

HORSESHOE NEWS

ADIZ



\$1.
PER
YEAR

FERNANDO ISAIS
WORLD'S CHAMPION

World's Championship Tournament
MILWAUKEE, WISC. AUG. 16-21, 1948

NUMBER 12

1948

Published In The Interest Of Horseshoe Pitching
And The National Horseshoe Pitchers Assn.

At 4002 Oliver St. Hyattsville Md.

Harry T. Woodfield Editor

THE GORDON SHOE

We requested of Mr. John A. Gordon, inventor of the "Gordon Spin-On Shoe" pictured on the front cover - that something of it's history should be interesting and also about the part he has had in the developement of the sport to it's present high standard. From his long experience with all phases of horseshoe pitching we were sure that a story by him would cover some unusual angles. Here it is.

"In your letter of recent date, you asked me to tell you, how I came about inventing the "Spin-On" shoe. Briefly let me state that I began pitching shoes regularly in 1922. At that time, the pitching shoe was designed or copied from old "Dobbin's" footwear. All of us old time pitchers will remember that, that type of shoe on striking the stake, in a spinning motion, would invariably spin off and, we never knew in what direction it would go; consequently, many of us to this day carry scars on our shins as a result.

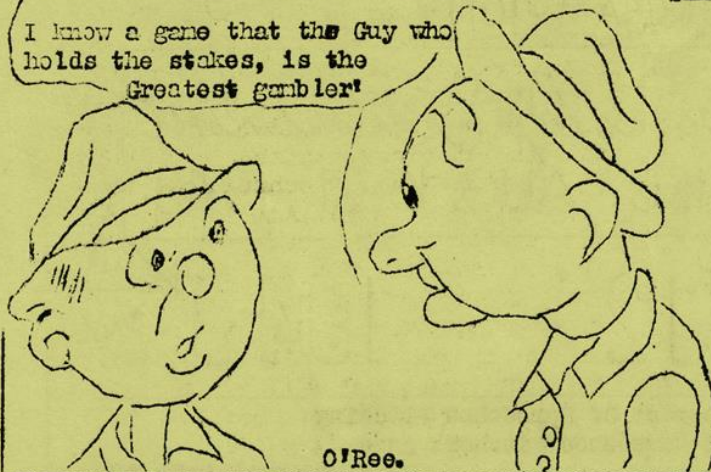
This fault of the old type shoe, was the main reason I began experimenting with several designs of shoes that I had cast for experimental purposes. One of those shoes is the shoe we are manufacturing to day, although much improved over it's predecessor. The recess or spin-break in front of the toe calk on inside of shoe, will hold shoe from riding out on a fast or slow spin. Consequently the loss of fingers by pitchers of to day is negligible.

The horseshoe game can become one of the great sports of the nation. In my opinion, here are obstacles to be overcome before it can reach that high state. First the code of rules that govern the game need some important amendments. Second, the specifications of the size, weight and design of approved pitching shoes. When the perfect pitching shoe is made, it will be seven and one half inches in length and seven and one quarter inches in width. (The present approved dimensions are $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. and $7\frac{1}{4}$ in.) By making this change, the body of the shoe can be made the proper width to allow for the authorized hook.

I truly hope that when we meet in convention in Milwaukee, we can correct some of the existing faults that prevent the smooth operation of The National Horseshoe Pitcher Association of America and through it thereby increase the popularity of this grand old game not only in America but other countries of the world.

Sincerely John A. Gordon.

I know a game that the Guy who holds the stakes, is the Greatest gambler!



(Ed. note) We met Mr. Gordon first at the 1940 tournament in Des Moines. We are not familiar with his part in the promotion of the game before that time and what little we've learned since it is evident that his generous donations of the "Gordon" shoes have made it possible for groups of youngsters and others, all over the U.S. to enjoy the game. He came to tournaments since 1933. He came to the 1946 on crutches. We are looking forward to meeting him at Milwaukee and many more.

THE HORSESHOE NEWS

This is the final number in the first year's publication of The Horseshoe News. It has been a long year. When this number has been delivered to all subscribers it will be sixteen months since Number One was issued. Several events beyond our control have caused this lapse. One of them the unprecedented number of requests received for information, of the coming tournament at Milwaukee, general information of the National Assn. and requests from many publications that wanted to write stories.

Lots of letters went out from here in the interest of publicity, for the Assn. and the sport of horseshoe pitching. There never has been such an opportunity in the past fifteen years. It had to be done at the proper time. The entire United States has been flooded with posters, circulars and folders descriptive of the Centennial Exposition and the Horseshoe Tournament. We and our National Secretary Harvey Clear just had to follow through and as a result The Horseshoe News was layed on the table.

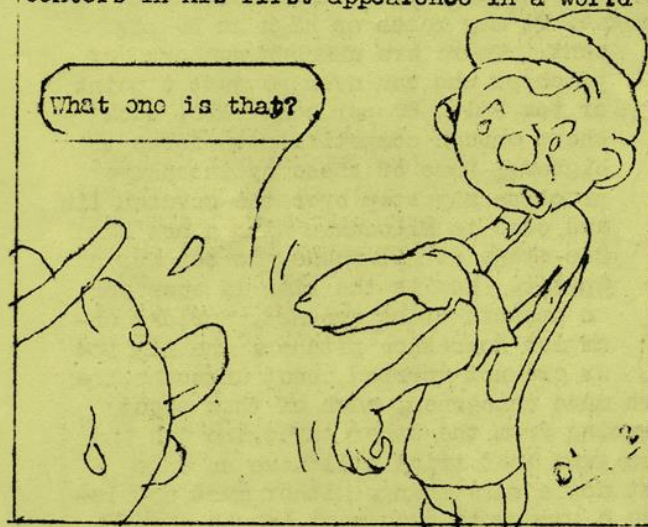
With your cooperation lets write the past year off the books and make a fresh start with the first number of the News after the tournament at Milwaukee. Several subscribers to date have received only eight copies some less all will receive twelve issues before a notice of renewal is mailed.

MORE SUBSCRIBERS MORE NEWS

More subscribers are necessary before the News can pay out. It's not quite 600 at this writing. If each one receiving the paper would get one other to subscribe the News would be a better advertising medium and more pages could be added. In addition to the Special Bulletin sent to all subscribers we have been writing news for a paper to be printed in the form of a newspaper in Milwaukee. This is one of the many ideas of Guy C. Wertz, Centennial, Tournament Chairman. One article that should be of interest is a resume of the records in the last four tournaments of the Big Four namely, Fernando Isais, present champion, Ted Allen, world's champion in four of the six events, Casey Jones, runner up in the last two and Guy Zimmerman holder of the world's record for high average ringer per cent of 861%.

There is a comment on Wayne Nelson, who entered the charmed circle of 80 percenters in his first appearance in a world tournament at Murray last year. Who won from who and where is also carried out. There is a summary of the two longest games. Other articles by Katherine Gregson of interest to the Women pitchers, a report from Australia by McKay Whittle of Melbourne, Dr. Geo. Siebert of American occupied Germany writes an interesting story of how high school boys there are learning to pitch. And if you are not a member of NHPA. and don't want to join, be sure and skip the article by Harvey Clear our National Secretary. If you read it, you cannot resist sending one buck by the next mail. Mr. Wertz, says that this paper will be free to subscribers of the Horseshoe News and to those coming to Milwaukee

Pop Woodfield.



○ COME TO MILWAUKEE ○
 ATTEND MEETING AND BANQUET SUNDAY AUGUST 15, 1948.
 200 SHOE PITCH MONDAY AUG. 16.
 WEAR WHITE PANTS; WHITE TEE SHIRT FREE, WITH EMBLEM
 AND YOUR NAME ON IT. 32-HIGH-SCORERS
 IN FINAL S TUESDAY AUG. 17, STARTING
 2:00 P.M. & 7:00 P.M. 2 SESSIONS
 FERNANDO ISAIS, TED ALLEN, GUY
 ZIMMERMAN & CASEY JONES

Bring white pants. Even if you are sure you cannot make the finals. If you try for it, in the 200 shoe pitch, you will get a white Tee shirt FREE and your name and an emblem will be lettered on it. And a souvenir button will be presented to all who file their entries. The record entry in a World's Tournament is 78. (since 1933) It was made at Moline, Ill. in 1935. The Big Four will be there. Isais, Allen Jones and Zimmerman. It is worth the trip to watch these four do their stuff. Will Zimmerman's World's record 86.1 average ringer per cent fall? Leland Mortenson says, if weather conditions are good at Milwaukee, it may reach as high as 90 per

Horseshoe Pitching.



cent. There are unknown numbers of pitchers who can average just a point or two below 80 per cent. Who, lack sharp enough competition to force them higher. Some of these by intensive practise may step over the coveted line and come to Milwaukee with a hot hand. The stage at Milwaukee, is set for an up-set. Now is the time if ever for an unknown to be crowned, World's champion horseshoe pitcher. The Big Four are not worried about unknowns, they are more concerned, each of them about winning from the other three. The one who can turn that trick will have an edge but not a sure thing. Either must not lose a game until they meet, (can't page 3.

THE BIG FOUR

(from page 2.) as it may be disastrous. To carry the dope of these four further, lets see how they stack up with each other in games won and lost, in the past four World Tournaments.. Allen and Jones have played in all of them. Isais in three and Zimmerman in two.

Fernado won from Allen, in 1940 and 1941, beat Jones in 1947 and Zimmerman in 1940 and 1947. Allen took one game from Fernando in 1947, two from Jones, 1940-46 and one from Zimmerman in 1940. Casey beat Allen, in 1941 and 1947 won from Zimmerman in 1947, and chalked up loss number two for Isais in 1940. Zimmerman's two wins were, Jones, 1940 and Allen in 1947.

Thus, Isais won, 6. lost 2., Allen 4 - 5, Jones 4 - 5 and Zimmerman 2-4. Looks like Fernando has the edge but as these four meet only once each year in the World Championships much could happen in between that would kill this dope. The majority of horseshoe pitchers and fans, who follow the results of these annual meets closely, will pick the 1948 winner from among the big four.

No longer unknown and considerably feared because of his sterling performance at Murray, in 1947, where he won from Jones and Zimmerman, practically tied Allen Wayne Nelson, of Muncie Indiana must not be sold short. If his skill this year equals his concentration and determination, he may take the title to Indiana. In the meantime, a dark horse may slip in and win the crown that is becoming more valuable each year. Yes it is possible but, he surely will have to pitch.

PRIZES \$3000. WITH MONEY ADDED

The First, Second and Third place winners in the men's section will receive \$500, plus a trophy, \$400. and \$300. respectively. For women, \$50. and trophy, \$40. and \$30. Men's entry fee, \$5.

GET YOUR CARD NOW

If you are not a member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, join now, send one dollar to the National Secretary. For the duration of the tournament, address him, Harvey W. Clear, c/o Guy C. Wertz, 201 Delafield Ave. Waukesha Wisconsin. Only members of N. H. P. A. are eligible. Members will have free admission to the one million dollar, Centennial Exposition, a trip to the brewery and buffet lunch Monday evening and other entertainment as time will allow.

WHITE PANTS? WHY?

Heres Why. Those of us working in the preparation for the tournament at Milwaukee feel sure that it will be an exceptional one in many respects. The game is increasing in popularity, as never before in the past fifteen years. Due partly to continuous, national publicity. In some sections members are branching out into promotional fields that some years back was considered the particular job of the National Secretary. Notably Byron R. Stoney, Pres. of the Iowa State Assn. who has been writing to Universities and High Schools in his State, urging them to add horseshoe pitching to their sports program. With unusual results. These are straws in the wind that point to future success.

The 32 who start in the finals at Milwaukee should be the greatest collection of expert pitchers ever brought to gether. May even exceed the 30 who averaged 72.8 per cent ringers in that wonderful tournament in Des Moines in 1940. One part of our tournaments here tofore overlooked needed a change. The appearance of the players. The Committee decided that entrants must wear white pants. They are much cooler and they make a great impression on the spectators, (turn to page 4)

WORLD'S RECORDS

SINCE 1933

IN WORLD TOURNAMENTS

Most Qualifiers 1935, Moline Illinois. (78)
 Longest game 164 shoes Allen & Zimmerman 1940.
 Most ringers in one game 145 Allen & Zimmerman 1940
 Most double ringers, one game Allen, 1940 (65)
 Highest Avg. tournament ringer per cent (30 games) Zimmerman 86.1
 Highest ringer per cent one game 97.0 Isaia 1947
 Most consecutive double ringers 22. Wayne Nelson 1947
 Most consecutive four ringers (4 dead) 12 Ted Allen & Stan DeLeary 1947
 Most points scored in qualification 200 shoe pitch 544 Isaia 1947
 Ted Allen later on the same day scored 551 points in the 200 shoe pitch.

551 POINTS SHOULD BE OFFICIAL

Allen was informed before he started to pitch that, since he the defending champion was not required to enter the Qualifying Round his score could not share in the special prize list nor, in the event his score exceeded that made earlier by Isaia would it be declared a new world's record. After a mild protest that since the former world's record of 540 points had been erased by Fernando, he should be permitted a chance to raise it higher. (the old record was made by Allen in 1946) Allen agreed to the ruling.

NEW RULE OVERLOOKED

Allen should be credited with the present world's record in the 200 shoe pitch of 551 points. Heres why. In the 1940 tournament at Des Moines which was governed by the old N. H. P. A. constitution as revised in the 1939 convention, Article VI Section 2. reads in part, The defending champion shall not be compelled to pitch a qualifying round to enter the championship finals. In the 1940 tournament Allen was the defending champion and he did not qualify. He retained his title after a three way tie with Isaia and Zimmerman by defeating both in the pitch off. In the 1940 convention Robert Tompkin (later elected secretary) compiled a new constitution which was adopted by unanimous vote. In it, Article VI. Section 1. reads in part, " At any authorized tournament the champion shall again contest for the title on the basis and under the same conditions as the other participants." In short the champion must qualify.

Allen came to the 1941 tournament, the champion. He did not qualify. Tompkin decided that he should not. Notwithstanding the new rule. The constitution's first printing appeared in the April and May issues of The Horseshoe World 1941. Quite sometime later, Archie Gregson (then secretary) had the new constitution printed in circular form. Several were distributed in the 1947 convention, yet no one there remembered. Those at Murray who came to Des Moines in 1941, took it for granted that the action in 1941 was official.

(con't from page 3.) and, besides it presents the game on a level with other major sports. Horseshoe pitching to day has advanced far beyond what many sports writers call " Barnyard Golf " It will make a striking picture to see 32 experts in white lined up for the green light and it will make an indelible mark in the memory of many who watch from the stands. And here is another angle. Other States with Centennials or celebrations coming up in 1949 will have agents at Milwaukee looking for sports features.

L. E. TANNER G. A. ALTENDORF

JACK CLAVES HARRY DUNCAN

Within two years, four great men have passed on. Great in their love of their fellowmen and great in their devotion to horseshoe pitching. L. E. Tanner, First Vice President in 1933, was elected President at Moline in 1935. He was well versed in the rules and all phases of the game. When called upon to make a decision it was given without hesitation and, it was correct. He was succeeded in the presidency at the 1939 convention by Leroy Page. That was his last appearance in a national event. He returned to his home in Anador Ill. but continued to conduct the Illinois State tournament at Springfield until his death.

Jack Claves, of St. Louis was a promoter of many sports in Missouri but horseshoe pitching held first place. He had decidedly different ideas of court construction and the recording of cancellations scoring and was a stickler for the rules regardless. He was an excellent Master of ceremonies and was much sought after in his home town for that accomplishment. Elected 1st. Vice Pres. in both the 1939 and 1940 conventions. When President Leroy Page resigned in the 1941 half of his second term, Claves took over. Had he attended the 1941 convention he would have been elected President, he was the outstanding man for that office. The writer never had the pleasure of meeting these two, but when late in 1944 the deal to hold the 1947 tournament in Murray was definitely closed, there was the pleasant anticipation of watching their reactions to their first World Tournament since 1935.

Except for their physical appearance, Harry Duncan and G. A. Altendorf were similar. A story about one, would fit the other like a glove. Both were engaged in

the manufacture of horseshoe pitching equipment. Duncan was associated with Ted Allen in the production only, of the Ted Allen Pitching Shoe. Altendorf was Manager of the "Giant Grip Mfg. Co. of Oshkosh Wisc. manufacturers of fine forgings and pitching shoes. Both were one hundred per cent boosters, they were soft spoken, theirs were the personalities that, attracted Great numbers of friends. They were honored and respected by their business associates and good fellowship was ever present in them.

All four, combined in them selves, in the highest degree, Executive ability, true sportsmanship and many helpful acts that paid big dividends. A quotation from the Bible is a fitting and final tribute to them. "Well Done Thou Good and Faithful Servants."

(Foot note -) To build up our Association to National strength, to be of service to our fellow-Americans; to successfully promote the grand old game of Horseshoe Pitching in other countries of the World. It is only necessary to put into practise the fine principals that these four so staunchly supported and, in a small way we can contribute to World Peace (Pop Woodfield.)

ENTER THE QUALIFYING ROUND. HELP SET A NEW RECORD.
TOP 78 ENTRIES, IN THE 1935 TOURNAMENT,
MAKE IT 200

LATE NEWS FROM MILWAUKEE

Delegates of The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, to the --
World's Championship Horseshoe Pitching Tournament and Convention.

Dear Friends:

Thanks for your prompt replies. We will be happy to greet you personally, and hope to make your stay with us, one to be long remembered. There has been some changes since my last general letter. 32 will now qualify instead of 24, as previously announced. All contestants will be given white tee shirts, stamped with N. H. P. A. emblem and their names. You will bring with you white trousers, as the white tee shirt and white trousers will be the official uniform in the tournament.

If you arrive Sunday Aug. 15, come to the Knights Of Pythias hall 1925 National Ave. for final instructions. Business meeting 1.30 P.M. Banquet 6.30 P.M.

FORTY*EIGHT*ROOMS

Comfortable rooms have been secured at Carroll College, Waukesha (10 miles from Milwaukee) for \$1.50 per day. Each person occupying these rooms is required - to furnish their own, blankets, sheets and pillow cases. If interested in these accommodations, send reservations at once, with deposit.

Guy C. Wertz, Tournament Chairman

201 Delafield Ave. Waukesha, Wisc.

WHY DOESN'T MY NEWSPAPER REPORT WORLD TOURNAMENT RESULTS?

If your newspaper uses AP. Services it, will receive reports of the Milwaukee tournament. If it wasn't published last year. The Sports Editor decided in favor of another sport. You, all horseshoepitchers and fans in your section, each mail a post card to your favorite newspaper. (You may be able to get this request for post card writers on the air) Requesting that reports of the World's Championship Tournament at Milwaukee, Aug. 16, to 21 be published in the Sports Section. (This is an Olympic Year.) If the paper does print it. An officer of your association should write a -- letter of thanks to the paper. It May Work. It May Not. However, the newspaper will learn. the number interested in Horseshoe Pitching.

WHAT'S YOUR RINGER PER CENT?

If it is some where above 70 per cent, don't read this. If it is below 60% no matter how far below. This message is for you. I have watched many pitchers in the past eleven years. One observation stands out. The low percentage pitcher gets more pleasure from his game than does the expert. The reason is obvious. If you are a low percentage pitcher, you do get a kick out of pitching on good courts. The Milwaukee courts will equal the best. When you see the ringer experts warm up, You may be a little self-conscious about doing your stuff.

Why not observe some of the champions closely, during warm-up sessions. Select one using your turn. Watch his action, particularly, his wrist at the end of his - back swing and his release of the shoe. Next, plank down your entry fee and pitch your 200 shoes. Your score will be published only if you wish it. Allen, Zimmerman and Jones pitch the one & one quarter, Isais, the one & three quarters turns.

LAST MINUTE NEWS.

Russell Woodley, member of the Washington D. C. team of the Metro. Area Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. League is in a coma. Early Sun. July 25, he was on the Public Courts - a short distance from the White House - getting in some practise. The base ball diamonds and tennis courts were bare of players. For a hundred yards there was no one visible. Suddenly a voice behind him said, " Say son how about a game "

Woodley was so excited when he saw who was speaking, he fired one of his shoes over the tennis court fence - a 60 foot pitch - Finally getting back his balance, he said O.K. The dignified gentleman went to the south peg and they tossed 'em back and forth for a while. When he left, Woodley watched a certain peculiarity in his stride and muttered " What do you know, ' President Truman ' " A check up at the White House revealed, that the President was out of the city that Sunday.

Presidents do get away from their body-guards, and there was lots of that Sunday left after 9.00; A.M. He has been by the courts several times but never alone before. Woodley says, " Maybe he didn't want it known he was out." so Woodley aint talking. He added, he could be mistaken.

Ralph and Marie Kampschroeder of Lawrence Kans. stopped by 4002 Oliver St. on a tour of the Eastern States. They will turn westward in Maine and arrive in Milwaukee in time for the tournament. Francis McDaniel - Pop's son-in-law set up temporary lights so Ralph could pitch with Lee Fleshman, for many years Md. State champ - The court is in the side yard of McDaniel's home where he is getting in shape for the Prince Geo. County tournament to be staged in Magruder Park Hyattsville, Sept. 9, 10, 11 and 12. Everett Clift, Tournament Mgr. will drive to Milwaukee with Lee Fleshman Dale Carson - former Pa. State Champ - and one other as passengers. Pop will join them on the return trip. The Kampschroeders showed movies of the tournaments at Murray and the Master's at Des Moines held there June last. They will repeat at Milwaukee, probably at the banquet. They are really good.

National Secretary, Harvey Clear and Mrs. are visiting her son Jackson Lightfoot here in Hyattsville. He reports that the idea of the combined N.H.P.A., State and Club membership card is proving popular. Several new charters issued. A final check up will show the largest membership in 15 years. An all time secretary, is essential to a strong National. We have one at last. There is too much work for a part time job. Our hats off, to those unselfish, handicapped scribes of the past. They layed the ground-work that will lead to our future success. An extra tip to Archie Gregson. He it was who nominated Mr. Clear at Murray. Harvey and Mrs. will leave for Milwaukee Aug. 9. *** Archie, Katherine, Jimmy and Donald Gregson cannot come to the tournament. Two years is too long a time apart from such friends and valued members of our National Assn. Jimmy a Teen-ager, pitching 40 feet had 73 ringers in 100 shoes. Donald, 6, has mastered the open shoe at 7 feet. We will miss You All. *** Mell Zuber of Bremerton Wash. writes, " Mrs. Sarah Byers, champ of Oregon is the best woman pitcher he has seen. " *** Byron (Jake) Jaskulek, 5, Terraco View Ave. New York, 63, N. Y. will publish a paper, reporting horseshoe pitching news, titled, " The Horseshoe Pitcher. First issue out, Sept. 15. \$1.25 per year as reported to us by the Kampschroeders. We are sure it will be a popular venture and, it will come out on time, and in printed form. Jake is well qualified for the editorial job. It will be unique and good reading. Here's success to the Horseshoe Pitcher. *** State Tournaments, Wisconsin Aug. 6, 7 and 8. Milwaukee. Kansas, Sept. 5, and 6 at Lawrence. New Jersey Grange, Sept. 29. (Grange members only) Trenton State Fair. Ohio, Sept. 4, 5 and 6, Canton. New Jersey, Union Co. Open, Aug. 15. rain date Aug. 22 Warinanco Park, Elizabeth. State Tournament, Sept. 12. *** Albert Hudson of R.I. State Assn. has a promise from Brown Varsity to build 8 courts soon. He wants results at Milwaukee. Will get it in R.I. papers. *** Sid Harris', recent marriage will prevent him coming to Milwaukee. He didn't have time for practise, of course we know how it is Sid. We will miss you and that glove and those ringers. Why not watch this one out? Tommy Brownell may be missing. A third Brownell is expected ere long. Promising pitchers like Tommy should be sponsored. ** Alvin Dahlone says, what N. H. P. A. needs most is, more members of the Country Club type. Next best idea is a Life Membership. Send \$25.00 to Sec. Clear.

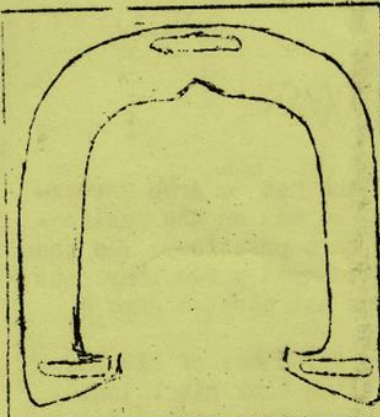
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The Horseshoe News, Harry T. Woodfield, 4002 Oliver St. Hyattsville Md.

Enclosed is One Dollar for one years subscription to Horseshoe News

Name. (please print)..... State.....

Street..... City.....



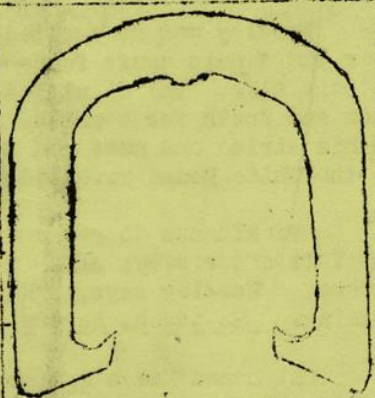
GORDON

Using the Gordon shoe, Fernando Isais won the world's title in 1947 with only one loss in 35 games. High ringer per cent in one game of 97.0 and 544 points in the 200 shoe pitch both new world records. Wayne Nelson pitching the Gordon - topped the old world's record of 18 doubles in a row with 22 ringers without a miss. Gordons come in Hard, Soft and Soft Special tempers. The 1948 model is forged in Round or Square toes. Write for prices.
Queen City Forging Co. Station C. Cincinnati 26. Ohio.

OHIO

More World's Championships won with Ohio Shoe than all other makes combined. We are the originators of the drop forged pitching shoe. Now in its 26th. year of production.

The OHIO SHOE is produced in four tempers. Hard Medium, Soft and Dead Soft. Write for prices.
The Ohio Horseshoe Co. Station 3. Columbus Ohio.



ALLEN

Ted Allen, World's titlist, from 1933 through 1940 and in 1946, with Stan DeLeary, set a new world's record at Murray Utah Aug. 1947 when both together put on 12 Four Deads (consecutive doubles) Ted scored 551 points in the 200 shoe pitch. The side notches exclusive in the Allen Shoe, are guides to your best grip. In Hard, Medium, Soft and Dead Soft. Write for prices.
Ted Allen Horseshoe Co. 2064 So. Lincoln St. Denver Colo.

CHAMPION

The new 1948 model Champion, is the result of over 80 years experience in drop forgings of first quality. Casey Jones, Waukesha Wisc. will pitch the CHAMPION in The World's tournament at Milwaukee, Aug. 16, to 21. 1948. He was runner up in both 1946 and 1947 World's Championships. Heat treated, hammer forged, None better than the Champion Can Be made. Write for nearest dealer. Giant Grip Mfg. Co. Oshkosh Wisconsin.



SUPER RINGER

The Diamond Calk Super Ringer is the finest pitching shoe ever made. Cadum and Copper plated, a beautiful shoe with accurate balance. Heat treated and drop forged of the best quality of steel. Designed to catch stake with least possible of bouncing or sliding off. Write for prices.
Diamond Calk Horseshoe Co, Duluth Minnesota.

An N.H.P.A. Official stamp is on cartons of each pair of shoes shown on this page. Buy only in N.H.P.A. stamped cartons.

