

NEWS OF SPORT.

SPEED AVERAGE IN THE GRAND CIRCUIT RACES.

Only One Heat Out of 517 in Which the Time Was Slower Than 2.20 --- The Six Day Race --- Hockey and Basket Ball.

THE TURF.

The Speed Average.

During the continuance of the grand circuit harness events for 1904 the sum of \$376,205 was distributed among the owners of the trotters and pacers campaigning during a whole or part of the series, says an exchange. In all there were 201 races in which there were 1873 starters. It took 517 heats to finish the twenty races, or an average of 2.57 to the race. The average time for the 517 heats was 2.09 77-100, the fastest race heat being 2.02, at Memphis and the slowest being 2.23 1-4, also at Memphis, and this last-mentioned heat was the only heat in the entire circuit slower than 2.20.

No less than six of the meetings in the circuit were characterized by time averaging 2.09 and a fraction, they being those held at Buffalo, Brighton Beach, Readville, Providence, Columbus, Cincinnati and Memphis. The advance of the light harness race horse in point of speed is shown when it is stated that the average time for the series of meetings last year was 2.10 61-100, while in 1902 it was 2.10, that year being the fastest until this year.

Last year the fastest race heat during the progress of the circuit by a trotter was 2.06 1-4, by Ferenco. This year the record stands to the credit of Sweet Marie, with a mile in 2.04 3-4. The fastest race mile by a pacer, however, 2.02, by Dan R., was not quite as fast as last season's best mile, 2.01 3-4 also paced by Dan R.

The forced withdrawal of Cleveland from the Grand Circuit last spring makes the amount of money raced for in 1904 smaller than that of 1903, but it does not otherwise make a great deal of difference in the statistics relating to the circuit, as the Cleveland track is as fast as most of the others and the time average for the series of meetings would probably not have been slower had a meeting been given here.

There were no improvements in tracks, sulkeys or other appliances used in connection with harness racing over those in use in 1903 or 1902, so that the substantial drop in the speed average cannot be laid to any cause other than the gradual improvement of the horses handed over to the trainers by the breeders. This, at least, is the reasonable

conclusion, and it encourages the belief that the ultimate speed of the trotter and pacer is as yet some seconds from being reached.

Fredericton Races.

The Fredericton Trotting Park Association held a meeting last night and decided to hold races next summer on Dominion Day.

The directors also decided to claim three days during the Fredericton exhibition week in September and the fall meeting will be held then. The financial standing of the association was shown to be good, there being a balance of \$300 on hand.

Will Be Neighbors.

The two greatest mares of the time, Lou Dillon and Sweet Marie, 2.04 1/2, will winter as comparatively near neighbors in California—Sweet Marie at the place of her owner, William Garland, of Los Angeles, and Lou Dillon, in the stable of Budd Doble, who will train her for a part of the winter at Los Angeles.

HOCKEY.

The First Hockey Game.

Columbia University and the Hockey Club of New York opened the season at New York Saturday night by a spirited match at the St. Nicholas Rink. The Hockey Club players were decidedly superior to the Columbia men, and won handily by 13 goals to 2. Among the Hockey club team was McKenzie, cover point, which is presumably Dr. McKenzie, of Bedford, now residing in New York, as he played that position when in Halifax.

Fall In.

C. H. Allan, of Fredericton, secretary of the provincial hockey league has requested that all clubs wishing to enter the league this winter notify him to that effect at once, so that their application may be considered at the approaching meeting of the league executive which will shortly be held in St. John.

The Game in Fredericton.

The local hockey players do not seem to be able to arrive at a satisfactory agreement with A. E. Hanson, leasee of the Arctic Rink, and at present the outlook for the sport here during the coming season is not very encouraging. Mr. Hanson

wants to form an Arctic Rink team, but the Trojans, who include the best players in the city, are unwilling to accept his proposition. A meeting was called for last evening to endeavor to arrive at some agreement, but the boys failed to show up in any great numbers and practically nothing was done. (Fredericton Herald).

BASKET BALL.

Good Game Last Night.

At the Y. M. C. A. building last night another game of basket ball was played between the senior league teams:

	Forwards.	Blues.
McEachern	...	Gilmore
Ritchie	...	Heans
Simms	...	Brown
Ledingham	...	Whittaker
Clawson	...	Dobson

The scoring was done by Ledingham, 4 points; Heans, 3 points; Simms, 2 points; Gilmore, 2 points; Clawson, 1 point.

The standing of the teams in the Y. M. C. A. senior basket ball league is:

	W.	D.	L.	Pts
Greens	2	0	0	4
Maroons	1	1	0	3
Blues	1	0	1	2
Reds	0	1	1	1
Yellows	0	0	2	0

CYCLING.

The Six Day Race.

New York, Dec. 7.—At One o'clock this morning the 13 leading teams in the six day race had covered 900 miles. The four other teams were one lap behind.

The record for this time is 985 miles, 3 laps, made by Elkes and McFarland, in 1900.

THE RING.

Sullivan vs McCoy Dec. 12.

Los Angeles, Dec. 6.—Jack ("Twin") Sullivan has already started doing a little work for his bout with Kid McCoy, which has been fixed for Dec. 12. His brother Dave is with him, and is trying to arrange a mill for Mike ("Twin") with Jack Keefe or Buddy Ryan, to take place during the latter part of next month.

Jack tried hard to get McCoy to agree to 158 pounds, but he insists on catch-weights, which will give the latter ten or 12 pounds advantage, as the Hoosier should weigh 165 ringside, while Sullivan will be about 11 pounds lighter. McCoy also

Piles

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so has the advantage of height and reach, but the Boston boxer says he will battle with the utmost confidence of victory.

Kid McCoy is getting ready for Sullivan. The Hoosier Kid says he is going to prepare more carefully for Sullivan this time, and that when he meets the Boston lad he will be able to do much better than at their previous meeting. McCoy said:

"I won't take any chances with 'Twin' this trip. I know what a hard, rugged guy he is, and he fights in a way that makes him hard to get at, but I'll get him next time, and if he lasts the limit I'll be surprised."

About "Jeff."

The time may not be far distant when James J. Jeffries, welterweight champion of the world, will be wrangling over the weight question, with Gus Ruhlin, the famous lightweight, and Tom Sharkey, eminent holder of the featherweight honor, will snub the dangerous advances of Robert Fitzsimmons, that noted bantamweight fighter.

Why not? With the present arithmetically progressing weight limits among the smaller fighters, nothing seems impossible.

Frankie Neil, the actual, bantamweight champion of America, is compelled to fight boys weighing not less than 120 pounds. And one of these happening to beat him would promptly claim the title. Popular clamor would back him, and in a few weeks he would be accepted as a holder of the honors.

Young Corbett started the tangling of boxing titles. Immediately after his defeat of Teddy McGovern at Hartford he was asked:

"How about the title?"
"Oh, I don't claim any title. We didn't fight at weight. I will be known as the man who whipped Terry McGovern, and that is enough glory for me."

It took Young Corbett just about a day in New York to change his mind. Then the demands of the theatrical business made it necessary for him to be billed as "champion of the world."

Then Young Corbett in turn fought Jimmy Britt of Frisco at 130 pounds and lost. Britt, careless of it at first claimed the title, and was popularly given the credit of holding it. If there can be a 130-pound featherweight champion, then there can be a 140 or 150 or 250, for that matter, pound featherweight champion.

The same reasoning applies to the bantam, light, welter, middle and light heavyweight classes.

A championship cannot be won by a fighter who contests for it any weight over the class limit. In amateur contests governed by ruling of the A. A. U., it would be impossible for a boxer to hold honors he was not entitled to.

Battling Nelson.

If Battling Nelson succeeds in winning over Jimmy Britt in their battle at San Francisco, Dec. 20, and that is admitted to be well within the realms of possibility—what will be the effect on the so-called featherweight championship?

Britt claims that title, as well as the lightweight title. The feather-

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The Sore Throat or Tickling Cough that, to the careless, seems but a temporary and trivial annoyance, may develop into Bronchitis. Every hour delayed in curing a cold is dangerous.

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contains all the lung-healing virtues of the pine tree, and is a sure cure for Coughs, Colds, and all throat and lung troubles. Miss Bertha E. Craig, Almont, Ont., says: "Last fall, for over two months, I had a very bad cold, and although I tried several remedies, it seemed as if I was getting worse instead of better. While looking over the Burdock Blood Bitters Almanac, I read about Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup, and decided to give it a trial. When I had used about half a bottle, I found it was doing the good, so kept on until I had taken two bottles. It is the best cure for a cold I ever heard of."

Price 25c. per bottle.

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the real championship will be the heavyweight title itself.

BASEBALL.

Favors Shorter Season.

Pres. Johnson has no stauncher supporter than the young man who now controls the American league club of Boston and who will this week attend his first meeting of the American league.

Pres. Taylor is for a shorter season, with the hope of a post season series. He will advocate playing a schedule of 147 games but this may be evaded up by alternating each season.

Mr. Taylor is strongly in favor of a post-season series and if one cannot be arranged, he believes in playing ball up to the middle of October. As the players are under six months' contracts from April 15 the chances are that the magnates will keep them at work as long as possible. In the American league a player is forced to report for practice 30 days before the commencement of his contract and is therefore under the club's control after March 15.

The American league meetings are unattractive to the outside world, as everything is done in a business way and everything goes smoothly.

The most important baseball gathering of the year will take place in February in New York when the two major leagues will meet in joint committee to fix up rules and arrange schedules.

Every lover of the game should insist that the case against Pitcher Jack Taylor be pressed to a decision by the national board. Pres. James Hart should be compelled to prove his charge if he can or to stand under the ban of the baseball public. Should he prove the charge against Taylor the latter should be sent into retirement for the day of the Devils has passed out of baseball.

Mr. Hart should explain why he traded this player and allowed his club to play against him if the man was unworthy of a National league uniform.

THE RED BOOK.

Announcements of special interest are made for the January Red Book, beginning the new year. The magazine is to have a new dress, as publishers say when the style of type is to be changed. The type chosen has been specially designed for the magazine, to combine a highly legible and attractive face with a smaller size, so that considerably more matter can be contained on a page. In addition to this the magazine is to be enlarged so that the increase will amount to about twenty-five per cent. of reading matter. Among the authors announced for the number are David Graham Phillips, Helen Tompkins, Martha McCulloch-Wilkins, Owen Oliver, Constance Morris, Wilbur D. Nesbit, Helen Palmer, Frederick Walworth, Theodore Waters and a dozen others of like merit and popularity.

SUGGESTIONS BY READERS FOR INTERESTING FEATURES ON THE TIMES WILL BE WELCOMED AND GIVEN FULL CONSIDERATION.



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