



*Season's
Greetings*

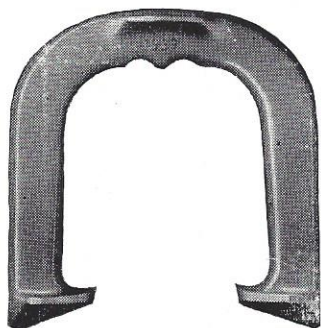
The
**HORSESHOE
WORLD**

**EVERY
MONTH**

BY PAUL LATTINAY

December, 1940

PITCH THE 1940 MODEL
"OHIO" HORSESHOES
 and Increase
 YOUR RINGER PERCENTAGE



More World's championships won with "OHIO" shoes than all other makes combined.

Drop forged and heat treated.

Write for agent's price in quantities.

We are the originators of the drop forged pitching shoes

OHIO HORSESHOE CO.

(On the market for 20 years)

866 Parsons Ave.

Columbus, Ohio

TED ALLEN HORSESHOE

STRONGER REINFORCED FINGER GRIPS
 FOR 1940 MODELS



*Greetings to you horseshoe pitchers
 A Merry Xmas and a big New Year.
 This grand old game has whiskers
 And thrived through wars far and near.
 The soldiers, captains all have played it,
 The one great game under all conditions.
 Some may think there is no room to play
 While busy with defense preparation,
 But the right frame of mind each day
 Comes from horseshoe pitching recreation.*



Ted Allen Horseshoe Co.

2064 S. LINCOLN

DENVER COLO.

Another year is coming to a close and it has brought forward a great parade of champions. Ted Allen has maintained his championship and must be congratulated for his good work.

Guy Zimmerman has entered the Hall of Fame by establishing an all-time record of 85.9 per cent for thirty-one games in national play.

Sydney Harris, champion of Nebraska, has set a new record for State Tournament play of 87 per cent.

Casey Jones, of Wisconsin, won the championship of Wisconsin with 86 per cent.

We have had reports from seventeen of the states holding State Tournaments, all with increased percentages and all using the "Spin-On" pitching shoes.

E. S. McCoy, Louisville, Kentucky champion, states he has won nine trophies in the past six years with the "Spin-On" shoes.

The past year has been one of advancement in horseshoe pitching, and we are looking forward to 1941 for further advancement, and we are reasonably assured that we will have another great National Tournament next year.

To the pitchers and fans far and near, we wish you

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

GORDON HORSESHOE COMPANY

JOHN A. GORDON, Pres. and Mgr.

WESTERN OFFICE
 7866 Seville Avenue
 Huntington Park, Calif.

EASTERN OFFICE
 Station C
 Cincinnati, Ohio



We Wish You
A
Merry Christmas
and
A Happy and
Prosperous
1941

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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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

FORMER SECRETARY COMMENTS ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

By LEE ROSE

I have just finished re-reading Mr. Tompkin's rather long, but interesting letter printed in the November issue of the Horseshoe World, and I take note that my name was mentioned a few times in connection with "wrong impressions," "ridiculous statements," etc. It is not my intention to write this letter to quibble with anything Mr. Tompkin says, for I believe he is very much in earnest in his endeavors and statements, and I think he actually believes in everything he says. It is probably true that Mr. Page is now a member of the association, but it is also true that he was NOT a member when re-elected to office.

Mr. Tompkin says that the new constitution differs a great deal from the old one. I would like to say here that when the new constitution was read before the convention I listened intently to every word of it, and at the same time I sat with the "Horseshoe Compendium" in my hand noting the old constitution. I say again that only a few minor changes had been made in the document. If it differs a great deal it is only in the wording and certainly not in the meaning. Of course, a great deal of time has elapsed between then and now, and since I know, and the western boys know, it is only fair to tell the rest of the pitchers everywhere EXACTLY why a new constitution was introduced and passed.

Many of your readers probably already know something about the battle I had with the balance of the executive committee over the awarding of the national tournament. During this heated engagement I took occasion to inform the horseshoe world at large just what was happening behind the scenes and thus aroused the ire of Mr. Page to the point where he sent out a petition to the other officers to have me put out of office. This was told to me by Mr. Claves on a visit he paid me in August. Mr. Claves also said that he had informed Mr. Page that such a move was altogether unwise, and to forget it. During the course of Mr. Claves' visit it was also brought out that since the constitution called for an election of officers only every two years, the brotherhood in the West would get around the difficulty of getting me out of office by writing a new constitution and putting it into effect immediately, and thus bring about an election. The plan of their campaign

is the story of it. It is not without some pride, therefore, that I can point to myself as the man for whom a constitution was changed.

Mr. Tompkin says in his letter that I have "gained a wrong impression of the set-up." Quite the contrary, Mr. Tompkin, I have too good an impression of the present set-up.

Mr. Tompkin also says in his letter that "we attempted to pass legislation for annual dues sufficiently high to enable the Association to give a year's subscription to the Horseshoe World to every member." I would like to ask Mr. Tompkin just who he means by the word "we." It sticks in my mind that this move was brought up by John Sebek, of Canton, Ohio, and was seconded by Frank Koppitsch, of Dearborn, Mich. Arguments in favor of it were made by such men as W. A. Banta, of Indianapolis; C. A. Benedict, of Ohio; and Harry Woodfield and Clayton Henson, of Washington, D. C. I did not hear Mr. Tompkin say anything in favor of helping the Horseshoe World and I therefore take exception to the "we." Let us keep our lines clearly defined until the next convention. I also take notice that Mr. Tompkin is now unable to find time to edit the proposed new magazine.

But enough of this kind of talk. I did not start out to argue, but felt it necessary to again tell the other side of the story lest the National officers succeed in drawing too many red herrings across the trail. What I really wrote this letter for was to discuss frankly the situation which confronts the horseshoe game today.

Mr. Tompkin has set forth his ideas concerning the running of a national tournament in three classes. On the face of it, this sounds good, and certainly would be an improvement over any past tournament, but, is it possible? Could enough prize money be raised to enable Class B and C players to travel several hundred miles to compete? I frankly do not think so. It seems that all plans which deal with the future of horseshoe pitching are based on the one idea that IF we get 8,000 members, or IF we could get 25,000 members, or IF we could do this or that we would be a success.

Why should people try to kid themselves along such lines as these? The association records show that the best year for memberships was the first

year the new individual plan went into effect, and these same records will show that there has been a steady decline ever since. No plan based on the supposition that we will get thousands of members should even be considered, for it is clearly a waste of time.

The National Association cannot hope to obtain members when it provides nothing for them—no inducement to join. The whole problem boils down to ONE BASIC FACT—provide inducement for the "run-of-the-mine" pitcher to join; provide something for him that he WANTS, and he'll be eager to join. The only problem, therefore, is to find that SOMETHING. I can tell you what that something is, and rest assured it is NOT running tournaments in several classes. That only adds a few more members and does not bring the sweeping and all-enveloping success each dreamer is hoping for.

No, my friends, the future success of horseshoes is going to come from a complete change of basic ideas and principles. This change is much too involved to set down here, but I am going to set my ideas down on paper and present them to the pitchers at the next convention IF a really representative group is present to whom to propound them. In the meantime, I am going to work toward the ultimate goal in my own way and I may have something very important to bring before the convention at Des Moines in 1941. (It WILL be at Des Moines; of that I am sure).

I trust, Mr. Howard, that this letter can be printed in the Horseshoe World that all my friends may know that I am getting ready for a big season ahead.

NEW ROUND ROBIN CHART

We received a letter from Mr. D. E. Janzen, Rt. 7, Box 196, Salem, Oregon, stating that he has perfected a new chart system for Round Robin tournaments. He states that he will give further information to anyone desiring to use his chart system.

Counsel, to police witness—But if a man is on his hands and knees in the middle of the road, does that prove he is drunk?

Policeman—No, sir; it does not; but this one was trying to roll up the white line.

WANTS BREAK FOR AVERAGE PITCHER

By HARRY WOODFIELD

When we have discovered something that affords unusual pleasure, friendly competition, and at the same time is of great benefit to health it is only natural that most of us want others to share this discovery. And when this something is horseshoe pitching and we become more and more interested we wonder why has it taken such a hold of us. To many their one desire is to gain skill, to master one of the popular turns so as to be able consistently to pitch an open shoe. Their ultimate goal is a high ringer percentage. Since the ability of horseshoe pitchers is rated by the number of ringers made in each one hundred shoes pitched, we recognize Ted Allen, Guy Zimmerman, Fernand Isais and Casey Jones as 80 per cent pitchers, that is under pressure in an important tournament they can maintain a pace of at least eight ringers in every ten shoes pitched.

These four with some others not mentioned are the real professionals of horseshoes. That is, they devote all or a greater part of their time to the game. There is another group that in important tournaments will average 70 percent and occasionally go into the 80's. These are the pitchers that have regular (more or less) employment and get practice in their spare time. By a gradually descending scale we come to the fellow who in local tournaments can average from 30 to 35 percent. In some sections 35 percent would rate Class C and in others Class D. By the same method Class A could be composed of from 50 to 70 percent pitchers. If the recent National Tournament conducted at Des Moines was conducted similar to many open sectional tournaments in the east the thirty-two who qualify, would be classified in groups of eight. The highest score would be No. 1 in group A. The lowest score No. 8 in group D. Referring to page 3 of the September Horseshoe World we find the last man to qualify had 68.5 per cent. This Class D at Des Moines would easily be Class A in almost every section of the U. S. It has appeared again and again in the Horseshoe World that if the sport is to grow and if the National Association is to become a power in the sports world and bring into its organization the vast numbers who engage in horseshoes something must be done for the A B C and D pitchers. The state of Maine many miles distant from Des Moines has solved the problem according to the report of their

1940 activities published in the October Horseshoe World. In addition to Classes A B and C in their state tournament there were three county championships and the Lombards Memorial

The winner in Class C state tournament was James G. McLene, Jr., who won nine games without a loss with 35.9 per cent.

There are several states that have class groups in their state tournaments. There is no reason why this should not become general if the majority want winners in several classes. It seems then as far as affording the lower per cent pitcher an opportunity to enter his local important event that this is being done in many sections. All readers of the Horseshoe World are familiar with Dave Chess and his valiant fight to have the score all points adopted by The National association as the only method of scoring. He claims that if this is done, thousands will become members of the National body. The convention at Des Moines in August, 1939, voted to allow the states affiliated to use either method of scoring except in important tournaments and that the National tournament would continue using the cancellation method of scoring. The following opinion is unbiased and influenced by observations at the 1940 National event in Des Moines: Using the score-all points that thrilling world's record breaking game between Ted Allen and Guy Zimmerman would not have happened. The game would have ended at 50 shoes pitched, not 164 and those two experts could not have shown their real ability. Yes it is true that cancellations favor the expert. The Iowa State Fair Board sponsored that tournament for its entertainment value and was awarded it because their bid of \$800 topped the bid submitted by Toronto, Canada, which by the way was from another business organization. The Canadian National Exhibition Co. of Toronto. It is evident then to this observer if we are to continue selling our top attraction to business concerns they expect it to be a real show, thrilling entertainment for their visitors. There is no doubt that the game between Allen and Zimmerman and many others had such high entertainment value as to influence the Iowa State Fair Board to bid for the 1941 event. The National association is to be congratulated for its association with the Iowa State Fair Board. It is a well managed successful business concern. Its officers are fine gentlemen any

should be proud to meet. I would say then, let us keep our annual National tournament for the experts and continue using the present scoring method. All over the U. S. ambitious youngsters have a goal in view (and by the same token many who are not so young) to be the winner in our National event. Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Red Grange and many others have inspired youngsters all over the land. Our own Ted Allen is a model that no one should be ashamed to emulate. To qualify in the National is an achievement in itself. With due respect to Dave Chess whom I admire very much let's keep cancellation in our top notch attraction at least until we can finance our own tournament and depend on horseshoe pitchers and fans for our audiences.

The new publicity committee taking their job seriously is concerned first with what to do for the average member of the National association.

To pin this down to actual facts they are preparing a list of questions that they hope will get into the hands of every member. And another optimistic hope that most all receiving this list will fill them out and return them.

If the questions submitted do not fully cover all the receiver had in mind he or she can make additions on the space provided for remarks. It is not quite decided at this time what class of mail will be used to insure a fair number of returned. But whatever method is used it will entail a lot of work and some expense. But it will afford every member the opportunity to have a voice in the convention meetings. Every question answered will be tabulated in groups and submitted by the publicity committee as the main feature of its report and the voice of the great majority of our members and who can say it will be ignored. The committee has other ideas to offer from time to time all for the benefit of all concerned. So fellows make our efforts worth while by returning the questionnaire and we will know for a certainty what the majority desire.

Sincerely,

HARRY WOODFIELD,

Chairman of Publicity.

734 19th St. N. E. Washington, D.C.

ELGIN IS WINNER

The Elgin team was the winner in the Fox Valley Association, a league composed of six Illinois teams. W. F. Meier, secretary of the Watch City club, states that Frank Green, runner-up in the A.A.U. senior championship in 1939 is a member of the Elgin team.

PITCH OFFICIAL HORSESHOES!

THE BUCKEYE STATE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSN.

6208 Quimby Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

President: C. A. Benedict, Johnstown, Ohio.
 Vice Pres: Mr. Fred M. Brust, Columbus, Ohio.
 Treasurer: Mr. Henry J. Gunselman, Fairview Village, Cleveland, Ohio
 Secretary: Mr. D. O. Chess, Cleveland, Ohio.

Following are results under the present set-up for 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, and the totals as compiled by the National Secretary, Lee Rose, and found on page 7 of the July, 1940, issue of the Horseshoe World for your serious study just in case your copy has been mislaid or loaned out, or for other reasons these statistics have escaped the notice of any of you. It will be noted that Ohio led in 1936, Massachusetts in 1937, Ohio again in 1938, and Northern California in 1939.

| | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | T'tl |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mass. | 502 | 348 | 175 | ..... | 1025 |
| Illinois | 294 | 187 | 134 | 112 | 727 |
| New Jersey 118 | 124 | 123 | 192 | 557 | |
| Penna. | 176 | 107 | 134 | 81 | 498 |
| Michigan | 235 | 118 | 30 | 37 | 420 |
| Colorado | 98 | 106 | 97 | 23 | 324 |
| Maine | 24 | 73 | 107 | 94 | 298 |
| Oklahoma | 26 | 90 | 44 | 24 | 184 |
| Iowa ..... | ..... | 27 | 29 | 86 | 142 |
| Washington 15 | 20 | 40 | ..... | 75 | |
| Oregon | 24 | 17 | ..... | 41 | |
| Utah | 12 | ..... | ..... | 15 | 27 |
| Arizona | 22 | ..... | ..... | 22 | |
| New Mexico ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17 | 17 |
| Minnesota ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | 4 |
| Nebraska ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 3 |
| Ohio | 508 | 175 | 235 | 93 | 1011 |
| Wyoming | 304 | 205 | 0 | 52 | 561 |
| N. Calif. | 77 | 53 | 173 | 205 | 508 |
| Missouri | 138 | 146 | 125 | 79 | 488 |
| New York | 0 | ..... | 170 | 164 | 334 |
| Indiana ..... | ..... | 32 | 136 | 148 | 316 |
| Connecticut 70 | 42 | 42 | 80 | 234 | |
| Rhode Isl'd 100 | 0 | 8 | 43 | 151 | |
| So. Dak. | 0 | 0 | 23 | 100 | 123 |
| Kentucky ..... | ..... | 19 | 29 | 48 | |
| Wisconsin | 0 | 23 | 0 | 9 | 32 |
| Kansas | 20 | ..... | ..... | 3 | 23 |
| Vermont ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 17 | 20 |
| Dist. of Col., | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Md. and Va. .... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5 | 5 |
| So. Calif. .... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 3 |
| Totals | 2763 | 1893 | 1847 | 1718 | 8221 |

Total Revenue

Total revenue for the four years at 25c per member was \$2,055.25.

National portion, 15c per member, was \$1,233.15; states portion, at 10c per member was \$822.10.

Noting National portion by years, their share was not sufficient to pay the secretary the \$50 per month or \$600 per year allowed by the constitution, and, of course, he was not paid that amount, small as it is com-

pared with work required. What a shame.

Following is the mailing address by states:

- Illinois, G. Peterson, Varna.
 - New Jersey, C. E. Hart, 17 Van Reypen St., Jersey City.
 - Pennsylvania, H. S. Gamble, 3822 East St., Pittsburgh.
 - Michigan, Lee Rose, 5228 Shaw Ave., Detroit.
 - Colorado, R. M. Buchanan, 3055 S. Broadway, Englewood.
 - Indiana, W. A. Banta, 618 Arch St. Indianapolis.
 - Maine, R. E. Adams, 35 Pine St., Auburn.
 - Connecticut, L. D. Lane, 715 Hope St., Springdale.
 - Oklahoma, R. P. Moseley, Stigler.
 - Iowa, W. R. Grafton, Cedar Rapids.
 - Utah, E. W. Whalin, Magna.
 - New Mexico, P. E. Mackey, 606 W. Loft, Albuquerque.
 - Minnesota, C. Sorkness, 303 Second St., Madison.
 - Ohio, D. O. Chess, 6208 Quimby Ave., Cleveland.
 - Wyoming, A. L. McNeil, 421 E. 18th St., Cheyenne.
 - Northern California, Miss V. Coker, 3416 26th St., San Francisco.
 - Missouri, Jack Claves, 5816 Neosho, St. Louis.
 - New York, B. C. Hamann, 2 Armory Place, White Plains; T. P. O'Gara, 131 Fort George Ave; L. Lenhardt, 94-04 Cross Island Blvd., Hollis, L. I., and F. J. Egger, 116-14 221 St., St. Albans, N. Y.
 - Rhode Island, J. A. LeClair, 20 Metcalf Ave., North Providence.
 - South Dakota, L. O. Pigney, Deadwood.
 - Kentucky, G. H. Speck, 2022 2nd St., Louisville.
 - Wisconsin, H. E. Fredricks, 3433A N. 2nd St., Milwaukee.
 - Vermont, Fred Butler, 307 North St., Bennington.
 - District of Columbia, including Maryland and Virginia, W. N. Haley, 1242 E. St., N. E., Washington, D. C.
 - Southern California, Mrs. Katherine Gregson, 520 North New Ave., Monterey Park, Calif.
- We do not have the mailing address of Massachusetts, Washington, Oregon, Arizona, Nebraska, or Kansas.

State mailing address given in case anyone should wish to exchange views with another Sorry that none was given for the states mentioned.

With best wishes to you all, I am

D. O. CHESS, Sec.

GREATER CANTON CLUB HAS FINE SEASON

The Greater Canton Horseshoe Club ended its 1940 season by holding a county tournament at the Fair on Labor Day. The club team played five games this season, winning three and losing two. Both losses were by Detroit, Mich., 27 to 22 and 26 to 23. These two games were closely contested, being a part of the newly formed National Horseshoe Pitching League.

A disappointing game to Pittsburgh, Pa., fans was when the Canton team traveled to Sewickley, Pa., to play the Pittsburgh All Stars and won 23 to 13. Detroit is 210 miles from Canton, Pittsburgh 100 miles.

Another road game was between Beaver Falls, Pa., played at East Palestine, Ohio, the half-way mark. The Canton team won this match, and also a game with nearby Brewster, Ohio.

This year the Canton team traveled an average of 191 miles to play their games. No player on the team lives outside of Stark County, and the greater part of the players live in Canton proper. It's a fact and not a mere fact that the Canton team has defeated all teams within a radius of 150 miles and is spreading out farther from home to get games. The way it looks at the present time our team is expanding too rapidly for the progress of our sport and is in danger of dying due to lack of opposition.

The Canton team is looking forward to booking games for the 1941 season with neighboring states and a great effort will be made to play at least one game with a team from Washington, D. C., a good 400 miles away, and possibly Chicago, Ill. nearly 400 miles away.

At most the fellows will have to very soon put away their pitching shoes for at least four months due to bad weather, but you can bet your boots you will see some of the fellows out on the courts during any nice days this winter.—A Stolarik.

NEW BOOK PUBLISHED

The Horseshoe World has just received an autographed copy of John Tunis' new book, "Sport for the Fun of It" in which horseshoe pitching plays an important part. It is published by A. S. Barnes and Company, 67 W. 44th St., New York.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HAS NEW CHAMPION

By Virginia Coker

Men's Championship N. C. H. P. A.

The men's championship matches were held at the Mission Horseshoe Courts in San Francisco on Sunday, October 27, 1940. Fifty-one men pitched their hundred shoes in an attempt to qualify for the championship division, which was to consist of an eight-man round robin.

Twenty-six men, on seeing their scores, tried again, hoping to better them. The committee, upon seeing the number of men entered in the tournament decided to run two consolation divisions of eight men each. The qualifyig rounds started at 9 a. m. Saturday, October 26, and closed at 12 Noon, Sunday, October 27.

The players were summoned to their respective courts at 1 p. m. and the play was started. At the completion of the tournament it was found that there existed a four-way tie for first place in the championship division between the four highest qualifiers, Mr. Mori, of the Burlingame Club; Mr. Pipe, of the Santa Cruz Club; Mr. Stapp, of the Masswood Club of Oakland, and Mr. Fourcade, the Northern California champion. This meant a play-off, so the committee and the players involved decided upon a four-man round robin. The players drew lots and lined up on their courts to decide who was to be the holder of the title for the coming year.

The result of this match was a three-way tie between Mr. Mori, Mr. Pipe and Mr. Fourcade, Mr. Stapp having been eliminated. Along toward the finish of this match, however, it had been necessary for the judges to use lighted matches to see to measure the questionable shoes because the only other illumination to be had was the moon overhead. It was decided by the players and the committee, therefore, that the play-off of this three-way tie would be held the following Sunday at Mission horseshoe courts.

The week passed and the games were scheduled to be played at 1:30 p. m. Sunday afternoon, but the three contestants were on the courts warming up before 11:30 a. m. When the time to start the play rolled around, the players drew lots and Mr. Mori was given a longer warm-up while Mr. Pipe defeated Mr. Fourcade two straight games in a two-out-of-three play-off. Mr. Mori then stepped in to be defeated by Mr. Fourcade two straight games. Mr. Mori didn't seem to be up to par in these games and when Mr. Pipe stepped in to play him, he again went down in de-

feat. Mr. Pipe defeated him two straight games to become the new champion of Northern California.

None of the three of these players seemed to be pitching his game, but Sam Pipe held the upper hand throughout the playoff and Marty Fourcade is forced to put an "ex" before his title.

THE WOMEN SPEAK

San Francisco, Calif., Nov. 26

Mr. R. B. Howard,
London, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Howard:

What's the matter with our organization? Where and when and how are we women pitchers ever to have another champion? Mrs. James was our last. We women belong to the Association and we have been patient in our squawk as we know that the men have had their troubles in getting a championship contest.

I, myself, would gladly donate a small sum to achieve that aim, and I believe that some of the other women pitchers feel the same way.

What's the matter with the men pitchers? How about it men? Let's have a women's tournament at the next National. So come on, boys, let's see the real sports you all really are by sponsoring a woman's National championship contest.

VIRGINIA COKER,

Women's Northern Calif. Champion

P. S.—By the way, Mr. Howard, we now have four horseshoe courts out at the San Francisco Junior College, and a class of about 12 girls who are enthusiastically pitching. The class is gradually increasing in number and within a very short time we are going to start a round robin tournament among them.

Horseshoes are still going collegiate!

E. HANNA WINS COUNTY TOURNEY

The Stark County, Ohio, Horseshoe Pitching Tournament was held on Labor Day, Sept. 2, 1940, with qualifications being held all day Saturday, August 31st. A large number of entrants were expected so it was advertised that there would be a Class A and a Class B division.

This tournament was held on the Fairgrounds and during the 90th annual meeting of the Stark County Agricultural Society. The Fair Board donated \$60, of which \$44 was given out as cash prizes and the remainder was used to build six clay courts, using regulation stake holders and stakes. The entry fee was 65 cents plus 35 cents to those who did not

have a membership card in the Buckeye State and National Horseshoe Pitchers Associations.

With only eight players in Class A it looked like a short and snappy tournament, and with Sebek just home from Des Moines with ninth place in the National Tournament under his hat, he was favored to win.

The Class A tournament started out like a cool gentle wind and ended up in a whirlwind. When the dust cleared Sebek found himself holding third place. The great disappointment was in the sixth and seventh rounds when Hanna and Stuckey defeated Sebek 50 to 45 and 50 to 37 respectively, when Sebek pitched 68 per cent ringers, whereas his opponents pitched well over 70 per cent.

The ringer percentage for the entire Class A division was 60 per cent for the 28 games. This is a county record and was the toughest tournament ever held in the county. A total of 2151 points was made in this tourney and 2141 ringers were around the peg, or almost a ringer for every point earned. Nice weather prevailed and a large crowd witnessed the games.

Class B was held in the forenoon and Class A pitched in the afternoon. John Kovacs won first in Class B, and John Nolan, of Brewster, came in second, while the other six finished as follows: James Nolland, H. Chaney, Victor Ross, Louis Miline, C. B. Wheeler, I. S. Barkey.

The 1939 defending county champion was unable to play due to an appendectomy. S. Dorto, a beginner, and this his first tournament, came in last with 48.1 percent ringers, but finished in high spirits and is already looking forward to next year's tournament.

Stinchcomb hadn't pitched much the past two years, and made a poor showing. Wheeler, an old timer, also slipped, having made second place in 1938. L. Miller had his ups and downs, and landed in fifth place. This tournament ended the outdoor season and the fellows are putting their efforts in an indoor court which may materialize.

A. STOLARIK

Summary Class A

| | W | L | P | R | DR | SP | Pct. |
|--------------|---|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| E. Hanna.... | 7 | 0 | 350 | 313 | 97 | 470 | 66.6 |
| Stuckey | 6 | 1 | 336 | 320 | 110 | 460 | 69.5 |
| J. Sebek | 5 | 2 | 332 | 316 | 117 | 422 | 74.8 |
| H. Hunt | 4 | 3 | 271 | 259 | 75 | 460 | 56.3 |
| L. Miller | 3 | 4 | 265 | 262 | 69 | 462 | 56.7 |
| Wheeler | 2 | 5 | 267 | 264 | 73 | 474 | 55.6 |
| Stinchcomb | 1 | 6 | 185 | 226 | 54 | 440 | 51.3 |
| S. Dorto | 0 | 7 | 145 | 181 | 49 | 376 | 48.1 |

The older a girl gets the more her candy costs.

**BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CONNERSVILLE
(INDIANA) HORSESHOE CLUB, 1923-1940**

The Connersville Horseshoe club was organized in 1923 by a group of Connersville pitchers headed by the late Abner Whipple, who participated in national tournaments at St. Petersburg, Florida. Courts were laid out in Roberts Park, a membership fee of one dollar per year was established and the executive board consisted of president, secretary, treasurer and team captains. Games were pitched against nearby teams from New Lisbon, Richmond, New Castle, Cambridge City and other towns. No actual record of points, ringers, shoes pitched, ringer percentages, etc. was officially kept until 1930, when a complete game by game score and a total seasons tabulation of points, ringers, doubles, shoes pitched, pitching percentage was recorded. That year showed Marvin Chrisman, team captain, in first place with 2244 ringers out of 5218 shoes for a percentage of .440, this being the only percentage over .400 out of the club of 30 pitchers.

The 1940 season saw the leading percentage at .648 and six others hit the .500 mark or over.

In 1930 the following method was used for matching pitchers against each other to insure equal competition: Four games of twenty innings each were pitched, four pitchers to a court, the two pitchers who were high in pitching percentage at the preceding four games, pitched against each other, the next two the same, and so on down the line. Each man pitched on his own, no partners, the winner getting first pitch when the shoes were returned. This method has proven very satisfactory ever since being first used. Each month we have what we call an elimination match, members draw from a box containing numbers in duplicate, the two drawing number one pitch each other, those getting number two are matched against each other and so on. Schedule of games is the same as in any elimination competition, winner of game one vs. winner of game two, etc. until only one pitcher is left, same being the winner. Fifty point games are pitched and a handicap system based on pitching percentage is used. Thursday night of each week is used for the above pitching contests, our season generally extending from early May until late September. One month after our season is started, league teams are picked and Tuesday night is taken for these games which are doubles, 25 innings each, three such games being pitched each night. All pitchers pitch each league night, if no opponents are present on the oppos-

ing teams, pitchers pitch against 50 points on a court to themselves, winning or losing on basis of their own score, 51 points must be made to win. League standings are on basis of won and lost percentage of all games. Each year an all day Sunday tournament is held for residents of Fayette and adjoining counties, this year through the co-operation of the famous Fayette County Free Fair, another tournament was held which proved highly successful. The club has its annual election of officers on the last Thursday night in March each year. Ten courts for men and two for women are located in beautiful Roberts Park on Indiana State Road 1 at the northern end of Connersville and we are lighted by four 1500 watt floodlights.

Ringer percentages for 1940 for the first seven pitchers were: M. C. Chrisman, .648; H. Whittaker, .630; R. Foster, .562; R. Grimes, .558; M. Coltrane, .540; H. Walling, .502; and H. Cullison .500. Ten others averaged over .400 and 13 more over .300.

Yours for better horseshoe pitching,
MARVIN CHRISMAN,
Secretary-Manager,
Connersville Horseshoe Club,
Connersville, Indiana.
1216 East Fifth St.

NEWS FROM MAINE

Annual meeting was held at the Worster House, Halowell, Maine, on Saturday evening, November 23, 1940.

The following officers were elected for 1941: President, Fred Poulin, of Auburn; Vice President, Otto Whitney, of Farmington; Secretary and Treasurer, Raymond Adams, of Auburn; Executive Committee, Howard Vanderwerker, of So. Brewer; Porter Clark, of Auburn; and Albert Boucher, of Biddeford.

The secretary reported 168 National memberships sold in 1940, by far Maine's largest contribution. Plans for a bigger and better league for 1941 were discussed.

State Champion Merrill Barnes, of Bangor, among those present, declared himself ready to play exhibition matches anywhere at any time, in order to stimulate more interest in the game.

It was voted to hold the 1941 state tournament at the Eastco Club courts at So. Brewer, a tentative date of August 23 and 24 was favorable to all.

RAYMOND ADAMS, Sec.-Treas.

HORSESHOE FUND DONORS

A suggestion was recently made by D. O. Chess, Cleveland, secretary of the Buckeye State Horseshoe Pitchers Association, that the Horseshoe World receive contributions of \$1 from pitchers and that their names be printed each month. The number in front of the name will indicate the number of dollars in the fund when that dollar arrived:

1. D. O. Chess, 6208 Quimby Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.
2. Jack Claves, St. Louis, Mo.
3. R. B. Howard, London, Ohio.
4. "Lefty" Steinmann, 7149 Lindenwood Place, St. Louis, Mo.
5. Willard Ruse, Aledo, Illinois.
6. Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Butts, Easton, Washington.
7. Gordon Horseshoe Co.

WHO IS NEXT? Your name will look good here next month!

Just mail \$1.00 to the Horseshoe World and simply say, "Here is my dollar for the 1941 National Tournament Fund."

**VIRGINIA COCKER
RETAINS TITLE**

By V. A. Dearing

The contest for the woman's championship of Northern California was held at the Mission horseshoe courts in San Francisco on Saturday, October 26, 1940. There were ten contestants who qualified by throwing fifty shoes.

Prior to the qualifying rounds a girl, a new comer to horseshoe pitching, from the Marina Horseshoe club in San Francisco, stepped out onto the courts to limber up and make herself ready for coming contest. Though a new-comer, her merits were known and were widely sung by the boys from the Marina club. After warming up for a while she settled down to pitch and for approximately fifty shoes she was traveling in the category of from 70 to 80 percent and she had the players as well as the spectators talking to themselves. Each and everyone thought she would be the new champion. Miss Virginia Coker, the Champion, sat there and watched but made no comment. As Miss Coker had been defeated in a tournament just prior to the championship matches by Mrs. Rosa Frayen, the crowd knew that she would meet her match in this new-comer.

The qualifying rounds started and Mrs. Lackey, this being her first tournament, promptly tightened up and
(Continued on Next Page)



did not pitch up to her standard, pitching only 45 percent, but enabling her to enter the championship class. Mrs. Frayen, also a better pitcher than her qualifying score shows, seemed to be a little panicky and only pitched a 50 percent ringer average. Now it came Miss Coker's turn to qualify. Undaunted and unafraid she stepped out coolly onto the courts and pitched a record-breaking 74 per cent. In the 50 shoes Miss Coker pitched she had only one complete miss. Mrs. Dixie Sheppard was the other contestant in the final for the championship. Dixie was out of practice but her previous skill held up in the qualifying round.

The judges ruled that since there were ten women entered and that since the four top women outranked the others, they would have a consolation class with the remaining six women.

A drawing was held by the committee to pair the four women up and the crowd settled down to watch the pitching as Mrs. Lackey seemed to be settling down and was not as nervous as in the qualifying round. The first round brought together Mrs. Sheppard and the champ, Miss Coker, and Mrs. Frayen and Mrs. Lackey. The toss-up for first pitch by Mrs. Sheppard and Miss Coker was won by Miss Coker who promptly made the crowd gasp as her first two shoes were as wild as a March hare and Mrs. Sheppard tolled four points. Miss Coker steadied herself on the next pitch and scored three points and again she tossed two wild shoes to the rear of the pit. A murmur came from the crowd. It looked as if Miss Coker had blown up. She appeared to be jittery and nervous. Mrs. Sheppard again scored three points making the score seven for Mrs. Sheppard and three for Miss Coker. Then Miss Coker regained her composure and promptly ran the score to twenty-nine in her favor to Mrs. Sheppard's seven. Miss Coker again put on a spurt and defeated Mrs. Sheppard 50-14.

One the next court an up and down battle between Mrs. Frayen and Mrs. Lackey was going on. The crowd watching silently, made no comment as the battle raged and the lead changed a number of times until the score stood at 48 for Mrs. Lackey and 41 for Mrs. Frayen. The crowd tensed—Mrs. Lackey needed two points to win, but being inexperienced in tournament play, she hurried herself, and Mrs. Frayen, who never says die, pitched steadily, overtook her opponent and defeated her 50-48.

The next round brought Mrs. Lackey and Miss Coker together. This was the game the crowd wanted to see as there was quite a following for each girl and the crowd gave each

a nice hand and settled down to watch the contest. Mrs. Lackey won the toss and scored a point, each girl having a dead ringer. On the next round Mrs. Lackey had one ringer on the peg and one shoe bounced off to fall for the count of four points. Miss Coker made the crowd gasp again as she threw two wild shoes. Mrs. Lackey on the next pitch threw a double and the crowd watched to see what Miss Coker would do about it. She looked at the stake and received a hand for killing the double. Miss Coker threw seven ringers out of eight shoes to put her in the lead 15-3. Mrs. Lackey also spurted and threw seven out of ten to bring the score to fourteen for Mrs. Lackey and thirteen for Miss Coker. Then Miss Coker went into the lead and stayed there. The score was 50-27. On the next court Miss Frayen defeated Mrs. Sheppard 50-17.

The next round brought everybody to the court on which Mrs. Frayen and Miss Coker were going to play. Here were two players undefeated, and whoever won this match would be the champion. Was there going to be a new champion crowned or would Miss Coker retain her title? In a previous tournament Mrs. Frayen had defeated Miss Coker two out of three games and defeated her badly. The game started off and was a nip and tuck affair; neither player having much advantage, with Mrs. Frayen leading at 24-14. Miss Coker pulled up and tied the score at 24 all. Mrs. Frayen again took the lead and ran the score to 31. Miss Coker, her title at stake, showed that she could pitch when her back was to the wall. The crowd was mumbling of the new champion but Miss Coker threw seventeen ringers out of the next twenty shoes pitched and retained her title by defeating Mrs. Frayen 50-35.

The final scores were:

Championship Class

| | W | L | SP | R | DR | % |
|----------------|---|---|-----|-----|----|------|
| Virginia Coker | 3 | 0 | 188 | 109 | 32 | 57.9 |
| Rosa Frayen | 2 | 1 | 216 | 97 | 19 | 44.8 |
| Dixie Sheppard | 1 | 2 | 160 | 50 | 8 | 31.2 |
| Susan Lackey | 0 | 3 | 216 | 88 | 15 | 40.7 |

"B" Class

| | W | L | SP | R | DR | % |
|----------------|---|---|-----|----|----|------|
| Doris Doggett | 5 | 0 | 302 | 78 | 7 | 25.8 |
| Lucy Cabantous | 4 | 1 | 280 | 80 | 15 | 28.5 |
| Angela Hopkins | 3 | 2 | 284 | 52 | 3 | 18.3 |
| Vear Johns | 2 | 3 | 362 | 82 | 6 | 22.6 |
| Leslie Hansen | 1 | 4 | 314 | 30 | 3 | 9.5 |
| Gert Randolph | 0 | 5 | 310 | 36 | 2 | 11.6 |

CLASS B TWIN CITY TOURNAMENT AT AUBURN, ME.

| | W | L | Pct. |
|------------|---|---|------|
| V. Oliver | 5 | 0 | 37.9 |
| H. Bailey | 3 | 2 | 30.7 |
| G. Coburn | 3 | 2 | 30.5 |
| R. Griffin | 3 | 2 | 29.9 |
| T. Grumley | 1 | 4 | 20.6 |

DONALD GETZ LED FORT PLAIN CLUB

Donald Getz, member of the Fort Plain Horseshoe Club, placed fourth in the Mohawk Valley League in the important percentage department according to the official figures released this week by Secretary Leo J. C. Smith. The statistics were late in being completed because of the work involved in compiling them.

T. Brownell led the circuit with a 72.8 ringer percentage. The youthful Gloversville expert also won the state championship. Jinx Brooks of Amsterdam, finished second in individual honors.

Fort Plain gained second place in the final standing and made a notable showing considering the sport is a comparatively new one in this village.

Plans are being discussed concerning the formation of a State League next year. Such an organization would include teams from Fort Plain, Gloversville, Rochester, New York, Poughkeepsie, Utica and other places. Let's hope that such an idea will materialize. Certainly, the local group has completed a fine job so far.

GAY PARTY AT FORT GEORGE

The Thanksgiving party of the Ft. George Horseshoe Club held at the Audubon Ballroom, 166th Street and Broadway was a huge social success. The members and their many friends danced to the music of Flynn's Irish Swing Orchestra and enjoyed a program of entertainment under the direction of Jack Condon that unique M. C. of the Woodlawn Horseshoe Club.

The feature of the evening was the novelty dances and Nantucket that furnished fun galore for everyone. Miss Edith Carter of Inwood was applauded to the echo for the rendition of her vocal selections. Miss Patricia Casey received a great reception for an exhibition of Irish step dancing. The several awards of the evening were made to the following: Max Weingarten, 60 Center Street, Room 139, Manhattan. James Lennon Casey, 48 Convent Avenue Manhattan; M. Johnson, Freedom Plains, Pleasant Valley, N. Y.; Mrs. B. Baas, 327 E. 100th St., Manhattan; J. Kunst, 85 Audubon Ave., Manhattan; Al Swansen, Woodlawn, N. Y., C. William Mulally, 268 East 237th Street, Bronx; and Francis Brerton, 4290 Broadway, Manhattan.

Tom O'Gara, president of the Fort George Horseshoe Club, expressed his thanks to all those present and to the patrons of the club for their loyal

(Continued on Next Page)

support and concluded his remarks by introducing Lou Ziegler, president of the Knickerbocker Horseshoe Pitchers League of New York. Mr. Ziegler, in turn, requested several celebrities present to take a bow.

Other patrons included James Frisbie; Patrick Henry, John D. Flynn, James N. Golden, Charles H. Aitken, John C. Butler, Wm. J. Carey, John J. Gribbin, Charles Harris, S. Hasenberg, Michael Kennedy, Patrick May.

Thomas H. McGarry, Alistair McQuistan, Mike Bell, Jere Carr, Thomas De Stafano, John J. Enright, Walter Fertucci, Frank Gamble, James Grant, Frank Hessler, Clare Hume, James McCafferty, Pete McGill, John Morrissey, Ben Murphy, Michael Quigley, John Rosselet, John Ryan, Artie Scolari, Thomas J. Burke, William A. Kelly, Patrick O'Callahan, Mrs. A. C. Link, Thomas E. Rohan, Mortimer E. Mahoney, Sam Robin, Dave Wechsler, Isabelle Florey, Mrs. J. Ploger.



Fort Plain, N. Y., Nov. 15, 1940

The Horseshoe World,
London, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Being an ardent subscriber and reader of The Horseshoe World for the last couple of years, I've read with enthusiasm a lot about pitchers of the Middle West and various other parts of the country.

We have just completed a successful season with a general get-together, feed, and awarding of prizes, and I thought you might be interested in the progress of horseshoe pitching in Central New York State.

I can but repeat the old, old story—I drove a couple of Ford axles in the ground back of my house during the summer of 1937, and now you'd be surprised.

We have an organized club here in Fort Plain of about 20 members. In 1938 we built three clay courts with lights according to standard specifications. We use Gordon, Ohio and Lattore shoes exclusively.

Just a word here of our process of financing. Twenty-five cents per capita dues per month. During the winter months we hold card parties, 50 cents per couple, at the individual members' homes. Last winter we cleared \$60 this way.

This year, 1940, in September, we leased a plot of ground, 100 feet square for a period of five years, built six new clay courts with lights,

cement runways, etc., and we are patiently waiting to usher in the 1941 season.

The majority of players in our league are from 14 to 20 years of age, Brownell, of Gloversville, present New York state champion, being 16. It is the future comers in whom we are interested, and it is for us of 40 or 50 years of age to promote the organizations that will insure the future of this grand old sport.

Yours in sport,

LEO J. SMITH

P. S. — This Gloversville team played a number of other matches outside the league this summer—Rochester, Syracuse, Schenectady, Watertown, Vermont State Champions, Long Island and a few others. They did not lose a match this summer. They play four, five or six-man matches. Amsterdam tied them one match. They also played an exhibition match with a team of Eastern state champions in New York who represented the United States in Canada. The spectators numbered over 1000.

Easton, Wash., Nov. 15, 1940

Mr. R. B. Howard,
London, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Just received a copy of the Horseshoe World for October, and noticed that your magazine certainly had scads of news, and I enjoyed reading every one of your articles and stories. I also noted that you had two items of news from the State of Washington. Perhaps my letter started something, and again maybe it didn't.

We haven't been pitching very often here the past month; so busy working, and it is too dark after work to do any playing. We have seven inches of snow here at present and more in sight. We may build an indoor court for the winter when it's not too cold.

By the way, I forgot to tell you that Roy Getchell, former Washington State champion, had leased the Lake Keechelus Inn about 14 miles east of Easton, near Hyak. Roy leased the inn last year and has put in a ski run for the ski fans and is doing a fair business. His place is located on the Snoqualmie Pass Highway and Lake Keechelus.

Two weeks ago I visited Roy and we had a fine chat regarding horseshoes and fishing and hunting. There is good deer hunting near the inn.

Roy thinks that some changes in the horseshoe sport could be made for the benefit of the fans and other classes could be added to the tournaments, and that it would create more interest in the big tournaments. Any

of the horseshoe pitchers and fans traveling out this way are invited to stop in and get acquainted with Roy, as he is always glad to meet old and new friends.

Roy is a fine fellow and a great horseshoe enthusiast, so you clay court tossers and fans stop in and say hello to Roy.

I think Mr. D. O. Chess' idea is a fine one and find enclosed one dollar for the fund. I would like to join the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association. Is this possible? What are the dues, and who must I get in touch with to do so? Has each state an association of its own besides the National Association?

As yet I haven't seen any news from Yakima, Spokane, Wenatchee, Tacoma or Everett.

Mr. Howard I will appreciate any dope you can give me in regards to joining the Association. All the copies I have received I have passed on to Roy. I think the National Association should do something big to create a lot of interest at the tournaments and get the public's fancy.

Mr. Howard, send me the dope on the new sport book that is going to be published as I am interested in it. Notify me before my subscription expires, so I can renew it.

Having nothing more to write about I will close for the present time. Mr. Howard, you are doing a grand job; keep up the fine work. Your magazine is fine and I enjoy it very much.

Sincerely yours for a better horseshoe year.

Wishing you and everyone a most Merry Christmas and a Better Happy New Year.

R. A. BUTTS.

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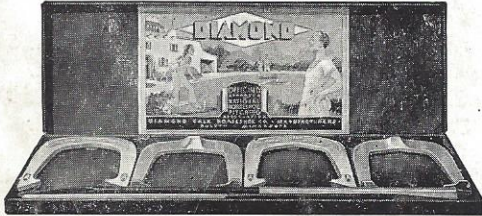
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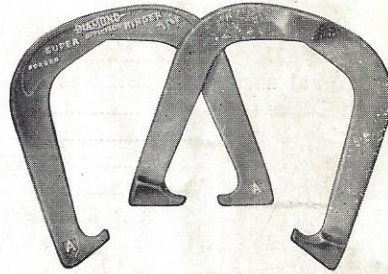
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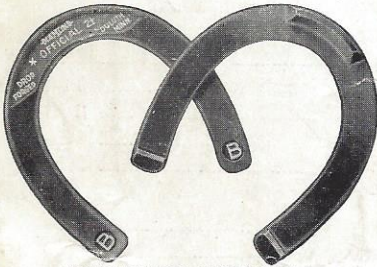
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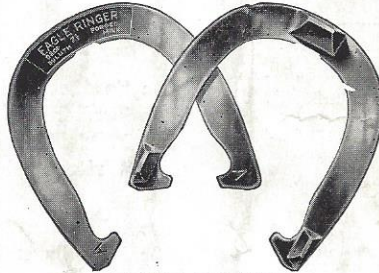
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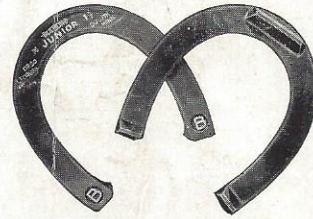
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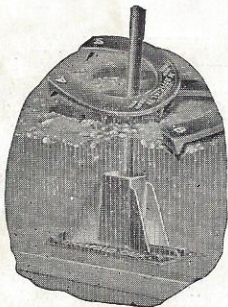


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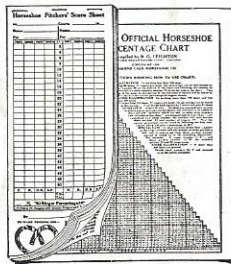


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