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HORSESHOE
WORLD

April
1940



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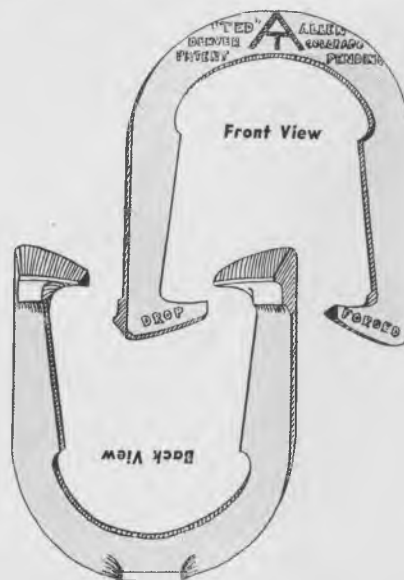
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The HORSESHOE WORLD . . . *The Pitchers' Journal*

Vol. XIX

No. 4


April, 1940

THERE are times when a publication may be justified in "suppressing" news. The Horseshoe World may have erred when it offered a page to the secretary and other officials of the National Association for such use as they cared to make of it. The page has been used to air differences of opinion over the 1940 tournament. But, good may result after all—at least we hope so.

Good May Result It may be that in giving both sides a chance to "say their piece" the atmosphere has been cleared and that this magazine may have had a part in bringing about the friendliness and peace that now seems to prevail. The last letters on the subject are printed this month, and it should be borne in mind that they were written before the affair was settled—we only print them in order that all concerned be treated fairly and given equal space. ..But we are through.

It is time now—and all concerned are fully agreed—that we put our shoulders to the wheel and make the 1940 meet at Des Moines the best ever. We can also lend our support to the open tournament that Canada will stage. I am sure that the United States and Canada can be just as good neighbors in the horseshoe sport as they have been in everything else. If any misunderstanding

Good Neighbors has arisen, the same good sportsmanship that always makes horseshoe pitching a pleasure has quickly erased it. It looks like a big year for horseshoe pitching on the North American continent!

The Horseshoe World would be pleased to have short letters from clubs that have financed new courts, new lights, etc., through various money-making schemes that we might pass them on to our readers.

We are quite sure that horseshoe clubs could be of benefit to other clubs if they would give us their ideas each month on improving their club and just how they accomplished improvements. We will pass 'em on and if the idea does the other fellow some good it certainly will be worth your while.

In publishing THE HORSESHOE WORLD, our readers come first. The magazine is printed monthly for them. Suggestions to the editor for the betterment of the magazine are always welcomed.

The time that your subscription expires is printed on the address slip, directly after your name, showing the month and the year.

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Well, it's all aboard for Des Moines for 1940 . . . we want to commend each and everyone who had a part in "giving" and "taking" in the little argument over the tournament . . . it's good of all to get together on this and give the pitchers what your Old Watchman on the Tower couldn't seem to do since 1935 when he was Secretary—give them a bang-up, honest-to-goodness world meet . . . our hat is off to the National Association officers . . . we like every one of 'em, doggon 'em, although some of them thought we were taking sides, and caused us to write them letters telling them to "hush up and pitch horseshoes" . . . well, it's over and that National official that got "formal" and wrote us "Dear Mr. Howard" instead of the usual "Dear R. B." is included in the list of the ones we like most! . . . we only run this magazine for the friends that are in it . . . you just can't starve on friends, but can starve on subscription and advertising revenues, so why should we try to reduce our friendship list by even one? . . . and we think Toronto deserves a bouquet . . . they are going to forego a claim to the 1940 meet and will hold a Canadian Open which deserves our support . . . and we also want to add our thanks for some good horseshoe news from California . . . "quit squawkin' for Western news, here it is," writes Virginia Coker, of San Francisco . . . again, thanks!

R. B. HOWARD,
Publisher and Editor

Business Offices, Madison Press Co. Building
45 W. Second Street, London, Ohio

Official Organ of the National Horseshoe
Pitchers Association

1940 World Championship Meet at Iowa Fair

The 1940 World's Championship Horseshoe Pitching Tournament, and, incidentally, the first such tourney since 1935, will be held at the Iowa State Fair this August. This is the final decision of the executive committee of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association after about three months of consideration and waiting to see if a higher bid should happen to be offered. The executive committee has also voted to hold conventions in connection with the tournament.

The contract between the Iowa State Fair and the National Association calls for the fair to put up 24 cash prizes amounting to \$800, and the National Association to add \$300, also, in 24 cash prizes. The following prizes will be awarded by the Fair: Gold medal and \$150; Silver medal and \$100; \$80, \$60, \$50, \$40, \$30, \$25, \$24, \$23, \$22, \$21, \$20, \$19, \$18, \$17, \$16, \$15, \$14, \$13, \$12, \$11, \$10, \$10. The Association's 24 prizes will be, \$50, \$25, \$20, \$20, \$20, \$20, \$20, \$15, \$11, \$10, \$10, \$8, \$8, \$8, \$7, \$6, \$6, \$5, \$5, \$5, \$5, \$5, \$5. This means that first place pays \$200, second pays \$125 and so on.

Besides the cash promised by the Fair and the Association, John Gordon, the Los Angeles shoe manufacturer, has led the way for horseshoe companies to assist, by offering four prizes amounting to \$100. These are to go to pitchers who make the best showing in the finals using the Gordon shoe.

The horseshoe pitching program this year will include seven days of competition; two days for a state-wide tournament, and five days for the big world meet.

Persons who reside in Iowa will have an opportunity to clash among themselves for 12 cash prizes, totaling \$100. The title at stake in this state-wide tournament will be State Fair Champion. Preliminaries consisting of the group system will be held August 21, and the finals August 22. The prizes offered will be a trophy and \$15, \$13, \$11, \$10, \$9, \$8, \$7, \$6, \$6, \$5, \$5, \$5.

On the evening of August 22, the National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association will hold a constitutional convention in a room to be located at the fairgrounds. The purpose of this unique meeting is to bring the constitution up to date, to strike out obsolete rules, and to make any necessary changes.

The general outline of the World's Championship Tournament is: Drawings for qualifying positions will take place at 7:45 a. m. Friday, August 23. At 8 a. m. eliminations will

start, each contestant pitching 200 shoes for points, the high 24 to qualify for the finals. The finals will be a round-robin, starting Saturday morning and ending Tuesday noon, the winner of the most games being declared world's champion. All ties are to be played off.

Sunday evening, August 25, the regular convention of the National Association will be held at the fairgrounds. Perhaps the most important phase of this meeting will be the election of officers.

Additional Notes

To whom should we give the credit for making it possible to have this world's title meet this year? Lots of individuals: R. B. Howard, for emphasizing in the Horseshoe World many times previous to the last convention the need of finding a way to secure association funds to finance tournaments; John Gordon for making the motion about the five-cent tax stamps; Harry Duncan of the Allen Company, and Latore and Levagood, of Michigan, for supporting Mr. Gordon's motion; L. E. Tanner for being the first person to urge me to approach the Fair Board about it; all the officers in general; to Lee Rose, also an officer, for efficiently enforcing the five-cent stamp rule on the manufacturers; and, of course, we must not forget the consistent support of the game by the State Fair Board.

State Fair horseshoe bulletins will be off the press in a few days. You can get one by writing a request to me at 3803 Second Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

The constitution of the National Association requires a \$5.00 entry fee. This will be charged, but each entry will have it returned. This really means no entry fee.

The Fair Board has appropriated ample funds so that I can manage the tournament efficiently, hire plenty assistants, etc. Twelve eliminated pitchers may have jobs as scorekeepers during the finals.

I have already come to terms with Lee Rose, by which he will serve as chief statistician of the tournament. He will figure ringer percentages, weigh and measure shoes, etc. I am endeavoring to get L. E. Tanner, former association president, to serve as the ground referee, for he has the reputation of being the outstanding tournament rule enforcer in the game; and I am also trying to persuade popular Jack Claves to divide the time with LeRoy Page on the public address system. You know, Claves handled the P. A. at the Chicago World Tourney in 1933.

Ted Allen, world's champion, is trying to get a nationally known magazine to cover the tournament; while John Gordon writes that he will be here early to help get the courts in the best of shape.

For several years I have been trying to persuade the State Fair Board to lay cement next to the courts, but I just couldn't quite get over the idea. Then, about two weeks ago, Grover Hawley, of Bridgeport, Ohio, wrote Mr. Corey, State Fair Secretary, one of the most courteous letters I have ever read. In it he suggested the cement stands. I think Mr. Corey is now sold upon the idea and that the boys will not have to pitch from clay this year.

Be sure to get all copies of the Horseshoe World from now and until after the tournament, for it will be the most complete and accurate source for information.

WE AGREE, MR. COREY

The Horseshoe World is in receipt of a very friendly letter from that fine gentleman and friend of horseshoe pitching, Mr. A. R. Corey, secretary of the Iowa State Fair and Exposition.

Mr. Corey is exceedingly pleased that the 1940 world's championship tournament and convention is going to Des Moines and says: "We have a fine set-up for the games—16 good courts and seats for between 4000 and 5000 people. About half the seats are under canvas in the shade.

"The purpose of a state fair is to bring the best of everything in all departments together in competition. For instance, all our livestock classes are open to the world and such events as our team pulling contest are also open to the world. It has been the thought of the State Fair Board that our horseshoe pitching tournament also would be open to the world."

We have known Mr. Corey since 1922, and we can vouch for the fact that he is a great showman and a good fair manager. His interest in the welfare of horseshoe pitching is well known.

JACKSONS IN OHIO

It was the good fortune of the editor to have an exhibit of the Ohio Division of Conservation and Natural Resources at the Columbus Sports show recently where Mr. and Mrs. Carroll E. Jackson were headliners. Their exhibition pitching "rang the bell" with the audience every day and night and drew liberal praise in the newspapers.

NEW MEMBERSHIP PLAN INAUGURATED

The Peekskill Brookside Horseshoe Pitching Club of Peekskill, N. Y., has inaugurated a new membership plan for the season of 1940.

For several years the membership dues in this organization have been \$3.00 a year payable monthly. Even though this seems a small amount compared with the facilities offered, it proved to be difficult to effect collections from the members. This resulted in a deficit in the treasury and the dropping of many new members because of delinquency in meeting their obligations to the club.

It is now proposed to establish a seasonable membership at \$1.00 for the entire pitching season for which membership cards will be issued.

In this way all interested in horseshoe pitching, both young and old, will be permitted to enjoy the facilities of the Brookside Club's battery of courts.

It is the belief of the officials of

the club that under this plan the membership will materially increase and that the club will be better off financially at the end of the year than under the former plan, as each \$1.00 must be paid in before the facilities of the courts can be acquired.

This plan will eliminate the many poachers who have heretofore dropped around and shared the courts at the expense of the regular members.

The Brookside Horseshoe Pitching Club was organized on October 4th, 1932. Hugh C. Wilson has been its president and has also acted in the capacity of secretary and treasurer ever since the date of organization. Elmer Button is vice president and Michael Bell who is the champion horseshoe pitcher of Peekskill is manager. The club has six courts complete with concrete platforms and clay pits and are illuminated with electric lights for night playing.

arate charter is being considered by the National Executive Committee. The prospects of this charter being granted look good at the moment.

Wedge Meagher has recovered sufficiently to hobble as far as the neighborhood movie house, with the assistance of Jim Wilson and a sturdy blackthorn stick.

STREAMLINED!

The age old game of horseshoe pitching is being streamlined now, right along with everything else. The game itself is constantly being revised to a faster tempo, but it's in the shoes where the modern touch is most noticeable. The new Diamond Super Ringer Horseshoe, for instance, a beautiful shoe, finished in cadmium and copper plating, would make old Dobbin bolt for the prairies, but pitching horseshoe fans agree it's the last word in perfection. Pitching horseshoe designers are more interested in how a shoe will act when it twirls around a stake than in how it affects Dobbin.

The Diamond Super Ringer, manufactured by the Diamond Calk Horseshoe Co., of Duluth, Minn., is the most recent accomplishment of the Diamond designers. The Cadmium and copper plating finish is an exclusive Diamond finish that makes the Super Ringer as outstanding in appearance as it is in performance. Fans report the new shoe to be productive of more ringers and less of the hit and run shoes, that twirl to the stake for a few revolutions and then depart in other directions. Furthermore, manufacturers claim, the Super Ringer is drop forged from a specially developed tool steel that is a definite improvement in not only lengthening the life of the shoes but in the way they act when thrown.

The new Diamond Super Ringer is now the Number One item in the Diamond Line. Other items include many styles and models of pitching shoes, official courts, stakes, stake holders, score pads, rule books and instruction booklets.—Contributed.

RIVER VS. COURTS?

As this issue of the Horseshoe World is being prepared for the printer, the Ohio River is at flood stage, so we can't vouch for what is happening to the horseshoe courts of the Greater Cincinnati Horseshoe Club. Under date of April 15, however, James A. Cole writes: The Horseshoe Club of Greater Cincinnati is now repairing its courts with new pegs, clay and concrete stops. We are expecting a big season; we have 18 courts at Luncken airport." We hope this work doesn't have to be done over again.

LONG ISLAND NOTES

(The following is from J. J. Enright's sprightly "Ringer" column in the Long Island Press):

Spring is here with its usual quota of rainfall and optimism and a new crop of varied disasters. Among other things, the local horseshoe game is seriously menaced by the continued expansion of the Queens building boom.

During the last two weeks the number of insomnia cases among ringer fans has boomed alarmingly. The unanimous complaint is that their sleep is shattered by grisly nightmares in which monster steam shovels roar and snort in search of horseshoe courts to devour.

Foremost among the victims is Bill Coakley, whose nightmare came true with a vengeance. Early last Monday morning he was awakened by an uproar outside his bedroom window and looked out in time to see a steam shovel take its first bite of the Benham street courts. Bill climbed back into bed and put his head under the pillow—but the racket continued. By noon time there was only a gaping hole where the courts had been.

"Progress is progress, and I'm all for it," says Bill sadly, "but when it comes to choosing between a horseshoe court and an apartment house, I'm a tory."

Dennis Cronin, Pop Schemering, Jim Bernnan, Pat Dinan, Hughie Cooney and the other Benham vet-

erans have organized a sidewalk superintendents' brigade and cheer loud-up every time the shovel dents its teeth on a boulder.

National League

Thanks to Lee Rose, the new secretary, the National Association has begun to function in proper fashion—from the top down.

Lee's pet project a national team league, is in the process of formation. Any individual club, or any county, district, or state association may enter a team in this league. A schedule of home-and-home match games between registered teams will be played in designated areas throughout the country, with a final "world series" to determine the team championship of the United States.

Teams are limited to 10 players but matches will be played on a seven-man-a-side basis. All players must be registered with the national secretary before May 15 and must purchase national membership cards. An entry fee of \$10 must accompany each teams' application.

Rule 12 of Article 5, the latest amendment, urges the formation of similar leagues by all state and county associations. Pitchers on national teams cannot play in state league competition, and state players are barred from county matches.

Peg Sparks

Horseshoe pitching will be featured on the City Parks Department sports program this summer. Kenneth Levinson, recreation director, plans to hold several tournaments at the new Riis Park courts during the 1940 season.

Long Island's application for a sep-

LEROY PAGE
Des Moines, Ia.
President

JACK CLAVES
St. Louis, Mo.
First Vice President

THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE
PITCHERS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

LEE ROSE, Sec'y-Treas.

5228 Shaw Ave.

Detroit, Mich.

SAM SOMERHALDER
Guide Rock, Neb.
Second Vice President
ALVIN DAHLENE
Lawrence, Kansas
Third Vice President

1130 Seneca St., Des Moines, Ia.
April 16, 1940

To All Members:

At the present writing, there are no other offers or bids for a National tournament this year which exceed that of the Iowa State Fair and Exposition. This permanent organization, long a fervid supporter of paid horseshoe exhibitions, has offered the sum of \$800 along with several nice trophies plus the use of a building as a convention site, as an inducement to bring the National Tournament for 1940 to Des Moines.

After much discussion pro and con, the Executive Committee of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, by majority vote, has decided to award the 1940 National Tournament to the above named organization.

We believe this step is a firm one and in the right direction. Other sites offered were both further from the territorial boundaries of the United States, which are the limits of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and of lower cash prize offers. We are determined to conduct a national this year so, naturally accepted the best available offer within a reasonable time limit. Hundreds of pitchers in the country will testify to the remarkable tournaments conducted at the Iowa State Fairs in the past. Everyone will also testify that every cash prize offered was paid promptly and in full upon conclusion of the meet.

Newspaper and radio co-operation has been to the utmost. Our entrants received courteous treatment and had a whale of a good time in the bargain. There has never been any question as to the sportsman-like manner in which these meets have been conducted.

Unquestionably, Leland Mortenson, who is Tournament Superintendent for the Iowa State Fair, is one of the ablest promoters in the entire country. Genial at all times, but very firm if necessary, his sound judgment and fair mind has enabled all fair tournaments to click off in every department and on schedule.

The Iowa State Fair tournaments have entertained contestants from Maine and Virginia, from Mexico and Northern California, and most states in between. Among all these, you may find one or two who have

been dissatisfied, but I have never heard of them.

The pitching courts at the Iowa State Fair are the best in the entire country and Mr. Corey has promised to improve them even more for this National Tournament. Each year some new world record is established on the fairground courts. The most sensational, I believe, was that of Dean Brown, of California, who last year tossed on 22 consecutive double ringers in tournament competition for an official world record. This event was widely publicized and was sent by WHO'S new Radio-Photo machine for the first sports event picture ever sent in such a manner. The reproduction was published in last October's edition of the Horseshoe World and was remarkably clear and accurate.

All in all, these Iowa tournaments are a model of the best you can possibly want for tournament competition. All who come this year will be entertained in the same manner as has been the custom in the past. I know that many of you have probably been looking for some certain thing in horseshoe competition in the past, or for some particular inducement incidental to the meet itself, so may I suggest a slogan for the National Tournament, namely "You will find it in Des Moines, this year."

Now, for some of the details. I have tentatively set the evening of August 22 as the date for a Constitutional Convention. There are many parts of our Constitution which need some dressing up, therefore, I have named Mr. J. Robert Tompkin, 503 Grand Avenue, Ames, Iowa, as chairman of a committee to revise, re-write and modernize our Constitution.

Mr. Tompkin is a legal student at Iowa State College and is well versed in legal procedure and phrasing and I am sure he will do a very efficient job. Any member of the National Association is privileged to write him regarding any pet idea he may have for incorporation. Mr. Tompkin will investigate your idea thoroughly, and if sound, will write a section dealing with your idea for adoption or rejection by the Convention. At this time, I would like to urge all state presidents to call conventions for the selection of delegates to the National Convention.

Keep in mind that the Constitutional Convention will be held on August 22, and the regular convention on the night of August 25. Certify your delegates to the National Secretary at the earliest opportunity.

On the morning of August 23, competition will begin to select the 24 entrants who will compete for the world championship beginning on August 24. It is planned to play a 23-game round robin in three days. I had hoped that the fifth day of play would consist of a four out of seven match between the two top men of the round robin for the championship, but both Mr. Corey and some of the Executive Committee objected to this plan. I recently broached this idea to the present champ, Ted Allen, when he passed through Des Moines, and, although this plan would definitely work to the advantage of the number two man (I concede Allen a better-than-average chance of clinching the number one spot) Allen was in favor of it. I still think it would be a great show and would like some letters on the subject.

If the above reads as though I am prejudiced in favor of Allen, remember I have seen him put the heat on when the going was toughest in these blast-furnace competitions for the past five or six years, and no one can help but be impressed by such colossal performances as he has given us.

Fernando Isais, of Mexico, beat Ted in 1937, but Fernando that year was at the absolute pinnacle of perfection. He may return this year and again reach that peak, or it may be someone else with a heavenly, or otherwise, inspiration, but that is the thing which draws thousands of eager spectators to the Iowa State Fair courts each fair time.

To the \$800 cash offered by the Iowa State Fair, the National Association will add at least \$300 from our Stamp Fund, making a total of \$1100 in prize money. First prize will be \$200, second prize \$125, third prize \$100, fourth prize \$80, and so on down to \$15 each for 23rd and 24th places.

There will be an entry guarantee fee with the National Association receiving the fees and seizing the

(Continued on Page 5)

SANTA CRUZ OPENS FOR 1940 SEASON

On Sunday, March 10, 1940, the Santa Cruz Horseshoe Club officially opened its courts for the coming season. Mr. Henderson of the Santa Cruz Club had invited San Francisco players down to participate in the opening.

An impromptu game was arranged between the San Francisco players and the Santa Cruz players with the contest coming to a tie in the final round.

Although the contest had its highlights with some of the players pitching 70 per cent or better, some of the better players realized that having laid off during the winter months made their percentage drop considerably. But the climax of the day was the trick and fancy shooting exhibition put on by Guy Zimmerman and his wife. It was one of the best exhibitions that the Northern California players have seen in a long time.

To make their tricks a little more difficult there was a strong cross wind blowing across the courts. Each and every one applauded Mrs. Zimmerman for the courage and valor which she showed in having her husband throw shoes all around her. She repeatedly asked for volunteers, but the boys were a little skeptical because of the wind.

After the exhibition, Mr. Zimmerman spoke on horseshoes in general and he believes that the game is on the upgrade again. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman proved that they were congenial sports by asking some of the players to play with them. Mr. Mori, of South San Francisco, who played in the contest, and, who, incidentally is the Oakland Civic Auditorium champion, was ushered into the arena to play Mr. Zimmerman one game. Mr. Zimmerman won. Then Marty Fourcade, the present Northern California champion, who plays under the Santa Cruz banner, played with Mr. Zimmerman. Again Mr. Zimmerman won.

Mrs. Zimmerman played more games than her husband, although she was a little off her game, losing two out of three to Miss Virginia Coker, the present Northern California women's champion, but winning two out of three from Mrs. Rosa Frayen, the San Francisco Sports Women's Club champion, and runner-up to Miss Coker in the championship.

The Santa Cruz Club upheld its well-known hospitality by inviting the San Francisco players to a luncheon. The hospitality and general good fellowship that the Santa Cruz Club shows make it a pleasure for clubs to come to Santa Cruz to play.

April, 1940

The Santa Cruz Club holds an annual Fourth of July tournament which we expect this year to be a booming success, as this year it will be sanctioned by the N. C. H. P. A.

The visiting San Francisco players were as follows:

Mr. Mori, South San Francisco, San Mateo Club; Mr. Lyon, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. Pentecost, Golden Gate Park Club; Mr. Selk, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. Faix, Golden Gate Park Club; Mr. Callas, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. O'Brien, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. Gregoire, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. Rosheim, Mission Horseshoe Club; Mr. Davis, Golden Gate Park Club; Mr. Randolph, Mission Horseshoe Club.

San Francisco							
	P	W	L	SP	R	DR	Pct
Mori	8	7	1	494	283	82	57.2
O'Brien	8	7	1	554	300	81	54.1
Faix	8	5	3	508	265	64	52.3
Pentec't	8	3	5	512	267	61	52.1
Callas	5	1	4	344	159	32	46.2
Gregoi'e	8	4	4	568	254	60	44.7
Lyon	4	2	2	270	119	21	44.0
Selk	4	0	4	240	104	22	42.0
Randol'h	4	3	1	214	90	22	42.0
Rosh'm	3	0	3	154	50	8	32.4
Davis	4	0	4	196	56	10	28.5
Total	64	32	32				48.0

Santa Cruz							
	P	W	L	SP	R	DR	Pct
Four'c'de	8	5	3	596	313	63	52.5
Pipe	8	5	3	480	263	83	54.7
Ollison	7	5	2	462	237	68	51.2
Jones	8	5	3	524	261	57	49.8
Wyman	2	1	1	92	45	12	48.2
Mayo	8	4	4	506	241	55	47.6
Potter	8	4	4	498	227	51	45.5
Kruif	8	2	6	478	207	42	41.2
Barger	6	1	5	92	45	12	35.0
Hendern	1	0	1	13	2	
Total	64	32	32				49.5

The Santa Cruz players were as follows: Mr. Fourcade, Mr. Pipe, Mr. Jones, Mr. Potter, Mr. Mayo, Mr. Barger, Mr. Kruif, Mr. Allison.

The following families were present: Mr. and Mrs. Pipe, Santa Cruz; Mr. and Mrs. Callas, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Potter, San Jose; Mr. and Mrs. Schultz, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Pentecost, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Ollison, San Jose; Mr. and Mrs. Randolph, San Francisco.

Mr. Dearing kept the score; "Pop" Carson and Mr. Hodgson had a grand time scoring although they did not get to participate in the contest. The ladies above mentioned did their share by scoring also.

A good time was had by all and in spite of the weather we all had an enjoyable day.

VIRGINIA COKER.

Pitch Only Official Horseshoes,
Bearing the National Green
Stamps!

NIVEN'S IDEAS

Frank R. Niven, former president of the New York State Association and one of the most enthusiastic horseshoe executives in the East, is convinced that the game is still in its elementary stage, with plenty of room and time for improvement.

"Proper publicity and promotion," says Mr. Niven, "raised baseball from a sandlot game to the great American pastime; until public interest has been roused to the near-level of the horseshoe player, the ringer game will still be considered a barnyard sport."

From long experience, Mr. Niven has amassed a wealth of ideas intended to promote the game's popularity and prestige. He advocates better co-operation between the individual players and clubs and the national and state associations. "The national body will then be able to give some of the help the member clubs justly expect."

He suggests that shoe manufacturers and professional pitchers collaborate on a nation-wide program of exhibitions each season as proof that the game is no more "barnyard" pastime. Tournaments should be equipped with scoreboards and loudspeakers for the convenience of spectators. Separate amateur and professional tournaments to be held each year.

Finally, Mr. Niven proposes that "the name 'horseshoes' should be abolished and a new title substituted. The name 'ringers' has been suggested and would be a decided improvement since it would eliminate the temptation of sports writers to indulge in sarcastic puns.

"Radical changes must be made in the scoring system, which at present is most unfair to the beginner. For any true progress to be made it is imperative that a new system be adopted."

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Continued from Page 4)

guarantees in case an entrant fails to complete his schedule. There are several other details which remain to be worked out and will be announced in a later issue of the Horseshoe World. This will suffice for the present, so make plans to attend. It's the greatest exhibition you'll ever have a chance to see. We are making plans to see YOU here this coming August!

Sincerely,
C. LE ROY PAGE, Pres.

RAISE FUNDS!

A good way to raise funds for the club is to stage a Fourth of July event.

Page Five

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ABOUT VOTING DATES

Editor Horseshoe World:

In the February issue, under the caption of "Rose Favors Canadian City for 1940 Meet," the old proverb of "Every story has two sides" was grossly abused.

I do not care to air either side but as the opinion was given that all the other National Association officers, except Mr. Rose, were not only incompetent, but lacking in their duties and loyalty, I wish to give those who read the letter some additional light.

I do not take exception that Mr. Page, the president of the National Association was entirely ignored, as was Mr. Somerhalder. Neither do I condemn Mr. Rose for thinking his opinion was superior to all others and that he alone is qualified to guide the association's affairs. Every man has the right to place his own value on himself; that is a human privilege.

My objection is that the date of the letter was not printed. The date was all important. Had that been mentioned everyone would have realized that Mr. Rose was suffering with "Ants in the Pants" and had "Jumped the Gun" and had not given his brother officers the courtesy of giving their opinion before the deadline of Sunday, February 18.

Mr. Rose's letter was dated February 16, 1940. Had that been printed no false impressions would have been given. The truth is that all officers were very efficient and all had voted before the deadline. The Western Union has a record of my telegram dated February 16, 1940.

I do not blame Mr. Rose for the omitted date, that may have been the printer's mistake, but I do resent his giving the Canadian officials and our members the impression that he has more powers in our game than Judge Landis has in baseball. It spells chaos to our great game and our National Association.

Yes, there are two sides to every story—the right side and the wrong side.

JACK H. CLAVES,
Vice President, Nat'l Asso., 5816 Nesho, St. Louis, Mo.

* *

Editor's Note: For the best interests of the horseshoe game it would seem best that the Horseshoe World close its columns to any further argument over the 1940 tournament. It is now settled and there is no point in rehashing it. We are printing Mr. Claves' letter because of his long knowledge in the game and our own knowledge of his integrity. We

print Mr. Steadman's two letters as they indicate the fine sportsmanship of a neighbor country as evidenced in his second letter. Now let's all pitch horseshoes!

* *

March 18, 1940

Mr. R. B. Howard,
45 W. Second St.,
London, Ohio, U. S. A.

Dear Mr. Howard:

I am writing you to clear up a few points regarding the Canadian bid for the world championship to be held in Toronto, that seems to have been in some way distorted in the United States.

To sum up the Canadian offer: The Canadian National Exhibition, the world's largest annual fair, through an interview with myself on the offer, said that they would put up for a world tourney in Toronto, an indoor arena, which would hold about twenty courts, and seat about 5,000 people, plus all amplifying equipment, \$500.00, trophies, and a banquet for all visiting players.

Add to this, on the suggestion of the National Association, the sum of \$500.00 from the stamp tax, and the sum of \$1,000.00, which the Dominion Association of Canada said they would raise, and I think it adds up to \$2,000.00, which is not too bad an amount for prize money, although we may not have reached the peak that the National Association once raised.

Also the impression has been conveyed that because Canada is now at war, that anyone coming over here is liable to conscription, high cost of living, etc. At this point I would like to state that the borders of Canada are wide open to any United States visitor, with conditions the same as they were before the war, and that our sport, and living conditions are also the same. Then, again, when the United States dollar is tendered here, one dollar and ten cents is paid back, which is an advantage to all visitors.

Apparently Mr. Leroy Page, thru correspondence with Lee Rose, was not satisfied with the version that Mr. Rose had given to him on this bid, so he wrote to the C. N. E. asking for confirmation of it. The C. N. E. gave me full authority to act for them in the absence of Mr. Duthie, sports director, and I wrote Mr. Page, giving him all details, and to date I have not yet heard from Mr. Page, one month ago.

In my letter to Mr. Page, and on behalf of the Dominion Association, we held out the hand of friendship to the National Association, and stated that it may be the beginning of affiliation between the two coun-

tries, and be of great benefit to horseshoes.

Canada from now on will be pitching hooked shoes, with the longer and softer pegs, and all arrangements had been made to conform to National rules, regulations, with soft pegs to suit your style of shoes, so you may see that we were trying to make everything for the convenience of visitors, and were willing to let Canadian pitchers take their chances on the change of their orthodox playing equipment.

It was merely the fact that we were willing to try to put the game on a higher level here, and the thought that with affiliation in view, we may make the game on a comparable level to other sports.

In previous years, the Dominion Association has been as a ruling body, a dead issue, but very recently a group of men, with the thought of the game only at heart, have been taking control, and are trying to modernize the game, make a bigger appeal to the public, and are now introducing the game into the army, even to the extent of giving the soldiers all horseshoe equipment to take overseas with them, with the idea of keeping the game alive an rebuilding up when this slaughter is over, and the only way that we can make horseshoes go is for all players and officials alike, to forget their selfishness, and work together to one end.

To my many friends in the United States I have written this letter to clear up a point that may have caused considerable controversy, and to say that, while we may not put on as big a show as the United States, it is our first real chance to try, and we ourselves would not think of calling a mere \$500.00 a prize for a world tournament, and we have done our best to work with the National Association.

I trust that this letter will be published in the Horseshoe World, a worthy issue which is gaining much popularity in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

ED. C. STEADMAN,
477 Winona Dr., Toronto, Ont., Can.

* *

April 6th, 1940

Mr. R. B. Howard,
45 West Second St.,
London, Ohio, U. S.

Dear Mr. Howard:

Since the above was written, Lee Rose came on a short visit to Toronto, proving his efforts to create good will, and Mr. Rose and Mr. Duthie, together with myself, met to discuss the situation, and the result is that with pressure applied by Mr.

(Continued on Page 7)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 6)

Duthie, and his anxiety to keep the C. N. E. out of any association controversy, also to avoid conflict of dates with any other fair, he is trying to arrange for the horseshoe dates to be changed to the fifth, sixth and seventh of September; also to forego the claim for this year to the world championship tournament, but to put on a Canadian Open championship, which will be open to any United States player to enter.

The prize money for this tourney has not yet been stated, but it is expected to be \$1,000.00; also with an added prize for international intercity team play, of which all possible will be notified as soon as this matter is settled.

Also at this time, the Dominion Association election was held, when I was elected president, with Norm Black, Toronto, who is well known in U. S. circles, as secretary treasurer, and in spite of the war, optimists have it that this will be the best year ever known for Canadian horseshoes.

My regards to the Horseshoe World, which should have a branch in Canada, as we have pitchers who would like to see an issue of this type in this country.

Sincerely yours,

ED. C. STEADMAN.

* *

2 Brookway Ave., Englewood, N. J.
March 29, 1940

Dear Mr. Howard:

It seems that nearly every issue of the Horseshoe World contains a letter from someone complaining about something that is done or the way some person does it. I should like to criticize these critics. I agree that no advances would ever be made without criticism, but most of the criticism I have seen has little to offer to correct the complaint. What we want is constructive criticism or none at all. It has always appeared to me that the ones who criticize others' work or other players are the ones who don't do any work or who don't practice enough to be good pitchers.

The thought I should like to leave with you is that the next time someone "gets under your skin" just pass it off and forget about it. Take time once in a while to observe the best players in the game and the best workers in a club, and you will never see them complain. In other words they are too busy to find time for such small matters. Just get out there and work to increase your ringer percentage or build up your club membership and you won't have time to complain about some other person's faults.

Everyone likes to win, but 50 per cent of us have to lose every time we play, so let's take our losses with a smile. Right here we can look at our national champion as an example. I have seen him lose games and even a tournament and take it smiling. He is great player and does a lot for the game. Let's get behind him and our national, state and local officers and give the game a boost. It is for our own benefit so let's do something constructive before our game slides back to where it was when every court had different rules as our secretary spoke of in the October issue of the "World."

Remember that every fellow has at least a few good points, so let's play these good points. Remember, too, that men make the rules, but it is impossible for the rules to make an expert pitcher.

Here's hoping everyone improves his game.

Sincerely,

LEE DAVIS

ILLINOIS DATES SET

The Illinois State Horseshoe Pitchers Association will conduct its tournament at the Illinois State Fair, in Springfield, August 22, 23 and 24. August 22 has been set aside for the boys' tournament, according to L. E. Tanner, president of the association. The same prizes will be given as last year.

Instead of a watch being given with the first prize of \$50 the Governor of the state will give a handsome trophy.

The 1940 meet will mark Mr. Tanner's 17th year in charge.

CHAMP FIVE YEARS

Casey Jones, Wisconsin champion, who is planning an exhibition tour this summer has been champion for five years. That question was asked recently and we had to write to Casey to find out. He started in very young.

BOOSTS GAME

We take our hats off to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Zimmerman for doing their part in trying to sell the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association to young clubs starting out and other clubs which they come into contact with on their tours. The first thing Mr. Zimmerman did when he was introduced to the Northern California secretary, Miss Virginia Coker, was to tell her of two new clubs and ask her to contact them as he had already spoken to them about joining the association. It is a shame we don't have more top-notchers of their caliber.

NEW HORSESHOE BOOK

A new 100-page book, "The Horseshoe Compendium," dealing with everything pertaining to horseshoe pitching, has just been released from the presses of the Horseshoe World. The book was arranged by Lee Rose, secretary of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and those desiring copies should write him at 5228 Shaw Avenue, Detroit, Mich., sending 50 cents.

BATTLE OF THE SEXES

The stations that will carry the "Battle of the Sexes" program on the air on May 7th, 12:30 P. M. to 1 A. M. Eastern Standard time, when the team from the St. Albans Horseshoe Pitching club will be competing with the horseshoe widows of the St. Albans club are: KERN, KPO, KFI, KGW, KOMO, KHQ, KFBK, KWG and KMJ. This program will be on at 9:30 P. M. Pacific time.

HEADS SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Horseshoe World was pleased to have a letter from B. G. Leighton, former head of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and a recognized authority on the game for many years. Mr. Leighton is now Director of the Leisure Education Department of the St. Louis County Schools, Duluth, Minn.

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A HEALTH POLICY

A good health and good fellowship insurance policy at a nominal annual cost.

1 pair Stamped Pitching	
Shoes	\$2.00
Dues in N.H.S.P.A. and State Club	1.00
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Horseshoe World, 1 year.....	1.00
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Best home courts, single; cost of material only.....	\$6.00
Well lighted, material.....	12.00

\$31.00

Cost of any matched set of golf clubs	\$50.00
Cost of bowling, one yr. av.	\$35.00

One dollar is all that average horseshoe pitcher needs spend. Two bits given each year to N. H. S. P. A., best investment of all.

HARRY WOODFIELD,
Washington, D. C.

* * * * *
 * CONGRATS! *
 * * * * *

Congratulations are due not only to Michael Belsky but to the entire horseshoe pitching fraternity of Long Island.

F. J. Egger has kindly sent us the program of the Queens County All-Sports Association Second Annual Trophy dinner held on March 30. The 1940 horseshoe trophy went to Mr. Belsky and this was the first time horseshoe pitching was recognized in the all-sports awards.

HAVE FINE CLUB

The Greater Toledo Horseshoe Pitchers Association is looking forward to a good season this year. William J. Konz, 1328 Vinal Street, telephone Taylor 4337, is secretary. Toledo horseshoe tossers, why not get in touch with Mr. Konz?

The following is a letter that Mr. Konz recently sent to a large mailing list of Toledo pitchers:

"We wish to take this opportunity of advising you of the activity this association is planning a fine sport—the horseshoe game.

"We believe the pitching of horseshoes is one of the finest forms of healthful exercising it is possible to take. It is not too vigorous for the weakest of us to participate in, and at the same time is active enough for the most of us. We believe that a daily exercise is necessary to keep us in physical condition to meet our jobs requirements, and for that reason are trying to make the game more interesting to a greater number of players.

"We wish to announce the opening of a league for five-men teams in which every team will have the same chance of winning its games regardless of the ability of its players. This seems impossible, but I think you will agree with us after studying the new set of rules that we have drawn up for the Horseshoe Drome Handicap League, a copy of which you will find enclosed. We have taken special care to see that every player has a fair break. Everyone can feel that he has a chance and is not outclassed at the start. The player that is just learning has the same chance to win as the champion.

"We wish to invite you and your friends to join us in our efforts to build this game into a fine sport. We hope you will be able to get up a team among your friends and join us in the fun and sport it is possible to get out of this game. We have a fine set of courts with lights and

heat for the colder months, and lights in a cool, airy and shady spot for the warm months, so we can carry on the sport the year around.

"We wish you to feel welcome to come and play at the Horseshoe Drome any time we are open; we are open now four times each week, on Wednesday and Friday nights, Saturday and Sunday afternoons. We want to start this league by April 1, so it will be necessary to have all entries in by that time. For more information, please come to the Horseshoe Drome at our open dates, or call me at Taylor 4337.

"The Horseshoe Drome is located at 319 Division Street, one block off Hamilton Street, near Swan Creek.

"Sincerely yours,
 WM. J. KONZ, Sec.

READY TO PLAY

Club members from the following clubs on Long Island have been seen actively engaged in preparing the courts and grounds during the warm sunny week ends in April: W Hempstead, Elmhurst, DeKalb, St. Albans, Baisley Park, Sunnyside, College Point and Whitestone.

It's these men that are the backbone of their clubs and of the Long Island Horseshoe Pitchers Association, and are to be credited with a successful season.

Rivalry between the above named clubs is very keen not only in trying to put the best time in the field, but in trying to have the best courts to play on.

HAVE 100 MEMBERS

The Davenport, Ia., Horseshoe Club has about 100 members and the city furnishes eight municipal courts.

ONCE A YEAR, HE SEZ

A champion should be compelled to defend his title at least once a year, writes J. Miff Nave, Elizabethtown, Tenn. He thinks Ted Allen has been getting away with a lot in not having to defend his crown. (He will have to defend it at Des Moines this year.—Editor).

WANTS GAMES

B. B. Taggart, 609 Blackburn Avenue, Sewickley, Pa., manager of the Pittsburgh All-Stars, wishes a home and home series with strong teams. Cleveland, Canton, Youngstown, Ohio, please note. He states his team would like to join a National league.

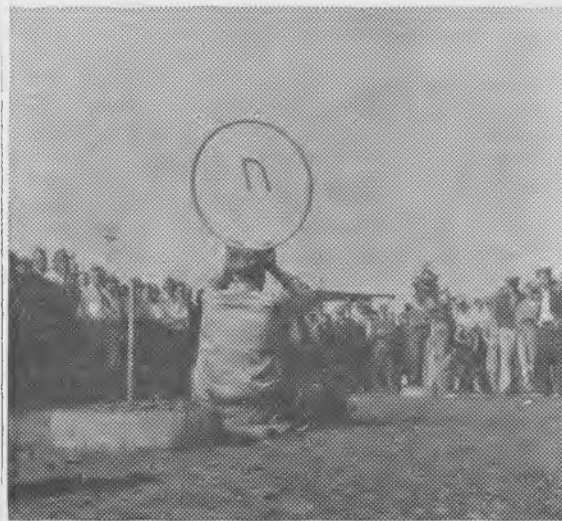
The goose had been carved, and everybody had tasted it. It was excellent. The negro minister, who was the guest of honor, could not restrain his enthusiasm. "Dat's as fine a goose as I ever set my teeth in, Brudder Johnson," he said to his host; "Where did you get such a splendid goose?"

"Well now, parson," was the reply; "when you preaches a speshel good sermon, I never axes you where you got it. I hopes you show de same consideration."

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A trial will convince you.

World's record of 100 ringers out of 100 shoes made with OHIO Horseshoes at Buffalo, Mo., Aug. 4th, 1939, by Frank Phillips, former Kansas Champion. OHIO HORSESHOES are used by:

Frank E. Jackson, 13 times world's champion; record, 68 consecutive ringers.

Jimmy Risk, champion trick pitcher and Indiana state champion; record, 96 ringers out of 100 shoes.

Blair Nunamaker, world's champion 1929 to 1933, and Ohio State champion; record, 98 ringers out of 100 shoes.

Mrs. Grace Jackson, champion lady trick pitcher; record, 56 consecutive ringers.

And many other champions.

Drop forged and heat treated to prevent breaking. Price \$2.25 per pair postpaid. Special price to agents in lots of 4 or more pairs.

Write for free circular with 1940 rules and instructions on pitching ringers by Frank E. Jackson, 13 times world's champion.

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They are Official in every way, corresponding to the rules as adopted at the National Association Meeting in Des Moines, last fall. We have made hardly any changes from the 1939 model which has given the best of satisfaction. We recommend the medium temper and the soft special temper with hardened heel calks.

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DIAMOND SUPER RINGER



Diamond Pitching outfits are packed in sturdy wooden boxes as illustrated. Contain two pairs of shoes and a pair of pointed stakes, 27 inches long. A handy box to carry in the back seat of the car.



The finest pitching Horseshoe ever made. Cadmium and copper plated. A beautiful shoe with accurate balance, drop forged from special analysis heat-treated steel. Designed to catch stake with least possible chance of bouncing or sliding off. One size only, 2 lbs. 8 oz.



DIAMOND OFFICIAL
Conform exactly to regulation of N.H.P. Association. Made regular or special dead falling type. Drop-forged steel will not chip or break. Come in weights 2¼ lbs., 2 lbs. 6 ozs., and 2½ lbs.



EAGLE RINGER
Drop-forged from special Diamond Horseshoe steel. Furnished either hardened, or soft dead falling type—in bronze and silver. One size only, 2 lbs. 8 oz.

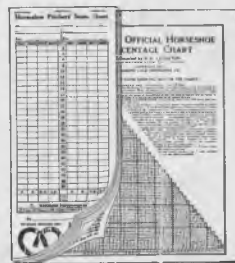


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For ladies and children. Exactly the same as Diamond Official Shoes except lighter. Made in 1½ lb. weights only.

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STAKE HOLDER
Official stake and stake holder for outdoor and indoor pitching. Stake is held at correct angle—rust proofed underground.



HELPFUL BOOKLETS AND CHARTS
"How to Organize and Promote a Horseshoe Club," a 16-page booklet outlining complete procedure of activities. "How to Play Horseshoe" gives latest official rules. Free with orders for Diamond Shoes. Chart comes in book with 25 score sheets. Each sheet made for 25 innings—percentage chart for ringers and double ringers.



CARRYING CASE
Genuine heavy black cowhide, convenient zipper with ball chain, leather loop handle. Neat, trim and handsome, long-wearing. A snug fit for one pair of shoes.

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