

The Great Athletic Event At Madison Square Garden

BY MONTY.

New York, Dec. 23—Big champions and little champions will pound the mats at Madison Square Garden Tuesday and Wednesday night and before the last faint rumbles have died away, there will be proclaimed the national indoor king of the United States. The juniors will fight it out on Tuesday on Tuesday and the seniors on Wednesday. In many ways this will be the most important athletic event of the winter season. First, of course, is the consideration that it will decide the national supremacy of indoor sports. Secondly it will provide a reliable standard for speculation as to the men who will represent America at Stockholm next Summer in the Olympic games.

As was predicted by the writer several weeks ago, when the program for the indoor "champs" was first announced, this banner occasion of the winter season will show competition together more fraternal than ever before clashed beneath a roof.

It has generally been the case with indoor championships in the past that practically all the entrants were members of clubs in Greater New York this year there are several top-notch Westerners entered, and the New England States have a large representation. The eastern colleges have also supplied a goodly number of the aspirants for indoor honors, and the tilt between Harvard and Cornell shining lights for the previous medals will be well worth watching.

Many of the intercollegiate stars will be eligible for the junior events, but the majority of them will stay out of these so as to be in prime fettle for the more strenuous tests on the following evenings. While the junior events doubtless will produce some excellent contests and records, a better time than by the seniors, the big interest is naturally crystallized in the competitions that are unlimited as to eligibility.

With the exception of a few of the so-called "eccentric" field events, in which there are only a few well-known performers, every contest on the card will be bitterly fought, from the Cornell dash all the way up to the five-mile run.

The sprints will bring together a remarkable quartet in Alvah Meyer, of the Irish-American A. C. of New York; Jim Rosenberger of the same outfit; Reggie Foster, the former Harvard track captain, and Richard Craig, the Michigan flyer who tied Webers mark in the 220 last summer. The middle distances will show a wonderful array. In Jim McEntee, Harry Gissing, Leroy Dorland, Mel Sheppard, Terwilliger and Valentine, of New York, and Oscar Heilmund, the Boston stroller. Several of these will try their prowess against John Paul Jones, of Cornell, in the half and mile. It is almost a certainty that Jones will be extended to smash one or both of the indoor records.

In the hurdles there the half a dozen collegiate cracks, as well as the Eller brothers of New York. The jumps will be fought out by Moffatt, of Harvard, and the Gothamites—Grimpeis, Adams, Fielding, Erickson, Ahearne and Oler. The weights will be easy for the New Yorkers, McGath, Walsh, Dincau and Sheridan. Probably the most "significant" event of the entire meet will be the five-mile indoor in this George Bonhag the champion, will meet Deha, of Cornell, and Lewis Tewanima, the Carlsle Indian. A man who can run a good five-mile indoors is generally timber for the Marathon outdoor. This is certain to be a corking race, as no two of the "big three" have clashed before.

Speaking of Tewanima in the light of a marathon runner recalls his experience in the last Olympic marathon, the one at London. In that race he was looked upon as the best bet of the American continent, although he had been running but a few months. Accordingly Joe Forshaw, of St. Louis, the veteran of the team, who had finished eighth in the Olympic clashes at Athens, was given the job of acting

as Tewanima's running mate, to race him and give him much-needed advice along the way. At the twelfth mile, when Tewanima was in sixth place, the "Achilles" tendon on his right heel gave way. Forshaw did the best he could to fix up the little Indian, but it was to no avail. Finally, after all but three of the two hundred entrants had passed by, Forshaw decided to give up his efforts with Tewanima, whom he helped into one of the emergency automobiles. Joe then set sail for the rest of the field, which by this time was strung out for five miles ahead.

One by one he cut them down, and when he arrived upon the Stadium track to begin the last final sprint, Dorando was just being helped across the line. Joe was going like a steam locomotive and, had the race been half a mile longer, he would have passed Johnny Hayes and Heferson of South Africa, who were ahead of him. At it was, Forshaw finished officially third, which was no mean honor in itself, but the story of his remarkable thirteen-mile sprint through the hordes of struggling athletes, is worth retelling. Probably never again will such an exhibition of fight against odds be displayed in any marathon. Likelihood is that, if Joe had run for himself all the way, he would have finished ahead of the whole bunch.

And now comes word from the Mount City that Forshaw is going to "come back." He has been on the retired list since that race, but he has always been a clean-living fellow, so he feels confident that he will again be able to deliver the goods. His present would add not a little to the sentiment connected with the big race, and it is our earnest hope that the Olympic committee see enough merit in the veteran Joe to select him to represent his flag for the third time.

College Women Say They Want Four Children.

In the January Woman's Home Companion is an article, entitled "Is the American Man a Failure?" Following is an interesting extract.

A recent investigation among college women was made by Robert Haven Schaeffer, and college women, as canvassed by him, desired at least four children. The statistics of Harvard College shows that the average number of children for the class of 1884 per married graduate was 2.00; for the class of '85, 2.07; the class of '86, 2.02; class of '87, 1.67; class of '88, 1.80; class of '89, 1.72; and in these classes the percentage of married graduates without children varied between nineteen and twenty-eight per cent. It is not probable that there is very much difference between the records of Harvard College and those of any other eastern college for men; it is a fairly typical statement of the class of men of this generation, and yet the young women of the present generation would be glad to have four or five children. And in this canvass made by Mr. Schaeffer there were practically no women who made the statement that they didn't want any children.

People Who Bore You With Talking About Their Children.

In a New Year's talk in the January Woman's Home Companion, Margaret E. Sangster reports what a brother said about his own married sister: "I never dine at Mary's. I used to enjoy going there, but she and Jack, in this generation, that there is no fun in being their guest. The children are permitted to interrupt conversation; their father and mother stop in the midst of a sentence to answer their questions and to conduct their education; and, worst of all, their wonderful sayings are repeated in their hearing, and a bachelor uncle is frowned upon if he does not rise to the occasion and express his amazement at the brilliant speeches of their small people. When Mary's children are grown, I shall visit her again; but, for the present, I drop in only when I think they are safe in bed."

The miser who can misle at this season of year has all other misers lashed to the mast—Manchester Union.

Specialization The Secret of American Athletes' Successes In Many Olympic Games

(By JOHN J. HAYES)

New York, Dec. 23.—In the summer of 1906 at Athens, the American athletes won the greatest number of events they have triumphed in at an Olympic gathering.

In the 5-mile event George Bonhag was forced to lower his colors to Lieutenant Hawtrej, the English champion, in 26 minutes 25 1-5 seconds. In those days this time was considered very fast, because of the art of specializing had not begun to play so prominent part in track athletics as it does today. Hawtrej won because he used a style common among English distance runners. It consisted of an extreme speed in the early part of the race, with the result that after a few miles the British lieutenant was running in the lead all alone.

Bonhag, like the majority of American runners, affected the American method, which differed in the respect that they used no early speed and depended on an average pace to win. In running parlance, the new method was

than 4 minutes and 40 seconds. In 1907 Jim joined the Irish-American. In the three months he was training under the watchful eye of Ernie Hjerterberg he acquired the ability to run a mile in 4 minutes and 22 seconds, which up to that time was the fastest mile ever run by a native born American. To cut off 18 seconds from the near champions time is certainly the exemplification of good coaching and is an example of the benefits of specialization.

Thirdly, the installing of training cables by the big athletic clubs and colleges has been productive of very good results. The men have regular hours for meals and are taught to give themselves proper time for the digestion of food, donning their track suits to train in the big clubs one like the Irish-American A. C. The athletes who are employed in the city can come direct from business to the track at Celtic Park, and after a workout supper is enjoyed and then after a couple of hours of lounging the men go to bed. This method has been productive of the result that in one continental

Spain the tape is broken. I look for the future of American Olympic teams to be very rosy. The specialising is bound to produce a race of athletics in the future of which we will be proud. The proper handling of the schoolboy or younger athlete can not help but eliminate the large amount of bad effects resulting from youths indulging in strenuous athletics without the supervision of competent instructors.

"One Round" Hogan Won.

New York, Dec. 22.—"One Round" Hogan was given the popular decision over Battling Nelson, former lightweight champion of the world, in a ten-round bout at the Marlton Athletic club here last night.

Danville, Va., Dec. 23.—The Wake Forest college basketball quint of North Carolina won by an eyelash from the Danville Y. M. C. A. last night, the score being 25 to 24. The visitors secured a commanding lead in the first half, but were outplayed in the second

Boxing Title Goes to Previous Holder When Champion Reines

(By W. W. NAUGHTON.)

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 23.—What becomes of a pugilistic championship when the holder of it retires voluntarily, or through accident or ill health? This question has been up for discussion a good many times recently, mainly through Jack Johnson's abandonment of prize ring pursuits and A. Wolgast's attack of appendicitis.

Some authorities claim that in any of the cases cited, the title reverts to the previous holder. If the argument is valid and Wolgast's operation means permanent disablement, Battling Nelson would be justified in usurping the lightweight premiership.

It is not believed for a moment that Wolgast will be out of the harness for more than a few months, however, and for that matter, even those who entertain grave doubts as to whether Ad will be able to defend his laurels are quite satisfied to shelve further discussion until they hear how Wolgast progresses. There is time enough to cross a bridge when you come to it, and there will be time enough to talk of the disposal of the lightweight crown when it definitely appears that Wolgast has no further use for it.

In Johnson's "bull market" Jack keeps saying that he is out of the game for good and there is no reason for wondering who will be the next to wear the heavyweight mantle.

If it should be decided that the man who held the championship before Johnson is best entitled to it, the average person would have to think twice before deciding who really is the man.

Johnson was regarded as the champion after he defeated Tommy Burns in Australia, but, in the opinion of the majority Burns never had a perfect right to call himself champion of the world. Jeffries undeniably was champion when he retired. After he decided to fight Johnson, the "bull market" is known that he still considered himself the king of the heavies. His stand was upheld, too, by numbers of critics, and when Jeffries entered the ring at Reno, he tried to persuade himself that he was defending his old-time title rather than trying to wrest it from the negro.

As Jeffries went, it matters little what Jeffries thought of it. What would puzzle us all is to decide, right now, is who should Johnson's title revert to, Jeffries or Tommy Burns?

Luckily we do not have to decide, for neither man craves the distinction. Jeffries would not accept the cham-

pionship if it were handed to him for a golden salver, while Tommy Burns has become fat and lame and is more interested in selling gents' furnishings in his Calgary store than bothering about prize ring complications.

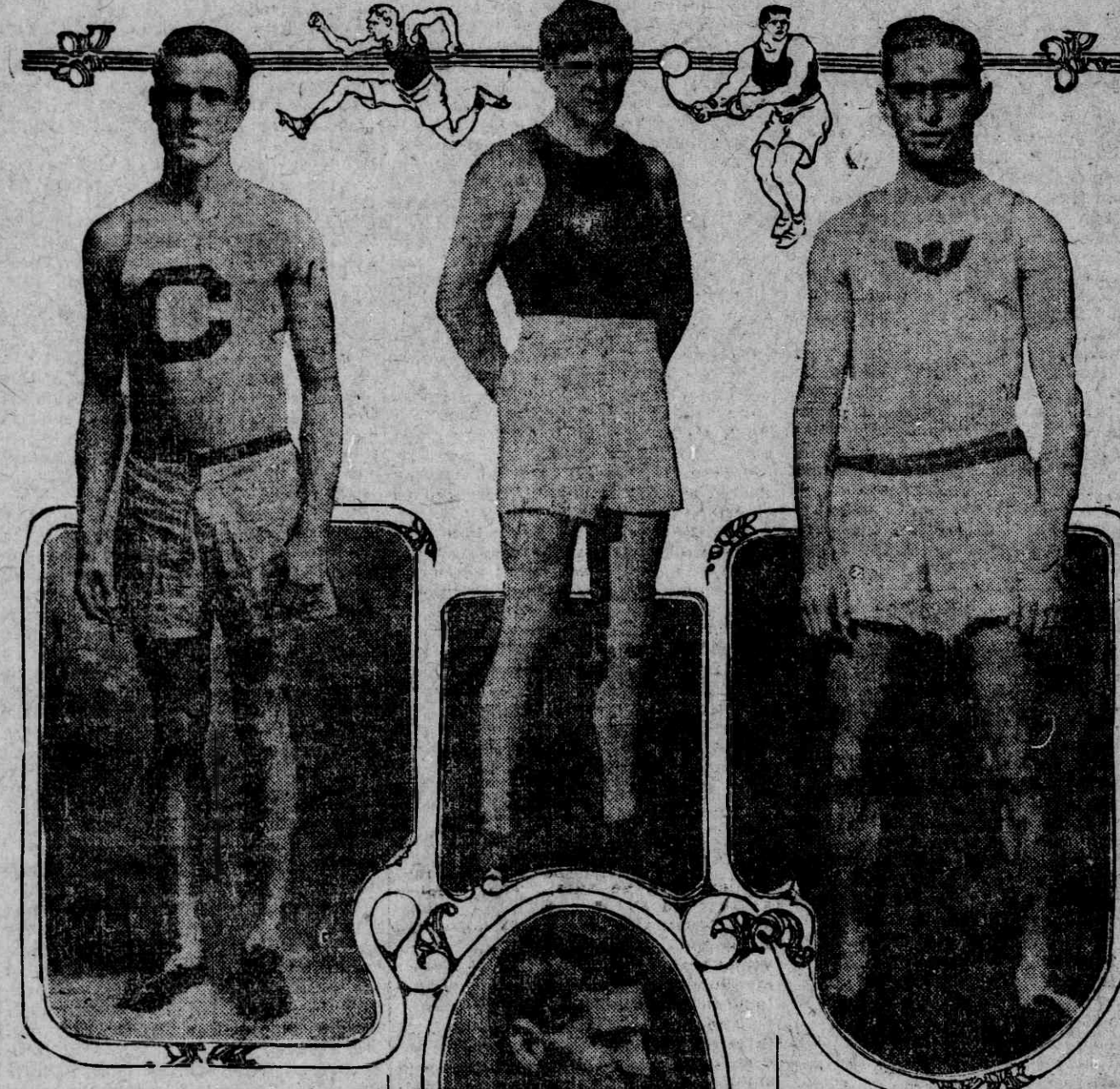
But what is to become of the title? The answer has been supplied by W. F. Corbett, the noted Australian boxing critic. He declares that Sam McVea is the heavyweight champion of the world and that he gained this title through default of Johnson's manager. It is Corbett's argument.

If Jack Johnson really retired, the world's championship crown will go to Sam McVea. It is decided by American law long since enacted that in such circumstances which I shall presently refer to, the title must pass as stated. It is provided and allowed that, in the event of a champion's retirement as from a fight of action, the title held by him shall revert to the immediately previous holder, should he still be a going concern, as it were, but this rule can not operate in conjunction with Jack Johnson's mantle, and if it did, there would be no rightful claimant as the man (Tommy Burns) upon whom the famous black wreath of distinction is now out of the game.

Jack Johnson, who through Johnson's fight with McVea, is the promoter, Jud Sam McVea, to meet the latter at the Sydney Stadium of December 31, next, for the heavyweight championship of the world, and the agreement was duly signed, sealed and delivered. If this compact is not adhered to, then the title which Johnson renounces must become McVea's through Johnson's default. It should be McVea's, whether the other colored man gave it up or not. It is a plain fact.

The above argument is good and sound, too, if Johnson and McVea really signed articles to box in Sydney on a certain date for the world's championship. But what of it? A championship that isn't gained by hard fighting never brings much credit to the holder.

In this connection, it looks as though "Bill" Corbett's line of reasoning could be made to apply to Wolgast's case in a way that would rebound to Freddie Welsh's advantage. But, first of all, it would have to be decided that Wolgast defaulted to Welsh. Ad certainly signed to box Freddie Welsh in the world's championship at Vermont, Vermont, and failed to show up to his contract, and if you saw Sam McVea is world's champion by that kind of logic you will have to admit that Welsh has an equally valid claim to Wolgast's title.



FOUR TRACK ASPIRANTS FOR WORLD'S RECORD.

termed "running from the gun," and it typifies the highest form of specialization in distance running.

On his return home, Bonhag, himself a great student of the game, realizing this style was capable of better results and faster time, trained to master the English method with a view to improving the time in this event. That he succeeded is proved by the fact that today he is still a champion and has continued to slip seconds from the 5-mile figures up to the present day. Today his 5-mile time is the American record, 25 minutes 2 1-5 seconds. In addition, he has made the best time in the 10-mile championship run, held at Celtic Park, in 1905 of 52 minutes 34 4-5 seconds.

The United States Olympic teams have proved victorious on many foreign strands. Their success, due in a great measure to specializing in which the Bonhag example is a criterion, has spread our fame as the premier of all athletic nations. On the contrary, England, which has always excelled in the distance events, within the past few years, with the result that she has fallen into an athletic lethargy.

The essential element in the making of champions on field and track is termed specialization. This term means the instilling into the mind of the athletic aspirant the fact that to succeed he must learn to cover a certain distance with the least waste of energy or effort.

Three methods have come in vogue of late years which have a tendency to produce good athletes and champions through specialization or improved methods. First, the professional coach, who has become the rule, where, years ago, he was the exception. has proved his worth by turning out champions every year, who not only break all the existing times but prove themselves to be better and more capable of coping with our athlete than their predecessors.

Four stars who will endeavor to shatter world's records at the national indoor championships in Madison Square Garden, New York, on Wednesday evening. On the left is John Paul Jones, crack miles and half-mile of Cornell University, who holds the world's record for the mile in the center is Egan Erickson, who will attack Mike Sweeney's long-existing high jump mark of 6 feet 5 5-8 inches. On the right is Alvah T. Meyer, another New Yorker, who is after the short sprint record. Platt Adams, below, will attempt to smash the hop-step-jump record of Dan Ahearne. Adams is expected to be one of the best point winners of the New York A. C., as he will complete in half a dozen events.

It is through the neglect of the foregoing principals that England has ceased to be regarded by the athletic authorities as formidable in distance events. In England professional coaches and training tables are tabooed by the amateur rules, but they will in time adopt the methods which the Americans and Canadians have proved to be so hopeful in developing championship material.

The benefits of Bonhag's observation and application of English long distance method have produced such sterling performers as John Paul Jones, of Cornell, the 1-mile record holder; Louis Scott, Tom Collins, Abel Kiviatt, Melvin Sheppard and Tell Berna, the Corcollians.

This improvement has resulted in shortening the times in the mile, 5-mile, 10-mile and cross-country distances. Prior to 1906 the man who ran a mile under 4:30 was an exception. At present we have about six men who can consistently run a mile in 4 minutes 20 seconds.

YEARNS FOR PIGS BUT PROMISED MOTHER TO ACT

London, Dec. 23.—How far a mother's dying wish should influence the subsequent life of her daughter is a problem that besets the Baroness von Wrede, whose stage name is Miss Ray Beveridge, and who is known in the United States as the American Marie Tempest.

Baroness von Wrede, who arrived in London about three months ago, made a promise to her dying mother that she would do her utmost to arrange for the production of five plays which her mother had written.

In order to fulfill her promise Baroness von Wrede went on the stage herself, and although she has no love for the life, nevertheless made a success. All the time, however, she was longing to settle down on a particular pig farm.

At the present moment this particular pig farm is in the market, it has been offered to the Baroness, but—her mother's plays are still unproduced.

"I was a mere girl when my mother died seven years ago" she said, "and for the past six years I have been playing leading parts on the American stage, always hoping that I should eventually be able to produce my mother's plays."

"The stage life, with all its excitement, does not appeal to me, though I am London is something more attractive than any other part of the world can offer.

MRS. POTTER IS FOUND DEAD.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Margaret Horton Potter, a novelist, was found dead yesterday in her apartments from an overdose of morphine, which a coroner's jury found was accidentally taken. For a time it was reported that death was from heart disease.

Testimony at the inquest was that she had long been addicted to the use of drugs and a few months ago was permitted to leave a sanitarium, to which she had been committed. She complained of illness two days ago and her friends believe that the drug was taken by her in an effort to relieve her suffering.

For many years she had been prominent in literary circles and her novels were popularly supposed to reveal the various phases of society life in Chicago. In 1902 she was married to John D. Black, and was divorced by him in 1910, shortly before she was sent to the sanitarium.

POTS OF MONEY IN WALL.

Egg Harbor, N. J., Dec. 23.—While tearing out some plaster in the wall of an old building Peter Heinsohn, a plasterer, came across a small iron pot with the cover wired down, and was almost baffled to find it filled with silver coins. Hastily tearing away the rest of the wall, he discovered another pot, which contained gold coins, from \$5 up, many of them covered with mold. He called the owner of the house, Harry Brantigan, who counted the money and found about \$1600. Brantigan, who is a wealthy man will divide with Heinsohn.

The house was formerly owned by an old soldier named Hind, who lived there many years and drew a pension. His widow knows nothing of the secret hiding of the coins.

Didn't Catch Doughton.

Salfisbury, Dec. 23.—In the course of a conversation with Doughton while staying between trains in Salfisbury last night Representative R. A. Doughton, of the Eighth congressional district, stated that he was not caught in the Sherwood pension vote, in congress six days ago. He expressed the opinion that the measure while approved in the north, will not be accepted in the South, and that the matter will have built-up a large influence in politics next year. Congressman Doughton went to his home at Laurel Branch, Allegheny county, to spend Christmas.

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(Mention this paper.)



A. L. KAUFMAN

A. L. Kaufman, the Heavyweight "pug" from the coast who is to fight Jim Flynn, sees time in the very near future. Kaufman will swap blows with Al Pelzer at the Nation at Sporting Club in New York City on December 28th.