cutting down its regiment of messenger boys and keeping the scientists at work.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND OTHER BUSINESS.

The fact is, the Government is too ponderous an organization to be very flexible. What might seem a desirable course to follow in one case would be a disastrous policy if applied throughout the service.

The difference between the Government and other business concerns can best be understood when you take a definite instance. If you run a private business, and prefer not to keep files, but to throw your records of correspondence into the waste basket, that is your own affair. If you are in a partnership, the partner would have to be consulted. In a company, the members have still less absolute liberty. And if the firm is incorporated, you may be responsible to a board of directors and to any number of stockholders.

The Government represents the most complex system of all. It is composed of nearly 1,000,000 employes, including the Army, and it has 110,000,000 employers, the citizens of the country. Every Government clerk is responsible to this enormous body of employers. The whole organization is on so large a scale that only general rules can control its operation.

Suppose, then, you write to the Department of Agriculture regarding a strange weed in your garden. When that letter reaches the department it becomes an official document. It is answered by the scientist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who knows most about such weeds. And then, long after you have forgotten all about it, your letter and a copy of the answer lie dusty but safe in the department archieves.

Ten or twenty years from now the department may apply to Congress for permission to destroy your correspondence and other papers which no longer seem of value. A committee would consider the advisability of this step, and, if it approved, Congress would probably pass an act authorizing the destruction. To destroy public documents without going through this ceremony, or even to mutilate them, is a penitentiary offense.

TONS OF GOVERNMENT PAPERS IN "MORGUE."

One small bureau which employs only about fifty clerks has a carload of papers filed away, many of them in bundles tied up literally with the proverbial Government red tape. To sort out those of value from the worthless papers would take more time, says the chief, than he can give now. There are tons of such papers stored in the bureau "morgues" awaiting a periodical sorting out and congressional approval for a bonfire. From time to time the bureaus do get permission to reduce the mountains of old correspondence and records. The Civil Service Commission, for instance, keeps its records of papers of persons who were found ineligible for a Government position for several years, until there is no possible chance of these papers being wanted.

Offhand, this looks like red tape at its reddest. A Government official says not. He tells us that it is a protection to the Government employee and to the people of the country. If there were no such stringent law regarding preservation of Government papers, dishonest clerks could too easily cover up crookedness. Time and again in an investigation of irregular dealings the records are called for. If the chief or some other official had the authority to throw away these papers after a correspondence was closed, there might be no written evidence available. As it is there have been cases where officials who had destroyed or altered records were discovered and sentenced.

MONEY COLLECTORS MAKE DAILY RETURNS.

Another instance of what some people think is red tape is the requirement that employes who collect money under the Treasury Department—such as customs officials—make returns daily. The official, whoever he is, turns in his money to a bank, and sends a report to the Treasury Department. The bank also reports at once to the Treasury each amount deposited. This is a single step in the precautions to keep the Government's money affairs straight. The Treasury Department has the most perfect accounting system in use. At every point where money is handled it is checked to avoid error or dishonesty. A Government official may spend public funds unwisely, but it is practically impossible for him to take a dollar of the money entrusted to him, and put it directly in hispocket.

Still another place where formality is carried to an extreme for protection is in the State Department. Officials and clerks in this department are more careful of what they say in answer to the most casual question than employes of any other Government office. Nearly every statement for the press is carefully written by the State Department press bureau, approved by some high official, and copies made to be distributed to the newspaper correspondents. If news is given verbally it is just as carefully prepared. Any slight change in wording might cause an international misunderstanding. Even an adjective a trifle stronger than the one intended to be used might possibly offend some foreign representative.

On the other hand, ceremonies no less elaborate are being performed by some other bureaus without any legitimate reason back of them. The budget bureau, if it materializes, will be required as one of its definite duties to "make a detailed study of the departments and establishments for the purpose of enabling the President to determine what changes (with a view of securing greater economy and efficiency in the conduct of the public service) should be made in (1) the existing organization, activities, and methods of business of such departments or establishments, (2) the appropriations therefor, (3) the assignment of particular activities to particular services, or (4) the regrouping of services. The results of such study shall be embodied in a report or reports to the President, who may transmit to Congress such reports with his recommendations on the matters covered thereby.

This is still very much like using red take to eliminate it, but it is a safe way to simplify the complex government machinery, and as such it is strongly supported by the congressional advocates of the budget system.

DISCONTENT HITS PANAMA

Zone Employes Not Satisfied With Conditions.

CRISTOBAL, Canal Zone, Dec. 24.—Thousands of Americans employed in the Panama Canal Zone, thousands of miles from home, are suffering from the wave of discontent that has swept the world since the war.

Although life in the Canal Zone is now a paradise compared to that life which the early builders of the canal led, there is great dissatisfaction with the administration and the treatment of the employes. Some of this discontent may arise from the fact that these employes are living in the heat of the tropics and so far from home that their country's viewpoint does not reach them.

Every visitor to the zone gets the whisperings of discontent. There is widespread propaganda, rumors that the canal is not a success and intimations that one should see the "back alleys" of the canal.

DECLARE PAY INCREASE DUE.

The employes want more pay. They feel that they have been forgotten. While Government employes in the United States have been given increases the zone employes have not been given proportionate increases. They declare they are entitled to greater pay for their service in the tropics, far from home, forgetful of the fact that they are dwelling in comfortable Government houses at nominal rents, while employes in the States are fighting for living quarters.

The zone employes buy their food and supplies from a commissary at prices which are not much above cost. These commissaries carry every necessity of life and many of the luxuries, and the prices are amazing to one who has just come from the States. Yet there is dissatisfaction with the commissaries, and cries that the prices are too great.

Many of the zone employes have been here for years; they are proud of their work and feel an ownership in the Canal which almost amounts to their forgetting that the American people, and not the Canal Zone people, own and paid for the canal. Perhaps it is this forgetfulness which allows the discontent to go on.

Although the rumblings of discontent are audible and rumors of inefficiency are frequent, the fact still stands out that the Panama Canal is a success. Ships pass through this great gateway to commerce at an amazing rate. The entire canal works like silent magic, for from the time a ship enters the Pacific portals at Balboa until it leaves the Atlantic mouth at Cristobal not an order is given, each man knows his duty and does it without an order.

So they work on, these Americans, far from home in the discomforts and the comforts of the tropics, some of them working cheerfully, but all of them faithfully.

Whatever justice there may be back of the discontent in the Canal Zone, at least it is certain that the canal is operating with credit to the United States.

It would not be surprising if President-elect Harding after taking up the duties of the Chief Executive would give official ear to the complaints of the Canal Zone employes and send a commission to formally investigate all complaints.

NEXT POSTAL MEET.

MADRID, Dec. 24.—Stockholm was chosen as the scene of the next congress of the International Postal Union and delegates will gather there in 1924.

MEXICO STIRRED BY REPORTS OF DIAMOND MINES

MEXICO CITY, Mexico, Dec. 24.—Finders of "diamond mines" are numerous, but the diamonds have not yet appeared in the market here and no Barney Bernato has arrived to dazzle the capital with his sudden opulence.

One tale told here is that a great diamond field has been found near the border of the States of Sonora and Sinola. This field is as vast in extent as the world-famous field in South Africa. But that is not all. The diamonds are valuable as any the world has seen. They are large, gleaming, and almost ready to be put into rings, necklaces and other ornaments. There will be little toil for diamond cutters, as nature has done almost all of the work.

Another story comes from the State of Guerrero. It reads like the veracious prospectus of the Consolidated Wildcat Diamond Corporation. This is it:

A famous geologist—too well known to be named—has found the diamond mine from which General Guerrero took sparkling gems and presented them to Emperor Augustin, who, before he became a monarch, was General Augustin Iturbide.

General Guerrero told no one the secret of the location of his diamond mine and died with the secret unrevealed.

But the well-known geologist—name not mentioned—put two and two together and walked straight to General Guerrero's mine. Diamonds were everywhere, a mass of gems equalling in value the fortune of any nabob.

The well-known geologist, after telling of the diamonds, went on his way to look for something else.

OLD BAY STATE BATTLESHIP TO BE GUN TARGET

Massachusetts Namesake Is Moored at Last Anchorage in Gulf of Mexico.

BOMBARDMENT AWAITED

PENSACOLA, Fla., Dec. 24.—Lazily tugging at her anchors a thousand yards off shore in the Gulf of Mexico the obsolete battleship Massachusetts awaits her bath of shot and shell, and this will be poured into the stripped hull of the once famous American Navy battler this month. The Army alone will play the last card respecting the existence of the old battleship, and the War Department's newest method of coast defense will be employed in the operation.

Aside from the guns on the ramparts of Fts. Pickens and McRae, the old ship will receive the heavy and destructive shells from Uncle Sam's railway batteries, known as the mobile battery of the Army. These guns are on the way here now from Ft. Eustis, and upon their arrival they are to be sidetracked until the spot they will occupy while opening up on the old battleship can be made stable by the construction of heavy concrete bases. The guns are mounted on railway carriages, and it is claimed this kind of armament is one of the most dependable ever devised by the War Department's chiefs. Guns are fired accurately at 5,000 yards.

LAST VOYAGE STORMY ONE

The Massachusetts arrived from her last voyage at sea in tow of the mine sweeper Virelo and the naval tug Algiorma. It required fifteen days to make the trip from Philadelphia to Pensacola. Comparatively good weather for this season of the year was encountered until a few days from her destination, and then it seemed as if the elements were fighting to keep the old battleship from the fate which awaited her at Pensacola.

The Massachusetts will be sunk, it is understood, at her present anchorage. This is at a point in the Gulf of Mexico approximately 5,000 yards from the point where the destructive coast defense fortifications are located. That means that the ship will be fired on at a distance of 5,000 yards.

The old hull, immediately upon arrival, was filled with water and allowed to settle on the bottom in water about twelve feet in depth. Once the big gun target practising is ready to begin, the old ship will be raised, naval tugs going to her side and pumping out the water from her holds. This will permit the guns to be trained on a real battleship model for a target.

PLANES TO PLAY PART IN DESTRUCTION.

There will be planes from the Pensacola Naval Air Station and army planes from Camp Sheridan field employed to do their bit in the work of destruction. At the beginning of the maneuvers the planes will be employed to spot the shots and record the hits or misses as the cases may be.

It is not believed the old ship will be sunk for several days, but that is not meant as a reflection on the gunnery of the army. On the contrary, it is stated a salvo of shells will be hurled at the great mass of steel armor, then a cease firing order will be set and the board of ordnance experts will go on board to make surveys on the effects of the shots poured from the land batteries. These will be carefully marked and recorded and made into a part of the record of the maneuver. After the guns are through with their program airplanes will finally end the existence of the obsolete ship by bombing from 4,000-foot altitudes.

UTOPIA ISLE IS ON MAP AT LAST

Explorer Finds the Ideal in South America.

CAMBRIDGE, Mas., Dec. 24.—The highest and most perfect type of the communistic system in the world—where men work in perfect harmony and never touch the property of others, where inhabitants of a whole village live in one large house, each family with its own compartment equipped with a household bar having varied drinks, where there is no Volstead law, where beverages on festival days put the drinker to sleep for forty-eight hours, where men are muscular and brave, where women are modest, and where the obscene is unknown—was described by Dr. A. Hamilton Rice, athlete, physician and explorer, in a lecture at the Harvard Medical School. This "successful example of communistic living" was found by Dr. Rice among the Indians who inhabit the region between the Rio Negro and the Andes, in Columbia, South America, on his recent visit to that land.

On working days nobody wears clothes, but Dr. Rice observed extreme modesty wherever he went. In the large communal houses the bo