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Vol. IX.

LONDON, OHIO

No. 4



### A Tourney In Sight

**JUNE**, 1930

SUMMER tournament is in prospect. We know that will be welcome news to many fans, especially those who have found it impossible to go South each winter and who have been urging the association to arrange, a northern meet.

Just as we go to press we have received a telegram from Acting Secretary Seas stating Ft. Wayne, Ind., was making a bid for a summer tournament to be held about September 15. A nice cash offer and list of trophies are understood to have been agreed to by the Ft. Wayne sponsors.

A tournament at Ft. Wayne certainly would be agreeable to us.

#### OUR READERS COME FIRST

In publishing THE HORSESHOE WORLD, our read-

In publishing THE HORSESHOE WORLD, our read-ers come first. The magazine is printed monthly for them and every article is run with the idea of interesting them. Suggestions to the editor for the betterment of the magazine are always welcomed. The time that your magazine expires is printed on the address slip, directly after your name, showing the month and the year. Subscription price \$1 per year, cash in advance. Canadian subscription \$1.25; 10 cents per single copy. Entered as second-class matter, March 18, 1924, at the Post Office, at London, Ohio, under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

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

## EXPERIENCES OF A PITCHER

S INCE I have been giving my experiences in the horseshoe game, I have received letters from fans in different states, and it seems they are anxious for me to keep firing away, but I want to confess, right off the reel, that I would much rather read stories than to write them, and I am already much indebted to the editor of The Horseshoe World for the space allowed me, and with his kind permission I will come just this once again.

There was a tournament being held which had been widely advertised with a rather liberal prize list, which attracted most of the leading Ohio pitchers, and included in that list of entrants was a young fellow who did not seem to attract any special attention in his warming up until his father began to orate to a bunch of the pitchers, upon the uncanny ability, and wonderful skill of the boy with his shoes.

He told how the lad had cleaned everything in sight and how he was booked with the leading pitchers of the country for exhibitions. His performances, according to his enthusiastic dad were the best that ever happened by at least one hundred per cent.

It was the biggest blow since the cyclone, and he had that kid puffed up bigger than the Graf Zeppelin.

I said to myself, he surely must be a wizard, and decided to keep my eye on him in order to learn, if possible, just how such marvelous pitching was done and when the tournament play began, and the boy started in, he proceded right off the bat to fall down and step on his neck. He just could not do a thing; didn't get anywhere at all, and I glanced around at his dad to see how he was taking it, and from his looks he felt like thirty cents with the three rubbed out.

Before I had experienced the real pleasure of giving a genuine world's horseshoe pitcher the once over, I had various ideas as to their real makeup. I felt they surely must, in some way, be different than the general run of ordinary mortals, and when I heard of a tournament to be held at which the champion was to appear, I decided to take it in, although I had to drive half way across the state in order to do so. I arrived before the champion, of course, then waited anxiously for him to show up. I was expecting a Rolls-Royce, Pierce-Arrow, or something, but when a 1912 model Ford drove up and someone said there is the champ, I just knew he was a regular fellow and one of the boys. And when he started in with his shoes I wondered if I was actually seeing things, or just dreaming. Perhaps he did not have his slippers trained, but they acted like it.

After he had done everything that was practically impossible to do, he said he was ready to play anybody a game, and all the tournament winners tackled him, and he made mincemeat, hash, chow and bologna out of everyone of them. Then he said he would take on any two players, let them add their points on him, and it seemed that of all the pitchers who stepped out against him in that manner, if they each had been able to throw a shoe it simply left them immediately or before and none of them came close to winning a game on him until one of the very best pitchers on the job and myself decided we would step out and take our beating along with the rest.

We got the points on the first pitch, then my partner led off the second with a double and somehow I put my two on. This made four ringers on ahead of the champion, and it seemed to get his goat, and at the same time encourage us, and we just kept clicking them on, and he never got started on us.

My putting two on two was the biggest accident that ever happened, since my knees were batting together so hard I am sure the champ heard them knocking. I have since had the pleasure of entertaining world's champions in our home and I found them to be just as I had them pictured—real pals.

There was a tournament being held in an adjoining county in connection with their fair and I was warming up for the pitch when a small boy stepped up and asked if I wanted a partner. I told him sure, get right in. We pitched a few minutes, then the lad said let's play a game. I said all right, lead off, and he did so. And then just kept leading off as he was getting the points, and he got the game. Then we played another and he won that one also. By this time a crowd began to collect around our court as they saw what the home boy was doing for me. We played two more games and the lad won them. He could pitch, there was no mistake about that. He did not hesitate to kill off my doubles in a pinch and the crowd was simply beside itself as they thought I could pitch horseshoes from the fact that I had won the free-for-all pitch held during their fair the two previous years, and here was a home boy walloping the tar out of me. The youngster thought he was doing some big league pitching and the crowd thought so too.

At the start of the fifth game, I said, Well, I am going to win this game, and the kid said, You win a game on me? You couldn't beat me a game if we played all day. Then the crowd roared. That sort of ruffled my bristles and I said, boy, I will just show you.

Poor kid, he got a few points, but not many, and I picked up my shoes and waited for him to lead off the next game, and when I looked around he was gone, and I did not see him again until I was playing one of the best pitchers in Ohio in our round robin 50-point tournament game in the afternoon when someone touched my arm and I looked around and saw it was my boy, and he said, Mister, if you were pitching now like you did against me this other guy wouldn't get a point. I said, why don't you get in this tournament, and he said, I can't pitch horseshoes. Now wasn't that too bad. I had stepped on the gas against him and had taken all the vim out of him. We must be careful about that.

Their county champion seemed to take the keenest delight in the boy handing it to me, and I decided to even matters when we tangled in the afternoon tournament, and I took him over to the tune of 50 to 5. He is a good pitcher and I will admit that he threw 214 points with 100 shoes to win his county title.

My stories thus far have been based on facts, but I am going to relate a few things the accuracy and truthfulness of which I will not vouch.

I was watching one of our home pitchers in a game one evening and he was certainly going good, and I was just thinking that kind of pitch-

(Continued on Page 8)

#### ROSE CITY CLUB GETS UNDER WAY

Portland, Ore.—The Rose City Horseshoe Pitchers' club of Portland, Ore., opened the season with a round robin tournament for the city championship Sunday, May 11.

Class "B" was played off May 25, Class "C" will follow on June 8, and Class "A" will complete the tournament on June 29.

The club will hold its second annual picnic Sunday, June 22. An attempt will be made to better last year's attendance of 1500. The membership of the club is about 90 to date and all will start in the various tournaments.

All games, as well as the annual picnic, will be held on the club's new grounds at Clear Creek park, about one and a half miles southeast of Carver.

Dr. F. L. Finnell is president and C. N. Esberg secretary of the club. The regular monthly business meeting will be held at the Laurelhurst park clubrooms Monday evening.

A clever little folder has been published by the Rose City Club. It reads as folows:

#### THE HORSESHOE SPORT

Summer time is play time! Also it is the time to build up our health and vitality. Play golf, play tennis, play baseball, swim, hike, etc., all out in the glorious sunshine. BUT—these forms of recreation and sport all cost considerable and take a good many hours of your valuable time. Nor is it always convenient to have a golf course to play on or have a ball diamond or tennis court at hand.

If you have never pitched a horseshoe, get someone to show you how to hold the shoe and release it so that it opens up coming into the peg.

Any member of the Horseshoe club will be glad to show you and help you--just ask them.

Oh, Boy! What a thrill when your first open shoe goes over for a ringer!

After you get the "feel" of the pitch and can put on a few ringers, you will wonder why you didn't take up horseshoe pitching long before.

In pitching a two and one-half pound horseshoe 40 feet, you will get plenty of exercise during three or four games—played in the open, the year 'round.

For night playing, we have electrically lighted courts. These are used also during the winter season and are maintained by club membership—25 cents per month. There is no game played that you can get more out of with as little expense and time spent as "Pitching Horseshoes."

Join one of our clubs, or better yet, start one in your neighborhood. We will help you. And just see how quickly you will have a club of your own.

Pitch Horseshoes for Health!

Pitch Horseshoes for Fun!

There is a real thrill in putting on Ringers!

The Rose City Horseshoe club has planned a fine summer program.

The first thing they did this spring was to go out to Clear Creek Auto Park and put in six regulation courts. Clear Creek Park is just 13 miles from Portland, one and onehalf miles from Carver. Swimming in clear clean water, fine alder grove shade, camp stoves, tables and benches, clear spring water (piped in) to drink—a clean and desirable place to spend the week-end or spread a picnic lunch.

There is planned the City Championship Tournament May 11, open to all.

Class "B" Tournament, May 25, for the "near hot" boys.

Then on June 8, Class "C" Tournament.

June 22, a big time for everybody -our ANNUAL PICNIC.

June 29, Class "A" Tournament— These are the "hot" boys and How!

July and August, interchange of team play and singles with out of town clubs.

Come out to Clear Creek Park and enjoy the day with us at the Horseshoe Courts.

#### COMMITTEE

Dr. F. L. Finnell, President

J. Sealey, Vice President

C. Esberg, Secretary

O. Johnson, Treasurer. For further information, telephone

any of the committee.

#### DEFEAT NOLIN, KY.

The New Albany (Ind.) Central horseshoe club, champions of Southern Indiana, put another check in the win column Sunday afternoon, May 25, when they defeated Nolin (Ky.) the Kentucky state champions, by a score of 9 to 7.

L. Akers, the single champion of the Blue Grass region, was the outstanding performer of the afternoon, with a ringer average of 48.5 per cent. He also pitched the highest number of ringers in a single game, which was 29, an average of 58 per cent.

The honor of being high point man goes to Otis LaDuke, the promising young pitcher from New Albany, with 154 points in four games. This lad was the only pitcher able to spell defeat for the Kentucky state champion L. Akers.

This afternoon L. Akers celebrated his first victory in two years over Jimmy Russell, the local Mogul, by the score of 45 to 23.

The individual records are as follows:

New Albany-

TICH TRIDUILY							
1	V	L	P	R	DR	Pct.	
Widman	3	1	118	73	12	36.5	
LaDuke	3	1	154	72	11	36.0	
Russell	3	1	153	68	11	34.0	
Brady	0	4	82	59	7	29.5	
-	9	7	507	272	41		
Nolin—							
L. Akers	3	1	179	97	20	48.5	
W. Harris	2	2	128	72	12	36.0	
D. Vinson	1	3	101	48	6	24.0	
B. Akers	1	3	81	46	5	23.0	
-		_				-	

#### 7 9 489 263 42

#### Johnson Wins

Following are the results of a recent match for the city championship of Portland, Ore.:

City Championship,	Class	A
	W	L
Johnson	10	1
Hendricks	9	2
Robinson	8	3
Haaverson	8	3
Hayden	7	4
Allen		5
Pangborn	6	5
Eldredge	5	6
Sealey	4	7
Dr. Finnell	2	9
Butler	1	10
Baker	0	11

#### WANT GAMES

The Wilmington Ohio Horseshoe club wants to book games with teams within a radius of 80 miles. Any Ohio team will be met if proper arrangements can be made, according to Gerald Smith, one of the Wilmington shoe enthusiasts. Page Four

### THE LETTER BOX

Where Ideas are Exchanged and Gossip of the Shoe Lanes are Written

(EDITOR'S NOTE—We print all letters sent to us for publication. We do not always agree with the writers, but believe our readers have a right to their opinions. Unsigned letters are ignored.)

Oakville, Wash., 3-26-30 Mr. D. D. Cottrell, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear mr. Cottrell:

Have been giving the old game considerable thought lately, and was figuring on writing you, telling you of said thoughts, but couldn't seem to get it worded just right, but when my Horsesnoe World came today and I saw your articles in which you ask the players to write you, regarding the holding of a tional tournament in California, it was just the word needed to set me in motion, so here goes.

By all means hold the tournament in California if satisfactory arrangements can be made. Of course we were all very much disappointed in not having a tournament this winter, but I am not surprised; the same thing has added many a gray hair to my head, for 1 am up against the same thing in this state. The days of charity are over. I have been president of the Washington State Association for three years, and have noted the increased ufficulty in getting any one sufficiently interested to finance our state tournaments.

Well, then, doesn't common sense teach us that if we are to expect anything of the game in the future, it is up to us to put it on an independent basis?

Here is my plan. With the growing interest in the game, we should have no trouble organizing five thousand members to the National Association. All right, then, do away with the state associations, and solicit members for the National, then the National set a quota for each state, then in order for a state to get a certificate to hold a state meet they must meet their quota of members to the National. Then make the membership fee say five dollars to start with.

Then each state that gets a certificate, will hold their state tournament in the usual way, the champion to be sent to the National tournament, with all expenses paid by the National association, and the only prize the National will give is a large cup to the world's champion, and a gold medal to each player finishing from two to ten, the players name and position in which he finishes to be engraved on the medal.

If the state picks up enough locally to get their champion a cup, all well and good; if not he is well paid for his efforts anyway.

When the state tournament is held the National pays all the actual expenses of holding that tournament. In this way the National, as well as the state can hold their tournaments anywhere they wish. The place for each following year be arranged one year in advance, so those in charge can make all necessary arrangements.

I am sending a copy of this to The Horseshoe World, and would be glad to hear the matter discussed by all interested.

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Adair, Ia., April 28, 1930 Editor Horseshoe World,

London, Ohio.

To cancel, or not to cancel—that is the question.

Well, if long games and numberless ringers are the object, then play "All ringers and shoes in count shall cancel, and all shoes out of court shall be penalized one point." But if "shut-outs" are wanted, then play, "a contestant shall continue pitching and scoring without alternating so long as he keeps both shoes in count."

By this rule the U. S. Billiard champion, Jake Schafer, shut out the European champ, Hagen Lacker, by getting first play and continuing until the game was finished without giving H. L. a single play. Wonderful contest?

But if a square deal, speed and high ringer percentage is wanted, play, "All ringers shall score 3 points,

and all shoes in count, 1 point, and alternate the pitch."

But isn't that too much like "solitaire." No, the opposite is true. We have used the no-cancel here 4 years and the objection to no-cancel is that you can't stage a "comeback," the god of the cancel. But when a player by a couple of lucky doubles gets a big lead there is no way of stopping him except by shooting, and I don't recommend it. People are peculiar. Some can't enjoy cards without wine, others without money on the table. Others enjoy the knockout in the ring, and the death in the arena, or dueling grounds. Some enjoy the cancel stimulant, while others enjoy a square deal free from gambling, dissipation, holdup thrill and bloodshed; and all will use propaganda in defense of their bias.

D. J. COWDEN

WILL SANCTION TOURNEYS

K. E. Miller, Lakeside, Ohio, secretory of the Ohio Horseshoe Pitchers Association, will sanction county tournaments if those in charge will write him. All county meets should be official and should bear the stamp of approval of the state organization.

PATENTS

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Mention THE HORSESHOE WORLD when writing

#### OSCAR HUNSAKER SETS STATE RECORD

Oscar Hunsaker set a new state record for an individual game at a recent tourney of the Salt Lake County, Utah, Horseshoe Pitchers' Hunsaker connected association. for 36 ringers out of 52 pitches for a .692 percentage. He also walked off

Name	W	L	Р	R	SP	Pct.
O. Hunsaker	5	0	250	171	296	.577
C. W. Atkinson	3	1	178	91	226	.402
G. P. Peterson	3	1	164	90	228	.395
C. R. Newey	2	1	132	103	202	.509
L. Healy	2	2	156	119	268	.444
P. H. Bradford	2	2	165	92	210	.438
W. Andalin	2	2	161	77	224	,340
W. B. Walters	2	1	124	49	184	.266
J. Windberg	2	1	104	47	194	.242
W. Haake	2	1	137	55	206	.265
J. W. Bea	2	1	137	67	204	.328
C. Little	0	1	46	38	66	.570
L. Lambert	0	4	173	77	266	.293
A. Clark	0	3	62	35	170	.270
A. P. Clark	0	4	105	43	276	.155
R. Healy	0	3	95	49	192	.255

#### **Fine Program**

The Oil City, Pa., Horseshoe club mapped out an elaborate schedule for the winter indoor season, most of which was carried out in detail. Several high spots of the indoor sessions are reviewed in the following:

On four dates many of the members pitched 100 shoes for setting records. DeWoody excelled in this solitaire pastime, setting a high mark for Oil City of 202 points and 57 ringers, including 16 double ringers on February 6.

A special boys' match in November was won by Harold Crawford, who defeated the boy city champion, William Buckley, in four out of five games.

The Pennsylvania state champ Mervin George of Grove City, gave a fine exhibition on the Y. M. C. A. gym floor, January 8.

The men's meet for South Side championship was won by E. S. Miles. The non-resident title was won by Floyd Bickel of Woodland Heights. The city champion, Charles Gerrish, met considerable opposition winning the North Side meet for men. Paul Snyder of Siverly won among the North Side boys.

Five men won against five boys in January. The boys took revenge by winning a similar meet a month later.

The Franklin team was defeated

with the tourney, his third in as many weeks, with five victories for a clean slate.

A large host of enthusiasts performed during the afternoon. Following is the outcome:

W	4	P	ĸ	SP	Pct.	
 5	0	250	171	296	.577	
 3	1	178	91	226	.402	
 3	1	164	90	228	.395	
 2	1	132	103	202	.509	
 2	2	156	119	268	.444	
 2	2	165	.92	210	.438	
 2	2	161	77	224	,340	
 2	1	124	49	184	.266	
 2	1	104	47	194	.242	
 2	1	137	55	206	.265	
 2	1	137	67	204	.328	
 0	1	46	38	66	.570	
 0	4	173	77	266	.293	
 0	3	62	35	170	.270	
 0	4	105	43	276	.155	
0	3	95	49	192	.255	

by the Oil City tossers when it visited here.

An indoor mail match against a team at Toledo, Ohio, was won by Oil City.

Milo DeWoody of Hasson Heights set several noteworthy marks for local barnyard golfers. He equalled his outdoor performance of making at least one ringer in each frame of an entire 50-point game. He made 37 ringers, including 13 doubles, for a 68 per cent game on March 17. He threw six consecutive doubles one evening. And he made an indoor mark of 59 ringers out of 100 pitched.

The late weather has brought out door activities into full swing. Interest in the game is steadily on the increase, and the local club has 57 members now, this being about twice the membership of any former year for the Oil City Club.

#### SEEKS CORRECTION

Cleveland, O., May 19, '30 Editor Horseshoe World,

London, O.

Dear Sir:

In reading the March issue of the Horseshoe World, I noticed an article pertaining to a seven-game series between Uhlig (Nebraska champion) and myself, in which he defeated me in four straight games.

Now 1 wish you would correct this as I have never been in Nebraska in

my life nor had the pleasure of ever having met Mr. Uhlig. I have been in Cleveland since May 10, 1929. BERT DURYEE.

(Editor's Note-This correction is gladly made. We do not recall where we obtained the information printed in the March issue.)

#### Mossman In Texas Clink! Clank! Clack!

And so on until the last horseshoe nestled with its mates, around the stake 40 feet distant.

"Putt" Mossman, 23-year-old world's champion fancy and trick horseshoe thrower was the youthful flinger who sent the irons to the stake with such unerring aim.

Mossman gave an exhibition of his unusual prowess at manipulating the mare's mocassins recently at Travis park. He plans to return to the city during Fiesta week. At present, he is on his way to the Rio Grande Vallev on a tour of various horseshoe, pitching clubs. He is accompanied by his 16-year-old sister, Miss Dessie Mossman. The two are from Des Moines, Iowa.

In his repertoire, Mossman includes such tricks as fancy motorcycle riding, looping ringers from a motorcycle while traveling at a speed of 20 to 30 miles per hour, tumbling and high kicking. He demonstrated several of his most difficult feats at Travis park. Mossman is also a wrestler and boxer in the lightweight class.-The San Antonio Light.

One of the latest prominent corverts to the fascinating and healthpromoting game of horseshoes is none other than Cornelius Vanderbilt

Mr. Vanderbilt's picture, taken while engaged in this game in Floiida, recently appeared in the rotogravure sections of the leading newspapers of the country, with the following explanatory paragraph: "Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr., while in Florida, puts in a few hours each morning pitching horseshoes for pleasure and exercise. He describes the game as excellent mental relaxation as well."

So, now, didn't we tell you that the game of horseshoes was not a "dub" sport, but real, front-lawn, aristocratic stuff!

Skjold-Why do London pedestrians eat so many onions during the foggy season?

Bjorn-So they won't walk into each other.

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### NEWS, OFFICIAL REPORTS, ETC.

I had a note from our secretary, D. D. Cottrell, the other day. When the wrote he was on the River Rhine between Cologne and Mainz. The date was May 20th and the temperature low enough for an overcoat. On May 25th he expected to witness the Passion Play in the little Bavarian village that it has made famous. He says there are sixty in the party, all congenial folks, and that he and Mrs. Cottrell are having a wonderful trip. Like always, he has his eyes open for some form of recreation.

Although the group has been hrough the British Isles, Holland and Belgian, and now evidently on German territory, if I have my geography correct, he says he has seen very few people at play. Crickett and tennis in England being the only games he has run across. Maybe the folks in the countries he has been through take their recreation in a different form. For some reason, even though I can not point out any specific instance, I have always been under the impressioon the European countries indulged more in this manner than we did. Possibly they get their diversion in pulling weeds in the garden, mowing the lawn and chopping wood for next winter.

Play seems to be getting more of a hold in this country every year. It used to be that the populace went to watch games played by the minority. Now most everybody wants to and does play some kind of a game. Games that afford mental diversion and physical exercise. Some look on the games in horror as time wasted, but that does not keep the masses from playing and going home and sleeping the sleep of the just at night. If you think it is detrimental to the younger generation to play much, step into a group of boys and girls and ask one of the future mothers for the use of their smelling salts. They'll not even know what you are talking about. A generation ago when a girl or girls did play invigorating outdoor games this was considered one of the essentials. Yes, games are bringing on a more vigorous race.

The miniature golf courses seem to

## From the Secretary's Desk

be drawing big crowds of old and young everywhere. This game has been put on a business basis. It has proved a money maker. It's no doubt with us to stay and will take some of the players away from the regulation golf links. From my observations over several states it is not taking players away from our game, but adding new players. I have talked to many and have hundreds of letters from new players who are fascinated with horseshoe pitching. Not only the ordinary run of men and women but men and women who have the means to follow any games they fancy.

Many of these newcomers ask the oft repeated question, "Why is the game not better organized?" answer them frankly and truthfully that the game can not be stronger and better organized than the players themselves make it. No organization can function and be kept alive unless it has financial support sufficient to have some one conduct the business for the organization in the proper manner. Until the players and the manufacturers do support the organization you now have, or another one similar to it, its progress will be limited. Those individuals, clubs and state organizations who pay their dues faithfully may sometimes think they are not getting enough in return. Let me ask you just one frank question, "Do not all pioneers pay the price and more for the cause they wish to promote?" And those who pay the biggest price in the horseshoe game are the fellows who are trying to make it bigger and better. Take Mr. Howard of the periodical in which these words are printed. You may have sent some news matter, scores of good games, news about your club, etc., to him and it never appeared in print. This did not go down very good with you, did it? I know it didn't. On the other hand I have had enough experience around the publishing business to know why it did not appear. Mr. Howard can not afford to publish everything. Not that what you sent in was not worth while publishing, but he can only use so much news and no more. He does

not have more space. You say he can add pages. Sure he can, but he must have subscription money and what is more important, advertising, so he can pay for the expense of adding additional pages.

W. J. Seas

Treas. and Acting Sec'y

P. O. BOX 1735

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

You may think the National association could help carry the burden. That looks good on the surface and sounds reasonable, but remember that in this case, too, the National body is no stronger financially than those who should support it make it.

Take my own position. Since I have taken over Cottrell's work, mail has been pouring in so rapidly that it takes a lot of time to answer it. That shows the interest in the game is increasing. Yes, it does, but so many of these letters are of such a nature that a cash return from them seems far off. I am not letting them unanswered, however. On the other hand the postage bill began to look so big that I have quite some of it out of my own pocket.

Take the matter of a national summer tournament. There have been a goodly number of inquiries from the far west, the Middle West and the East. All from places with a large population and close to centers of big population. They talk about the facilities they have, the crowds the game would draw, their advantage for location so the greatest number of players could get there easily. In the first letter they present all these facts which are only too true. and wind up with the question of what it would cost to have the national tournament held in their city. I have answered all these inquiries according to those sections of our constitution referring to tournaments. The same constitution formulated and adopted by the pitchers themselves and according to which the national officers are to decide where these tournaments are to be held.

The financial end seems to be the stumbling block. So far no place has decided to put up a sum of money sufficient to cover the prize money for the players. That is where the hitch comes in. The players do not want to go some place with the mere say so that they will receive prizes of so and so much; then after they

have spent their own money to get there, stay a week, and pitch every day, only to find that those who conducted the affair do not have the money to pay out. The players still have one summer tournament in mind when few if any prizes were paid, quite a few years ago, and in one not more than several summers ago when the full amount of the guarantee was not paid. When the present national officers went into office they decided this was one thing they would try to avoid. The players themselves might feel different about it if the clubs to which they may belong would finance them for the cost of entering a big tournament. Many would be satisfied with the honors they could bring home, but with a few exceptions clubs have not seen fit to do this much. So it all resolves itself to a matter of helping to support the sport we all love.

LARGE SHOE CLUB AT CHAUTAUQUA

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Probably one of the largest horseshoe clubs in the world is in Chautauqua, New York, in the beautiful assembly grounds. This club only functions during the Chautauqua season, which lasts through the months of July and August. The club has seven courts and they are located right in the center of a beautiful woods where one can play and have shade in some part of the court during the whole day.

The club has a membership of from 150 to 200 each season. This is the oldest Chautauqua in the United States, where you not only can play horseshoes but there are numerous high class amusements and entertainments for the whole family. A man usually has more liberty to enjoy himself as he likes, provided, however, he finds some entertainment or amusement for the rest of the family and more particularly when the family is on a vacation.

At Chautauqua there is plenty of amusement for the wife and children.

I doubt whether there is a club any place that has so many professional men as this club. It has at least 65 preachers, a host of doctors, lawyers, judges and quite a bunch of laymen. There is more merriment, hilarity and kidding to the square yard at this club than any place that I know of.

We have an annual tournament us-

ually about the first week of August. The way the club conducts its tournament is a novel way and the club thinks a fair way for all concerned.

It gives the poor players as well as the good players a chance to win a prize and keeps everybody interested.

Here is the way we work it. Four play at one time. "A" and "B" at one end, and "C" and "D" at the other end. After "A" pitches, "C" at the other end picks up his shoes, then "B" pitches and "C" picks up his shoes and the same way for the other end. After sixty shoes are pitched they change ends. Each player pitches one hundred and twenty shoes. We count points the same as a regular game. The four nighest having a score above 125 points are put in the "A" class.

The ones having the highest score from 100 to 125 points are put in the "B" class and the ones having the highest score from 75 to 100 points are placed in the "C" class.

In the finals the four highest in the same classes pitch each other a regulation game to determine which is the champion in each of the different classes.

We usually wind up the tournament with a big banquet. Last year we had two lawyers, two judges, two preachers and one school superintendent, speak, and various other entertainers. At this banquet, the following resolution was presented by Rev. J. W. Griffin, of Cleveland, Ohio:

Whereas:

1. This has become a horseless age.

2. The auto has driven the horse from the highway.

3. The cross roads blacksmith shop has been converted into a filling station.

4. Old Dobbin is rapidly disappearing from the farm,

Therefore be it resolved:

That the Chautauqua Horseshoe club in annual banquet assembled resolutely declares that it will never permit the horseshoe to perish from the land.

You horseshoe pitchers who want to spend a pleasant vacation and leve a good social time for yourself and family, come to Chautauqua.

We expect to have Putt Mossman or some other high class pitcher at Chautauqua during this coming season to give an exhibition.

R .A. HITCHENS, Pres.

#### 8 TEAMS BACK IN HORSESHOE LOOP

Eight Cleveland industrial firms which competed in the first season of industrial horseshoe competition sponsored by the Plain Dealer and city division of recreation last year have signified their desire to play again this year.

Those teams entered thus far include Ivanhoe Electric, Columbia Axle, Weideman Co., New York Central Railroad, Newburg Steel, Cleveland Hardware, Postoffice and Pennsylvania Railroad.

Practically the same rules will govern competition as last year with the Plain Dealer again serving as sponsor of the project. Each firm is eligible to 'enter ten men, while only five will compete in matches. Players will not be able to be withdrawn during matches as the five who start must finish, according to Recreation Commissioner Gourley.

Ivanhoe, Columbia Axle and New York Central Railroad will compete at the Gordon courts; Cleveland Hardware, Newburg Steel and Penn sylvania Railroad at Woodland Hills, and Weideman Co. and Postoffice at Edgewater.

Commissioner Gourley reports that entries are being received every day at Room 6, City Hall. Next Saturday is the final date of entry.— Cleveland (O.) Plain Dealer.

## Want Tourney

Yakima, Wash.—Attempts are being made to bring the summer tournament of the National Horseshoe Pitchers' association to Yakima during the fair week, according to C. O. Kittilsen, secretary. The Yakima organization is one of the most active, and new members are joining the club regularly.

Baker and Snowden tied for first place in a recent match, and Baker won by a 50 to 35 score in the playoff game. The scores made Sunday afternoon were:

	W	L	Pts
Baker	7	1	872
Snowden		1	376
Ruckman	6	2	378
Stacy	5	3	850
Elliott	4	4	845
Bennett(handicap 10)	4	4	316
Stouder(handicap 20)	2	6	837
Waterbury (ha'ncap 15)	1	7	298
Beardsley (handicap 20)	0	8	250

#### Second Tourney Planned

The courts of the Midland Beach Horseshoe Pitching Club, Staten Island, N. Y., are already being put to good use this season by the many active members of this progressive association which now boasts a membership of nearly 200 pitchers.

Plans have been completed to hold the second annual Metropolitan Championship on Saturday afternoon, July 26, under the supervision of D. D. Cottrell, secretary of the national association. Mr. Cottrell is expected to return from abroad on July 20 and running off the Metropolitan Championship will be one of his first official acts after he lands.

Preliminary plans are being worked out for a horseshoe pitching league to be made up of teams from Paterson, Bloomfield, Newark, Cranbury and Mt. Holly, New Jersey, the Boroughs and the Bronx, Manhattan, Brooklyn and Richmond, New York City, together with one or more teams representing Long Island. From present indications the formation of such a league will prove succesful, as the interest in horseshoe pitching is increasing noticeable in the metropolitan district and the 1930 season promises to be unusually active and successful. - 0 -

#### STORE CLOSED

A real dyed-in-the-wool sport that has come into its own in Portsmouth, Ore., is horseshoe pitching; and right now the time-honored good luck emblems are flying fast and hard on the court marked off on the former Portsmouth school grounds.

A horseshoe club, made up of experts from Portsmouth University community in general was organized Tuesday evening and has stepped off in a business-like manner. The officers are Pete Angerinos president; Ben Karch, secretary; Mr. Shackleton, vice president; Alva Jones, treasurer.

The dues are 50 cents per year. A meeting of the club will be held Tuesday evening on the court.

Lights are being installed at the court, so that the contests, which begin after business hours, can be prolonged even after darkness falls.

So fascinating is horseshoe pitching, that business men across the cut are a bit wild about it. No one need to be surprised to find their stores locked tight at any time, and signs

#### IF I COULD RING THE "SPIKE"! By JAMES HOWARD HUNGERFORD

Horseshoeing is a grand ol' game— A game of highest art;

- And there are those who play the same With head and soul and heart!
- I've longed to be a horseshoe "star"-(I've tried, so help me, Mike!)-
- And I would play with those who are— If I could ring the "spike"!
- If I could fing the spine .

My nerves are steady, doctors say; My eyes are clear and keen;

I move about in springhtly way, My legs are long and lean;

- My muscles, they are pliant, too; (I row, I swim, I hike,)
- And I could play like big "champs" do-If I could ring the "spike"!

When I get in a horseshoe game,

- I look a "sure-fire bet";
- But when I'm through, my head with shame Is bowed—also regret.

I look a "winner," so folks say— (I try, so help me, Mike!)—

But when I'd make a "master" play-I always "muff" the "spike"!

I've striven hard to make a "hit," And practiced, day by day; I've vowed that I will never quit, And with the "champs" will play! I have the strength; I have the will To win, so help me, Mike! And I could play with "world-champ" skill-

If I could ring the "spike"!

of this description displayed: "Gone to horseshoe court. Back when I show a lot of these other fellows what they don't know about horseshoe pitching. Signed The Prop."

#### EXPERIENCES OF A PITCHER (Continued from Page 1)

ing would be hard to beat, and I was quite enthused over his performance when a man I had never before seen stepped up to me and said he has just come up from Columbus where he saw some real pitching and when I ask him how that was, he said he saw a man take ten pairs of shoes and throw them on the peg, and all twenty shoes stayed on ringers. I took a good look at him to see if I could discover any signs or indications of human intelligence, but I just could not figure him out, and I will leave it to my readers whether they think he actually saw it.

The evening before the start of a

state tournament there was quite a bunch of the entrants in a fanning bee, and there had been several interesting and plausable stories told. when one of the fellows started in on how he and a world's champion pitcher performed in a game. He said they played several games to get warmed up and then started on an honest-to-goodness game, and there never was a time in the game when there was more than three points difference in their scores and that is the way it stood at the finish when three points would put either one out. Then they would have to do real business and put them all on 17 times straight, and then in some unexplained manner one of them missed a shoe while the other threw both of his and won the game.

Well there were no stories worth telling after that.

W. K. TORBERT West Mansfield, O.





Straight Toe Calk Diamond Official Pitching Horse-shoes conform exactly to require-ments of National Horseshoe Pitching Association. Drop forged from tough steel—heat treated— will not chip or break. Made either regular or dead falling type in following weights: 2½ lbs.; 2 lbs. 5 oz.; 2 lbs. 6 oz; 2 lbs. 7 oz.; 2½ lbs.



**DIAMOND JUNIOR** For Ladies and Children. Exactly the same as regu-lar official shoes except smaller and lighter. Made in the following weights: 1½ lbs.; 1 lb. 9 oz.; 1 lb. 10 cz.; 1 lb. 11 oz.; 1½ lbs.



HELPFUL BOOKLETS "How to Play Horseshoe" contains official rules. "How to Organize and Promote a Horseshoe Club" is a sixteen page booklet with sample con-stitutions, duties of officers, etc. etc.



Diamond complete outfits packed in sturdy beautifully stained wooden boxes. Made up as follows:

No. 1. Four official shoes and two pointed stakes as shown.

#### Curved Toe Calk

Made with curved toe calk. Otherwise exactly the same as regular official with straight calk described at left. Either regular or dead falling.

# DIAMOND **OFFICIAL** PITCHING HORSESHOES



Either straight or curved toe

calk. Lies absolutely flat and

dead when it falls due to softer

steel. Weight same as regular.

STAKE HOLDER AND STAKE For outdoor or indoor pitching. Rust proof paint underground. White aluminum 10 inches above ground.



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POINTED STAKES

Made of steel 30 inches long, 1

inch in diameter, pointed.

Painted black underground, white aluminum 10 inches

# DIAMOND SCORE SHEETS AND PER-CENTAGE CHARTS

CENTAGE CHARTS Room for entries for 25 innings. Percent-age chart printed on inside of cover. Gives percentage of ringers for any number of shoes up to 100 with-out figuring.

No. 2. Four official shoes and two stakes with cast iron stake holders.

No. 3. Same as No. 1 outfit except shoes are Junior size.

No. 4. Same as No. 2 outfit except shoes are Junior size.



above ground.

CARRYING CASES

The safest and most convenient means of carrying shoes. Good lock, leather corner pieces, strong han-dle. Hold two pairs of either standard or Junior shoes. Tan colored.

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