

A GIGANTIC STADIUM.

Novel Arena Planned For Olympian Games of 1904.

UNUSUAL FEATURES PROVIDED.

Building to Seat 75,000 Persons and With Adjustable Roof Arranged For Stadium Can Be Divided Into Three or More Buildings—No Pillars or Posts to Obstruct View.

A stadium which will seat 75,000 persons and which in point of size, elegance and excellence of arrangement will probably excel any other building ever erected for a similar purpose is outlined in a set of preliminary plans just placed in the hands of Mr. Harry J. Furber, Jr., president of the Olympian Games association. The structure, it is asserted, will house the Olympian games to be held in Chicago in 1904, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The building will cover approximately eleven acres, the arena alone being 800 feet long and 180 feet wide. The stadium at Athens, where the Olympian games were held in 1896, was but 670 feet long and 109 feet wide. The stadium at Athens seated between 45,000 and 50,000 persons. The plans for the Chicago stadium provide for more than 75,000 seats in case they may be necessary on the days when there will be special attractions at the games.

A striking novelty in the way of a roof is provided for. The area over the seats will be roofed in the usual way,



A. G. SPALDING.

but the arena will be protected by a roof or left without one with almost the ease with which an umbrella can be opened and closed. The roof of the arena will consist of a series of waterproof curtains arranged on rollers operated by electric motors. When the games are in progress, the curtains will be rolled back. In the event of a storm all that will be necessary to put on the roof will be "to press a button." So in good weather, while the audience will be protected from the sun's rays, the contests will really take place in the open air, and with the aid of the adjustable roof postponements will be unnecessary "on account of the weather."

An unusual feature is an arrangement for dividing the stadium into three or more buildings for special occasions when the whole space will not be required. At either end or in the center a hall for any sort of a gathering can be made in three or four days at a nominal expense. Another feature of the construction is that there will not be a pillar or post in the whole interior to shut out the view from any point. The first row of seats are five feet above the arena and the topmost row sixty feet above.

The Olympian games of 1904, it is predicted, will be greater than any ever held before at any period in history. Athletics have advanced with the arts and sciences, and where the ancient Greeks had but few tests of strength and endurance there are now scores. The ancient sports will be reproduced in Chicago, but the modern games of all nations will doubtless attract greater attention. There will be the old Greek foot races and wrestling and the Egyptian chariot racing, but also modern fencing, boxing, wild cowboy racing—everything, in fact, except medieval jousting.

The athletic end of the games will be under the direction of William Hale Thompson and A. G. Spalding. The former's duties will be to round up every sort of sport on the globe, and Mr. Spalding is to select the contests which are to make up the programme for the month. Mr. Thompson already has men at work in Europe and Asia, as well as in America, looking for the best athletic material available.

President Furber feels assured that the programme at Chicago will be better than that at Athens in 1896 or at Paris in 1900, and, with a view of adding features not seen at Athens or Paris, it has been decided to keep the stadium open for a month instead of fifteen days, as was at first planned.

Consult Your Bowler With Confidence. Candy Catherick, care of the Commercial Hotel, No. 10 E. C. C. Bldg., Chicago, refund money.

WU OUTWITS CLOVER CLUB

Clever Chinese Minister at Banquet Downs Famous Interrupters.

Wu Ting Fang, Chinese minister, recently met the Clover club at its banquet in Philadelphia for the first time in his philosophic life and in a ten minutes' tussle with the wits and interrupters of this famous dining organization came off a victor, says the New York Evening Journal. When his turn for a "few remarks" came, Minister Wu said:

"In arising to obey the command of your president to say a few words I am at my wits' end what to say. I expected to say something, but I'm candid to admit that I can't say anything."

"That seems reasonable," dryly interrupted a Cloverite.

"If I were to obey my own feelings," continued Wu calmly, "I would rather sit down."

"Well, you know how we feel about it," broke in another Cloverite. "Don't stand on our account."

Wu gazed through his owl-like glasses at the speaker and smiled indulgently.

"I have heard of this famous club of yours," he went on coolly. "You call it the Clover club, but why do you call it that? It seems to consist of a number of gentlemen who love to interrupt, and I'm glad we don't have such things in China. It is not part of our civilization."

Then Wu gazed around him once more and beamed graciously. He continued:

"In one respect this club reminds me of China. In China when we have a banquet we always have—"

"Rats!" shouted a Cloverite, and Wu saw the point of the interruption and laughed with the rest.

Then Captain Clark, who is one of the three men to represent the United States at the coronation of King Edward VII., was introduced. He said:

"I can't make a speech, and a Baltimore paper says I shouldn't go abroad unless I know how to talk well!"

"Take Wu with you," called some one.

Other guests were Congressmen Grosvenor and Hooker, Senator McLaurin of South Carolina, Senator Penrose, Captain Sigbee, Charles Emory Smith, and Congressman Sulzer.

She Knew It.

A Philadelphia man thought he would be more successful than his wife in securing servants. So he cut out a number of advertisements from the "situations wanted" column of a newspaper and started out in a cab to visit the various addresses. The first place he stopped at was in front of a little house in a narrow street, from which a cook had advertised. He saw her and was favorably impressed.

"I am looking for a good cook," he said.

"Sure, an' don't Oi know it!" exclaimed the cook. "Oi only left your house yestidday!"

He made a hasty and undignified retreat and decided to allow his wife to continue in her direction of the household affairs.

Pretty Children

"We have three children. Before the birth of the last one my wife used four bottles of MOTHER'S FRIEND. If you had the pictures of our children, you could see at a glance that the last one is healthiest, prettiest and finest-looking of them all. My wife thinks Mother's Friend is the greatest and grandest remedy in the world for expectant mothers."—Written by a Kentucky Attorney-at-Law.

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