SEASONABLE SPORTS.

A Peep Into the World of Base Ball, Racing, Golf Bowling and Athletic Sports Generally.

BASE BALL.

NEW FOUL STRIKE.

Batting averages of baseball players will be vastly improved the coming year if a suggestion which Jimmy Callahan, late of the White Sox, has suggested, and which he is pushing with vigor, is adopted by the rules committee of the national commission.

The suggestion, simple in itself, carries untold benefits to the man with the ash, and there is no doubt it will meet with popular favor among not only players, but with the general public.

The plan is nothing more or less than to have all foul tips that go behind the plate adjudged legitimate fouls, and not subject to the strike penalty. These fouls which hit inside the base line and in front of the imaginaryline which runs through the home plate from bleacher to bleacher to be adjudged strikes as heretofore.

Callahan has already put the suggestion up to President Ban Johnson of the American League, President Comiskey of the White Stockings and several other prominent lights of the baseball world, and all agree that the scheme is an excellent one and ought to be followed. Johnson is enthusiastic about it and will probably urge its adoption by the rules committee.

No matter whether it is adopted or not, Callahan says he will introduce it this summer at his new semi-professional baseball park at Logan Square.

"The scheme is a simple and popular one," said Callaghan. "We cannot deny that the 'foul strike' rule has worked havoc to the batters' averages. With the adoption of my rule a man could improve in batting to a great degree. There is no denying that it is impossible or a batter to send a foul back of the plate.

"The foul strike rule was adopted to fool those clever batters who could tip off a foul as often as they pleased. Their fouls, however, generally went in front of this line which I am urging. I don't care how clever the batter is, he cannot send one of those tips back of the plate.

"Follow the fortunes of one of the pitchers who occasionally makes a foul tip. That invariably goes back of the plate. Then watch men like Willie Keeler or Frank Cbance. They send their fouls over into the left or eight field bleachers, or, if they want to play with the pitcher and tire him, they lay them down anywhere they please except back of the plate.

"I defy all the Keelers and Chances andWagnets in the world to tip a ball back of the plate when they say they will. Hence it is that those fouls should be legitimate fouls, while the fouls in front of the plate can remain strikes. I have talked to many baseball authorities oo the scheme and they all agree with me that it ought to be adopted."

THE TURF.

HARNESS RACING.

James Gatcombe Advocates Many Needed Reforms.

All who are acquainted with James Y. Gatcomb, the owner of the only two-minute horse in New England—Audubon Boy, 1.59¼—know him to be one of the deep thinkers of the light harness horse sport.

It was mainly due to his action that the celebrated Syracuse compact between the Grand Circuit drivers was signed last season. He has always been in favor of shortening the races, realizing the injury the old fashioned three-heats-in-five plan have done to the horses in these days of extreme speed.

Not only, too, is Mr. Gatcomb a prominent owner and breeder of horses, but his experience in the sulky as a trainer and driver dates back for some twenty years, during which he had the famous Thomas W. Lawson trotter, Boraima, 2.07, and a whole lot of others that successfully headed the race summaries of the past.

In the following he comes frankly to the front in support of the new method adopted by the New England Breeders' Association, and other reforms the admirers of the trotting turf are agitating to improve the sport so that the general public will be taught how enjoyable an afternoon can be spent seeing racers.

Most of the time and space given by those who can afford to spend the time and money is devoted to writing about some remote evil, such as doping the horse and ruining his constitution, etc., little thought being given to the undisputed fact that long races ruin more horses, both for racing purposes and for breeding than any and all things, as well as being the direct cause of driving more good men out of the trotting business than anything else.

I, like Mr. Leavitt, have been a long time in the business and have seen very little doping. I have seen something given horses to help them to blow out and assist nature in getting them back to the track in the twenty-five minutes allowed to them and in as normal a condition as possible, but that is all.

I am free to say that it seems too bad for any man, who should be instrumental in making the trotting horse business a success and having it so run that those coming to the track may be assured of clean, healthy sport, taking up subjects that should not be considered, because doping can be defined, and the penalty is so severe, that anyone doing it contrary to the laws can be put with the alsos.

I think that the stand taken by the Readville Association should be appreciated by all horsemen as well as the public. I have always advocated short racing and paying the winner a large portion of the purse and doing away with pool selling, so that a horse must win to get the most money.

John Dickerson, with myself, was the originator of the Syracuse compact, and I mean to live up to it to the letter, As I have the paper before me with the signatures on it, I should think it would look like bad policy for any Grand Circuit track to run on the three-in-five plan in 1906.

The time has come, and come sure when if the trotter or pacer is to continue valuable as a racing proposition shorter races must tave the place of racing horses all the afternoon and into the evening. If not, the same feeling will exist against the business as heretofore.

I think the argument relative to paying the fastest horse the most money is just right. It has always been that a horse with much of a record had little earning capacity, and was not worth much to a poor man as a racing proposition. Consequently many a horse has escaped a record because the owner or driver would not take the chance of getting a record when he did not think he could win the race, knowing that, with more work and education, his horse would be most valuable in the slow classes, where all of the big money is hung up.

The cry about the judges' stand is all bosh, as most every man that I have ever seen in the judges' stand, meant to do what he thought was right. All that is necessary is to be sure that judges know what is right.

I believe it is the duty of the associations to make their meetings so attractive that the entrance fee will be small, feeling satisfied that if track managers do their best, were obliged to have good short racing, to offer most money to the fastest horses, good clean grand stands, with comfortable seats, the grounds attractive, instead of the public being obliged to look at rocks, sand hills and mud holes, everything around the stables being kept in apple-pie order, drivers and those caring for the horses dressed neat and nice, that the business would have the following and respect of every healthy-minded persons.

Ignorance of what actually takes place at the race track is in a very large measure the reason for censure, but at that we all know there are many things which might be improved. Cleanliness as it applies to racing is not all. Cleanliness is absolutely necessary at all parts of the track, so that horse loving people who wish to visit the horses can do so without seeing things that disgust them.

THE RING.

JEM MACE FIRST CLEVER FIGHTER.

One of the best contributions regarding the comparisons of fighters of today when paralleled with the fighters in early days, is the following taken from a conversation with James W. Coffroth in San Francisco.

"Unquestionably not any of the early fighters were equals of the men of the modern school in point of extreme cleverness. Fourteen champions of England and the world are recorded before we come to a man who can be accepted as possessing even the rudiments of the art of skilful boxing. Medoza, the Jew, was the first man to assume the orthodox fighting position, left hand and foot forward, right hand across body, in use to the present day. Yet Mendoza knew nothing of the art of retreating and fighting while going away. Boxing in his way, 1790, was slow and unskilful to a degree which would seem utter stupidity today.

"'Spring, who followed Crip in 1824, must be taken as the cleverest pugilist from the inception of regulation sparring and boxing to the days of Mace, 1860. He was the Jim Corbett of the early fistiana. He was skilful, but could not hit a bit. No doubt he was comparatively clever. That he could be called clever in the sense that Corbett was clever in a matter of grave doubt.

"Jem Ward, who dollowed Spring, was clever and a hard hitter, but not remarkable for the first-named quality as Spring was. Nick Ward, Bendigo, Tass Parker, Pery, Broome and Sayers were not clever. In Sayer's best day Nat Langham, a clever left-handed middleweight, beat him by straight jabbing with the left. Langham was not clever beyond using this straight left and sticking to it.

"Mace was probably the first of the very clever boxes. Unquestionably his skill compared very favorably with that of Corbett, Ryan, Dempsey Jackson, McCoy and other master tacticians of latter days. A straight hitter with both hands, a cutting one too, a man who never missed an opening and who was himself very hard to hit, Mace must be rated the first really clever fighter of the ring in a latterday acceptation of the term. The fact that he instructed the Australians how to box and the men they sent to this country in the early 90s proves that Mace was a wonderfully clever man. Jackson was the highest exponent of the Mace school of boxing. His style has never been excelled. He was one of the cleverest men that ever wore a mitten.

"Harry Foley, who developed hundreds of Australian boxers, who were clever to a degree, was a graduate of the Mace school. Jim Hall, George Dawson and Griffo, three of the cleverest men in the ring ever known, learned the art in Foley's place in Sydney.

"The English and Mace schools of boxing, and subsequently the Australian school, called for straight hitting with both hands, ducking in and slipping instead of blocking.

ART AND ORNAMENT.

Mere Decoration and Ornamentation Cannot Stand Before Simplicity --An Artistic Maxim.

The tinkling melodies of Purcell, Dr. Arne and other composers of that far-away period were undoubtedlybeautiful. So are the simple melodies of Beethoven, but it is Beethoven whose name will be honored and lovedwhen the mere melodists will have been forgotten. Ornament does not always signify beauty, and too often it obscures it. For instance, the Greeks understood that, as their statuary and the uninterrupted sweep of their architedrtural lines will show. The really artistic is generally the simple, a fact which is brought home to one in contemplation of the latest model of the Gourlay piano. Officially known in the office of Messrs. Gourlay, Winter and Leeming, Toronto, as Style 35, the Empress design, this piano is likely to increase still more the reputation for high grade work which the firm has already attained throughout this country and abroad. The piano is a magnificent instrument musically its tone is mellow and its scale is even and ctisp; besides that, its rich quality makes it peculiarly suitable for accompanying the voice. When such an ideal pianois enclosed in such an exquisite case as the Empress design the result is certainly most charming.

Looking at the instrument one is immediately struck with its simplicity. The music desk runs the full length of the piano, and it is a single piece of beautifully grained mahogany, unornamented by a single scroll or carving. Similar to that is the base board. Just under the cornice there are three small carvings, but they are of most chaste design. The trusses are fluted and the general effect is of the utmost beauty.

Certainly the Empress would not be out of place in the most artistic drawing room.

ACROSS AMERICA AND BACK.

Two Nova Scotia Athletes Will Walk 8,000 Miles for $600.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 31.—Two well-known athletes of North Sydney, C. B., G. Cummings and J. H. Gillies, leave there on Wednesday to walk to San Francisco and back, a distance of 8,000 miles, for a purse of $600, the distance to be covered within one year from the start. They will leave without a cent, but will be supplied with a map showing the cities they must pass through, and at each of which they must obtain a written statement from the Mayor to prove their visit. They are both confident of their ability to do the task.

A BILIOUS HEADACHE.

Is one of the meanest things in the world. To prevent biliousness use Dr. Hamilton's Pills, which keep the system clean and pure, regulate the bowels, give tone to the kidneys and liver. You'll never have a headache you'll never have a sour stomach, but you'll have vigorous bracing health by taking Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Your druggist sells Dr. Hamilton's Pills, 25c. per box, or five boxes for one dollar.

Anyone fortunate enough to be acquainted with Judge F. M. Bixby of the Police Court of Brockton, Mass., knows that he is much longer in wit than he is in inches, of which fact following episode is a forcible illustration.

One morning one of the usual crop of drunks on hearing the usual judicial degeee of "ten dollars" fall from Judge Bixby's lips, made this plea for clemency:

"Couldn't yer make it five? I'm a little short, judge."

"No—sorry—can't do it. I'm a little short judge myself."

THAT STAB-LIKE PAIN IN THE SMALL OF THE BACK COMES FROM THE KIDNEYS

AND CAN BE CURED BY

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

It is not the back that is aching, but the kidneys which are situated beneath the small of the back.

Therefore, dull pain in the back, or sharp, quick twinges, are warnings of sick kidneys —warnings of kidney trouble. Plasters and liniments will not cure a bad back, for they cannot reach the kidneys which cause it. Doan's Kidney Pills reach the kidneys. That is what they are for and that only. So, if you would be free from backache, swelling of the feet and ankles, frequent or suppressed urine, painful sensation when urinating, specks floating before the eyes, frequent thirst, brick-dust deposit in the urine, or anything wrong with the urinary organs or bladder, you must keep your kidneys well. Help them to work freely, and help them to flush off all the body's waste and impurities.

Doan's Kidney Pills are made from the purest roots and herbs, and have a remarkable healing and toning effect on the kidneys. Mrs. Barling, 26 Locomotive Street, Hamilton, Ont., writes: "I had been troubled considerably with my kidneys, using many remedies, but finding no relief. I tried Doan's Kidney Pills and found them to act directly on the kindeys, and making them strong again."

Price 50 cents per box, three boxes for $1.25, all dealers or The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.

ORIGIN IN MOUTH.

English Medical Expert Traces Intestinal Troubles to Unclean Teeth.

London, Jan. 31.—Influenza has been so rampant in this country, especially in London, that medical men have been making great efforts to discover its causes and find means for preventing its spread. It now is is due to a special microbe, bacillus influenza, which enters by the mouth and forms poinonous products, which, circulating in the system, gives rise to symptoms. The investigators still were puzzleh to explain why the microbe attacked some people and not others exposed to the same risks.

An infection theory and, to the lay mind, a rather startling one, has been propounded by a well known dentist that had bad teeth and defective hygiene of the mouth are the most imnortant causes in determining infection.

MOUTH BREEDING PLACE.

He contends that in a healthy mouth the invading microbes do not find such good feeding ground as in a mouth where teeth are decayed and covered with tartar and the gums in an unhealthy condition.

A well known West End physician to whom the Daily Mail applied for an opinion was strongly in favor of the proposition. He said: "The idea has been gaining ground in the medical profession that defective hygiene of the mouth, or, as it is technically called, oral sepsis, is largely responsible for a great many diseases of the intestinal tract, especially dyspepsia and gastritis, and much greater attention is paid to the care of the teeth and mouth than was formly the case.

VISIT THE DENTIST.

"Personally before treating any case of indigestion, I advise a visit to a dentist. As to influenza, I should think it extremely probable that bad teeth predispose it, especially in those varities of influenza n which intestinal and gastric symptoms prekominate."

Another dental surgeon, who by the way, also possesses medical qualification, stated that if people practiced strict hygiene of the mouth the majority of physicians would starve for lack of employment.

There is a small body of men in the medical profession, numbering among them several eminent pgysicians, who contend that oral sepsis is a predisposing cause in nearly every disease affecting the stomach or intestines.

APPENDICITIS CAUSED BY MOUTH.

One of their number stated that he firmly believed appendicitis was, in many cases, set up solely by defective oral hygiene. Micribes callect around bad teeth and grow in the tartar covering them, hence being swallowed and set up acute inflammation in the vermiform appendix. He stated that he was by no means alone inthe belief.

Asked whether he believed bad teeth caused influenza, he stated it was his opinion and the opinion of many of his colleagues that oral sepsis was a predisposing cause of influenza, although the immediate cause undoubtedly was that powerful and somewhat elusive little microbe, bacillos influenza.

Growing girls in ill-health should use occasionally Wheeler's Botanic Bitters, a purely vegetable and reliable remedy for all irregularities of the system, curing Headache, Biliousness and Dizziness.

At a recent convention of librarians, says the New York Tribune, the following story was told of old Geronimo, the most celebrated Indian prisonerward the Federal Government has ever had:

"Do not the products of civilized life astonish you?" Geronimo was asked by his keeper.

"Most of them do not, for I see how they come about," said the aged Indian.

"But," he added, "they took me once to New Orleans and showed me where they made ice. At one end of a building I saw wood thrown into furnaces, and out of the other end came blocks of ice. Man did not do that; only the Great Spirit can make ice from fire."

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ABSOLUTELY PURE

CREAM TARTAR.

Nearly all goods in this line at the present time are adulterated and in fact unfit to use.

GILLETT'S is used by the best bakers and caterers everywhere.

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

GILLETT'S costs no more than the inferior adulterated goods.

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

E. W. GILLETT COMPANY LIMITED

TORONTO, ONT.

Don't Neglect a Cough or Cold

IT CAN HAVE BUT ONE RESULT. IT LEAVES THE THROAT or LUNGS, OR BOTH, AFFECTED.

DR. WOOD'S NORWAY PINE SYRUP IS THE MEDICINE YOU NEED. . . . . .

It is without an equal as a remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Pain in the Chest, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Quinsy and all affections of the Throat and Lungs.

A single dose of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup will stop the cough, soothe the throat, and if the cough or cold has become settled on the lungs, the healing properties of the Norway Pine Tree will proclaim its great virtue by promptly eradicating the bad effects, and a persistent use of the remedy cannot fail to bring about a complete cure.

Do not be humbugged into buying so-called Norway Pine Syrups, but be sure and insist on having Dr. Wood's. It is put up in a yellow wrapper, three pine trees the trade mark, and price 25 cts.

Mrs. Henry Seabrook, Hepworth, Ont., writes: "I have used Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup in our family for the past three years and I consider it the best remedy known for the cure of colds. It has cured all my children and myself."

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PURITY

and freshness are absolutely necessary qualities of the drugs you use if they are to be of the service required. This applies with few exceptions to toilet preparations also.

YOU CAN DEPEND ON

every article we sell as being of standard quality and full strength. To household remedies of proven value we give particular attention and our prescription department has but one motto: "Absolute fidelity and accuracy." And low prices are a feature of every department.

Alonzo Staples

York Street Drug Store.

WAIT FOR OUR SALE!

We are getting ready for a BIG SALE to take place early next month. Particulars in a day or so. It will pay you to wait for our sale. We have the kind of goods you need, and our prices are always the lowest. Watch this space.

M. FICKLER & CO.