

SPORTMEN HAPPY BY BILL'S DEFEAT

Claim Quail Will Have Chance
To Propagate by Being
Protected Two Years.

FARMERS TO FEED BIRDS

SNOW AND ICE COVERING THE
GROUND MAKES IT HARD FOR
THEM TO FIND FOOD UNLESS IT
IS PROVIDED.

Local sportsmen are rejoicing over the defeat of the bill in the state senate making it unlawful to kill quail for a period of two years.

Senator Strange of Grant county argued that the quail was one of the best friends the farmer had and advocated the passage of the measure. Senators Wood and Springer opposed the passage of the bill as they said it would be an injustice to the hunters and farmers. They held that hunters were friends of the bird and the law was unnecessary.

If the present weather conditions continue the hunters say there will be no need of a law for the protection of quail as there will be none to protect, with the ground covered with a thick covering of ice and several inches of snow on top of that the birds will starve to death unless farmers come to their rescue and place food where they can get it. Almost all foodstuff on which the quails feed during the winter is encased in ice and the birds are facing starvation. If the farmers wish to protect them they should see that they get food, says a local sportsman.

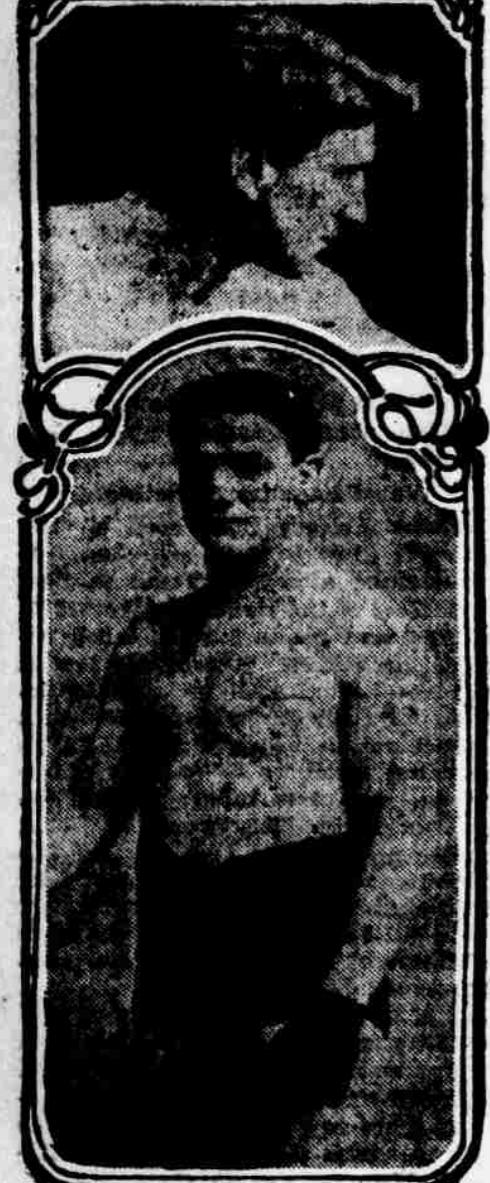
CORBETT'S NEXT BATTLE.

Former Champion to Try His Skill
Against Freddie Welsh Feb. 20.

Young Corbett, the former feather-weight champion, is making a desperate effort to "come back" and regain the lost prestige that followed his defeat by Jimmy Britt in 1904. The little Denverite's recent achievements in the roped arena have won him commendation among the ring contingent from coast to coast, and the popular little glove wielder is praised generally for his plucky attempt to regain his lost laurels.

Just a little over six months ago Corbett witnessed a bout in New York between two so called stars who were exchanging wallop like two novices.

Corbett turned to Joe Bernstein, a former pugilist, and said: "Have you seen any real fighters around here



FREDDIE WELSH AND YOUNG CORBETT. Likely? By gosh, I'm going away and get into shape and then see how good those fellows are."

Off he went to a road house the next day to begin training all over again, and the old guard smiled. "Just another down and outer looking for a shoestring," they said. Then came the news that the once great champion had won his fight on the occasion of his return to the little square arena.

Phil Brock, a fresh, hard hitting lad, fell before the science and brain work of McGovern's conqueror. That same old guard couldn't believe that Corbett had any fight left in him. He remained in New Orleans, and Harry Ferns was sent for. It looked as if Corbett would be shown up this time.

But, no. Corbett wasn't knocked out with the first punch—fact is, he knocked Harry Ferns out after having been put down himself. Ferns was never thought to be a coming champion, but still he was good enough to fight Frankie Madden two bruising battles, and Madden has recently been the star in several New York entertainments.

Corbett is matched to fight Freddie Welsh, the English featherweight, twenty-five rounds before the West Side Athletic club in New Orleans, Feb. 20. In Welsh, Corbett will meet one of the cleverest men that ever donned the mitts. He has defeated many of our crack lightweights and has a draw with Packy McFarland to his credit.

Affairs of the Sporting World

The American Association season opens at Indianapolis April 14, when Toledo furnishes the opposition to the home team. Local roosters will be pulled for the capital city boys again this season if they give any promise of a likely bunch.

Simon Pauzil, a university of Pennsylvania star athlete has signed to play ball with the New York Americans. What's in a name?

George Cohan, the musical comedy star is credited with saving Mike Donlin to the New York Giants. Donlin wanted \$8,000 and the management would pay but \$6,000. Cohan is said to have come forward and made an offer to pay the difference and keep Mike.

Splendid races are being run at Oakland, Cal. The purses are large and the cards of the last few days have been excellent.

Terry Turner's arm is still bad. In a letter to Lajoie the cotton top writes that his "wing is still mighty sore," and he does not think that he will be able to play for some time.

They are having a great deal of fun at that Chicago meeting of baseball

magnates. If they do not accomplish anything the owners will know that they met. The press comment tells what is thought about the meeting, however.

Abe Attell and Jim Driscoll of England, enter the ring tonight. Tomorrow Driscoll is to leave for England to box Moran.

The Chicago Americans have asked for waivers on Catcher "Buck" Weaver and will probably send him to Minneapolis, as no club seems to want him.

A Detroit statistician has figured out that Cobb drove in 101 runs last year to 85 driven in by Crawford.

Begins to look as if York will be the eighth club in the Tri-State league circuit.

Catcher Spencer, the man who was procured from the Browns, along with a cash consideration for Catcher Lou Criger, has accepted the terms offered him by the Red Sox.

Billy Kiester, a major leaguer only a few years ago, must be nearly all in, as Buffalo has put him on the market for \$400.

WABASH HORSE SALE

Daugherty Brothers Will Have
Largest Sale in History
Of This State.

ANIMALS FOR EXPORT

Wabash, Feb. 19.—Every preparation is being made at the Daugherty pavilion for one of the largest horse sales that has ever been held in this country, beginning March 16, when an imale with fancy prices and fast track records will be placed before the buyers, among whom will be some of the largest owners and breeders of the world.

There will be at least 300 of the fine animals sold during the week and on Saturday about 200 common horses, suitable for farm work, will be placed on the market for the benefit of local buyers.

All Are Fine Horses.

All the horses to be sold during the first part of the sale will be fancy ones. Horses that have made records on the track, and saddle horses which will bring high prices. They will be sold to buyers from all over the country, the horses themselves coming from nearly every stable in the United States. Some of them will be sold to English buyers who will take their purchases home for breeding purposes. Others will go to Mexico and Canada.

NEW HOCKEY LEAGUE

Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis and
Cleveland in New Circuit.

BASEBALL LAWS TO GOVERN.

Promoters of New Organization For
Ice Sport to Follow Diamond Regu-
lations as to Reserve and Waivers of
Players.

By TOMMY CLARK.

If the present plans of the promoters do not fall through professional ice hockey will receive quite a boom in this country next winter. Recently in Chicago a new ice hockey league was formed, which is composed of three teams in Chicago and one each in St. Louis, Pittsburg and Cleveland and backed largely by baseball magnates, and will be governed by baseball laws in regard to players.

A strong effort will be made to put the hockey league on practically the same basis as organized baseball. Players will be forced to sign contracts and respect waivers and reserve clauses the same as under the national agreement. The promoters feel that by doing this they can in a measure keep their teams intact throughout the season, and that is important, as a great deal of the success of a hockey team depends upon its team work.

A representative of the men who are interested in the forming of such an organization has made a tour of inspection to the various cities in this country in which the game is supported and in Canada, and his report has been favorable.

It appears that this representative devoted a great deal of his time to solving the problem which has menaced the Western Pennsylvania Hockey League throughout the present season—viz., the binding of the players.

He has reached the conclusion that the only way to overcome the contract jumpers and "holdout" men is to draft rules much along the same lines that govern baseball and make the hockey players recognize drafts, waivers, purchases, etc., just as the ball tossers have to.

The men who are interested in the founding of this new professional hockey league are very optimistic as to its success. They fully believe that the enthusiasm of the followers of the game can be aroused in the cities mentioned to such an extent that goodly profits would be made above expenses. President Charles A. Comiskey of the Chicago American league baseball club has been mentioned as one of the promoters of the new league. Comiskey has had a lot of experience in the rink game, having been interested in the game in St. Paul when he was running the baseball team there.

WAGNER'S PRESS AGENT BUSY

Pittsburg's Star Shortstop Announces
His Retirement From Baseball.

Almost every baseball fan in the country knows that Honus Wagner of the Pittsburgh Nationals is interested, with two of his brothers, in a circus which is to take the road this spring. One of the first things Honus and his brothers did was to engage a real live press agent, and the latter has started in. Here's his first contribution:

John Honus Wagner, king of batters and king of shortstops, will play no more baseball. The king's edict was issued in the form of an interview in which the famous player sets forth his intention to retire permanently from the diamond and devote his remaining years to peaceful pursuits. Selling automobiles and conducting the circus he and his brothers will soon place on the road will take up Wagner's time in the future, he says.

When Wagner was seen at his home in Carnegie and asked if the rumor concerning his retirement was correct he said:

"Yes, sir. I shall not again play baseball," and the big shortstop emphasized his assertion with the air of one driving a tenpenny nail through each word to make it stick good and hard.

"But your contract—the fans are under the impression that you are tied up tight with the Pittsburg team for 1909," faltered the reporter.

"Yes, I know, but as to a contract that was outside talk. I never said I signed one. Mr. Dreyfuss has not sent me any contract for this year. I'm a has been. I am just beginning to find that out. I used to be able to play some, but I tell you, I'm a has been. Besides that, I can make more money out of the automobile business than I can out of baseball."

"Then there's the circus that my brothers and myself are going to put on the road this year. All the time I can spare from the circus enterprise I shall devote to selling machines. Now, where is baseball coming in, even if I had not decided to leave the game?"

Harness Racing Dates.

At the annual meeting of the Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania trotting circuit, held recently in Wheeling, W. Va., the following dates were agreed upon:

Baltimore, June 8-11; Fairmont, W. Va., June 15-18; Clarksville, W. Va., June 22-25; Wheeling, W. Va., June 29-July 2; Canton, O., July 5-8; Rockport, O., July 12-15; Salem, O., July 20-23; East Liverpool, O., July 27-30; Greensburg, Pa., Aug. 3-6; Dayton, O., Aug. 10-13; Rockport, O., Aug. 17-20; Camp Dennison, O., Aug. 25-26; Canton, Aug. 30-Sept. 2; Wheeling, Sept. 5-10; Fairmont, Sept. 14-17; Clarksburg, Sept. 21-24; Morgantown, Sept. 28-Oct. 1; Cumberland, Oct. 5-8; Hagerstown, Oct. 12-15; Baltimore, Oct. 18-22.

CURRENT SPORT NOTES.

The University of Michigan baseball schedule provides for an eastern trip, during which the nine will meet Syracuse, Pennsylvania, Cornell and Brown.

Hugo Kelly, the Chicago middle-weight, and Joe Thomas, the California heavyweight, are to box ten rounds before the Fairmount Athletic club in New York, Feb. 23.

Annapolis will have four dual athletic meets this spring. Besides Pennsylvania, on May 15, and Princeton, on May 22, Columbia and Johns Hopkins will be met later in the season.

A baseball date, March 3, with many well known players on the alleys, will be a feature of the annual American bowling congress at Pittsburg. The series begins Feb. 27, lasting three weeks.

The first cross country championship run given by the South Atlantic association of the Amateur Athletic union will be held in Washington, Feb. 22. The distance will be about six and a half miles.

Jimmy Britt, who postponed his fight with Adolphe, the Frenchman, until after his coming bout with Johnny Summers, has announced that he will take on the former early in the spring. The fight is scheduled for Feb. 22.

An amateur championship basketball tournament will be held in San Francisco from Feb. 15 to March 6. There will be five classes, according to weights, and trophies will be awarded winners. It will be held under the auspices of the Pacific A. A., and sixty teams are expected to play.

STRIKER OUT.

The baseball bee is buzzing at Muncie and there is talk of the formation of a league. This city probably will be asked to join. Last year Richmond dropped from the Indiana-Ohio league and it soon afterward hit the bottom.

WINTER BALL GOSSIP

Fans Busy Engaged Doping Out
Positions of League Teams.

EARLY SPRING TRAINING.

Managers Not All Agreed as to Benefits to Be Derived From Anti-Social Trips to Condition Men—The Financial Side.

This is the busy season in the Cigar Store league, and the argumentative baseball fans that comprise its extended circuit at their nightly meetings are doping out the positions of the 1909 clubs in the major leagues and settling the pennants in both organizations.

These comfortable enthusiasts, who, to judge from their conversation, know more about running a baseball team than any of the managers, have nothing but past performances to rely upon in making up their lists of clubs, and yet nothing is more unreliable. It has been the history of more than one championship season that a club which started out with the brightest prospects for a good position in the race has yet proved a grievous disappointment.

How often has it been figured out on paper before the season opened that such and such a club on the batting and fielding averages of the previous year and the strength displayed by its pitchers was almost a sure one-two-three proposition, and yet before the season was half over was hopelessly struggling in the second division?

Take last year's New York Americans as an example. The Highlanders started the season in a manner that gave every one the impression that the American league pennant was going to be a runaway race, yet toward the last of May the team began to drop, and it never stopped until it hit last place, where it remained for the rest of the season.

There is no doping out a sure pennant winner any more in either organization, and, while it will be pointed out that Detroit and Chicago ran true to form in 1908, both clubs had the closest kind of race, and the Cubs only won the flag on a technicality, while the Tigers were forced to the limit to win by a narrow margin.

A club like Chicago in the National league may and did last year have a clear lead for the pennant in mid-season and be going at a fast gait, and fans can see nothing but the flag for the Cubs, yet some such sensational spurt as the Phillies made toward the close of the season may shatter all calculations.

It is a matter of history that Covaleske in three games beat the Giants out of the National league flag. Incidents such as these, with the many minor ones of sore arms, players having an off year, accidents, and so on, show what a hazardous thing it becomes when trying to foretell the standing of baseball teams at the close of a season.

To what extent does the early spring training have on the fortunes of a baseball team? All the major league clubs now take these anti-season trips to condition their men, work out new plays, signals, etc., but it is a singular thing that no two managers seem to agree as to the exact degree of latitude that a team can secure the most beneficial results. One will go just over the border line of the south, another as far as the geographical limits of the United States will permit, while still another will hike to the warm climate of southern California, not to mention those who favor the medicinal springs of Indiana, Arkansas and Texas.

Measured by results, it is not always the team which goes farthest that fares the best. Both Chicago teams last year took in the sunset country and both were successful, though Detroit and the Phillips almost paralleled their results without going a tithe of the distance traveled by the Cubs and White Sox. There were the New York Americans, for instance, who did their preliminary work in far Texas, and yet not only finished last, but were never in the race after a little over a month.

Managers argue pro and con about the baleful effects of suddenly jumping from the salubrious climate of the far south to the uncertain temperature of the north in early April. Some claim that the change stiffens the muscles and practically undoes any beneficial work that may be accomplished by the stay south, while others believe that it offsets a calamity by working north in easy stages, thus getting the players gradually acclimated to the changing weather conditions. These latter have the added advantage also of playing minor league teams on the way, which is not only a diversion for the men, but gives them better real practice than when the squad is divided into two teams, as the members of both nine are familiar with each other's signals.

There is still another thing to be taken into consideration besides the benefits according to the players, and that is the financial returns. Playing teams in southern cities and charging a nominal admission fee, more than one manager has been almost enabled to meet training expenses. Take the Athletics. Last year Manager Mack took his squad to New Orleans during the Mardi Gras season and played with the Southern league team of that city all during the festivities, when the Crescent City was crowded with visitors. The attendance during the week was nominal, but on

Wednesday night the attendance was

about 1,000.

There are about twelve genera-

tions of flies a year, the sexes being about

equally divided, each female laying

about 1,000 eggs.

Sundays there were from 2,000 to 3,000 at a game. It is a pretty safe bet that Manager Mack made enough out of these exhibition games to liquidate his hotel bills.

HISTORY OF TRUST

Being Revealed by Reports of
Tobacco Company Mo-
nopolies Now Filed.

TELLING MANY SECRETS

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Tobacco trust history, methods and manipulations are to a great extent the burden of a report, to be followed by others, sent to President Roosevelt yesterday by Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations. Incidentally the report condemns the methods that enriched the men said to have acquired tobacco stock control.

The report sets forth the rise of one of the great combinations of the country. Starting in 1890 as the American Tobacco company, a manufacturer of cigarettes, with a capital of \$25,000,000, the combination is now credited with a net capitalization, excluding inter-company holdings, of \$316,346,