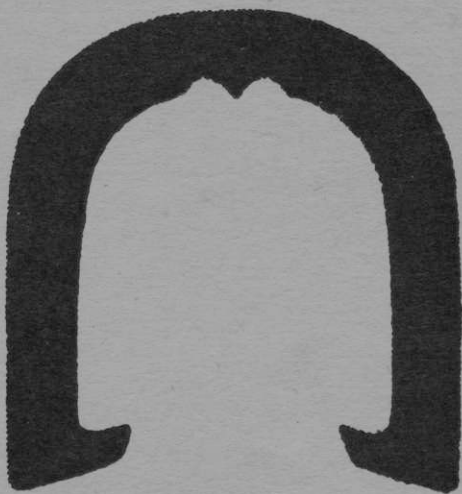


THE HORSESHOE PITCHER



APRIL, 1950

Vol. 2

No. 8

EDITORIAL

As per usual, I expect to attend the Convention and World Championship games in Murray, Utah, this coming August. I know that many of you readers and horseshoe fans will be unable to attend, for one reason or another. That means that you probably will not know the results of the games until long after they are over. This has happened year after year due to the fact that most sports editors of our daily newspapers do not think there is enough interest in our game to warrant much publicity.

To overcome this situation I suggest that all you subscribers who would be interested in getting the results as soon as possible, send me a self addressed postal card and as soon as the games are over, I will send you the results. Fair enough?

* * *

NOTICE

In the recent circulars that I have sent out and the Ad that appeared in the March issue of The Horseshoe Pitcher giving the prize list for the 1950 National Tournament at Murray, Utah, you will note that I have the heading SUGGESTED PRIZE LIST. What I would like, is a letter or post card from as many of you as possible, with your comment on this prize list; if you think it fair or any suggested changes, so that we may have the opinion of the horseshoe fraternity and will try and abide by the majority as to how this should be set up. Thanking you in advance for your opinion and cooperation.

Your National Secretary,

Harvey W. Clear

* * *

GOVERNMENT

(Democracy versus Dictatorship)

By Roy W. Smith, Author of "Science at the Stake" and Secy.-Treas. of So. Calif. H. P. A.

In the January issue of this publication, I commented on the new Constitution, that we formulated at Murray. I stated how, and why, we allotted the specified number of delegates, to prevent dictatorship, by two or three states. I used Senators, in our national government to illustrate my point. Later on in my article, I said, "If, and when I am proved wrong, I will admit it before God, and everybody. And I will disagree with others the same way."

Johnny Sebek, the Chief Dissenter at the 1949 Convention, challenged my statements. He said that he was going to prove me wrong, but did not think that I would keep my word and admit it. Johnny does not write for this magazine, so I replied to him by personal letter.

This is a free country, and Johnny has a perfect right to disagree with me. Because other readers may be wondering about my January article, I will quote that part of Johnny's letter relative to the allotment of delegates, and majority rule. Then, I shall quote my reply to him.

Before I do this, however, I want to say that poor Johnny has been laboring under a terrible handicap during all these months, since the 1949 Convention. He complained long and loudly about "losing his seat" in the Committee, there at Murray. With the rest of him in Ohio, and his "seat" in Utah, the strain on his suspenders must be terrific! I am sure that if he would write, and enclose the freight charges, to the boys there in Murray, that they would ship his seat to him in a refrigerator car. They have no use for it, I am sure. Now here is the part of Johnny's letter on (of ALL things) democratic government:

"In your section on the matter of majority rule, you declare yourself before all that you are a firm believer in democracy, which is rule by majority. You have proven to anyone that WANTED to see at Murray, that you believe in MINORITY rule. You voted for limitation of delegates and that is sufficient to condemn you. If anyone with one gram of intelligence reads your paragraph on this, they can immediately spot your inconsistency. Whenever you vote against centralization by a MAJORITY of members, you are voting FOR a rule by MINORITY. No amount of argument, no amount of wishful thinking can overcome this simple bit of fact: that if two or three states have MORE members than the remaining states in the NHPA, these states have the MAJORITY . . . (Note the big "if" in front of "two or three states").

You use the example of the make-up of the Senate to bolster your position. You did not dare to use the House of Representatives as an example. The House is elected on the basis of DIRECT proportion of the population. This is the MAJORITY group of our legislative body. The Senate is the minority group. Our system is a government by a majority with checks and balances available to the minority. The Senate is the check and balance unit. The President of the U. S. is the final check and balance office. However, the President is bound to sign all legislation if it passes both the House and Senate. He usually does, but should he veto it, then his veto can be nullified by action of the legislative bodies. And they usually do. One other thing, Roy, the Senate usually votes in concurrence with the House. Not always, but most of the time.

Therefore, in light of this, it can be stated without contradiction that the House of Representatives is the MAJORITY governing body of the United States. The Senate is the MINORITY body. Roy, you use the Senate (MINORITY body) as your example to bolster the theory of majority rule." (End of quote).

Johnny then proceeded to give me a lecture on "progressive" and "irregular" ratio; also various other things that happened, or were supposed to have happened at Murray. Lack of space prevents me

quoting all of his letter, so, I will confine my reply to the main part of his, which has just been quoted. I don't claim to be an authority on government. But I don't believe that Johnny is either. Here is my reply:

"Your letter states that because I voted for limitation of delegates, in our new Constitution, I am for minority rule. You unintelligently overlook the fact that, at Murray, YOU insisted again and again, that you, and the group of pitchers, you claimed you represented, be allowed to FORCE on all NHPA pitchers, everywhere in the U. S. the use of the Count-all system ONLY—that no NHPA clubs, chartered groups, or individual members, be allowed the use of the "cancellation" system, any longer. If anyone ever insisted on MINORITY rule, you did.

You wrote angrily, half-hysterically, in criticism of my being against centralization of power in a state that happened to have more members than any other state—yet, at Murray, you were angrily, belligerently, and undyingly, demanding that the chartered group to which YOU belong, be permitted to COMPEL all the other NHPA members in every other state in the Union, to use the scoring system, YOU wanted used. In other words, you were tooth-and-toenail in favor of YOUR association RULING all the other chartered associations in all the other states. You were for MINORITY rule—absolute and inflexible—by YOUR ONE GROUP. "There can be no compromise with those who want to use cancellation; or with those who want to make the scoring rule, so that local clubs and their members can use either system, they wish," was your favorite statement—made again and again. It was against such dictatorialism as YOU exhibited, that we committeemen had to protect the NHPA members.

You used the National House of Representatives, in your weak attempt to prove that our National Congress is governed by majority rule. Thereby, you disclosed that you do not know that the number of Representatives that are elected by all of the 48 states, every two years, are LIMITED, absolutely, by law, TO A TOTAL OF 435. NOT A SINGLE MEMBER MORE, CAN BE ELECTED. Each ten years, when a new national census is taken, to ascertain our country's new-population total, a reapportionment is made, of the number of Representatives from each state, by assigning more representatives to the states that have gained sufficiently in population, to be entitled to more Representatives; and by taking from those states which have lost sufficiently in population, to warrant their being cut down on Representatives, a number of Representatives that are proportionate to that state's loss in population. Years ago, each state was entitled to, at first, a Representative for each 30,000 inhabitants; then on up, till it was ONE Representative, for each 300,000 inhabitants, it possessed.

As our country's population grew, the number of required state-citizens was moved up to about 325,000 of population required, for each Representative. As national population continued to increase, the number of state-citizens required, was moved up to 340,000 to 350,000. After

this just-ahead census is completed, the number will have to be moved ON UP considerably. A state like California, with a great gain in population, will be allotted somewhere from 7 to 9 more Representatives than the 23 it now has. California's new population will exceed 11,000,000. But other states which have lost, proportionately, in the new reapportionment figures, which have not yet been set, and will not be until after the census is completed, will have to GIVE UP some of their Representatives. Congress is certain not to vote any increase of Representatives, for this CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT PASSING A SPECIAL LAW.

My statement, about the Senate, was 100% RIGHT—for the Senate possesses MUCH MORE POWER, IN PROPORTION TO ITS MEMBERS—96—as aligned against the House of Representatives' members—435—than the House does. There is only ONE TYPE of new law, that the law already in the national statutes books, requires to be ORIGINATED in the House—and that is, any new law about MONETARY MATTERS—such as increased taxes, increased appropriations for any and all purposes, etc. Further, the number of Senators from each state, is, exactly as I stated in my January article. TWO FROM EACH STATE — regardless of the fact that several states, such as Nevada, Arizona and Wyoming, have only about ONE TENTH as many inhabitants as New York, California, and others.

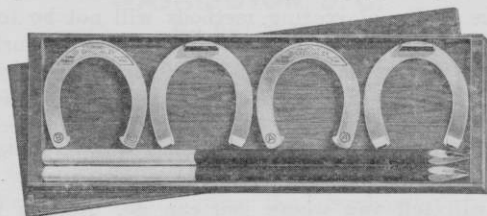
This holding down to TWO, the number of Senators from each state, is a PERFECT ILLUSTRATION of what was NECESSARY for us to do, at Murray, when our committee re-wrote the Constitution and By-laws—for, if it wasn't for our National Senate, our National House of Representatives, would, quite often, pass legislation that would greatly harm our country—just as YOU, Johnny, tried to FORCE into the new laws, at Murray. A new rule that would have greatly harmed NHPA and ALL its members." (End of quote).

The delegates are the Representatives of the various state groups. We had no "Senators" to provide the necessary checks and balances of power. Consequently, WE HAD TO TAKE THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD. Representatives without limit, without a Senate to provide the necessary "checks and balances of power" IS NOT democratic. IT IS DICTATORSHIP. You spouted off about "progressive," "direct," and "irregular" ratio. Progressive ratio is all right, as far as it goes. Then it must become a FIXED ratio, or it ceases to be a ratio, in any sense of the word. A fixed ratio means "a firm, stable, established ratio." There is also an ALTERNATE ratio. And a PRIME ratio, which means "the ratio existing between two variables while that ratio is constantly receding from unity." You have been "receding from unity" a long time Mr. Sebek! Now look up the meaning of ULTIMATE ratio!

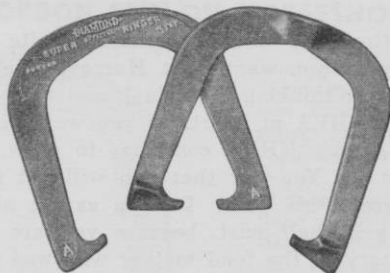
"Live and let live" is my motto. I have no quarrel with the Total-point method of scoring. It has its merits. Our sport is big enough to embrace both methods. We have made the choice OPTIONAL for



OFFICIAL
PITCHING HORSESHOES



Packed in handsome wooden boxes, Diamond Pitching Horseshoe outfits make excellent counter or window displays. Write for information on our complete line of pitching shoes and accessories.



Diamond Super Ringer sets are the finest pitching horseshoes ever made. Drop forged and perfectly balanced. Dead-falling qualities unexcelled. Will not chip or break.

DIAMOND CALK
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• DULUTH, MINNESOTA

players. YOU HAVE NOT. Yet, you bray about democracy. "I have pitched horseshoes for nigh on to 20 years, and statistics show that players prefer cancellation 5 to 1." Johnny Kovacs was fair-minded enough to come out and admit this, in the January issue.

Mr. Sebek, you are circulating letters all over the country, in a frantic attempt to build up your membership. You are trying to tear down our organization, to accomplish this. You promise your prospective victims everything under the sun, in your efforts to delude them. "A membership far beyond their wildest dreams. Untold wealth (\$17.00 memberships). Utopia for the common pitcher! A panacea for all the ills of the game! Discarding of ALL promotional ideas of the past." And all such rot. You add that you want "loyal men." "A dual membership or a free choice of scoring methods will not be tolerated." In view of the way you have tried to undermine NHPA during the past several years, you should place extra-heavy stress on "loyalty." Your phony propaganda is "so unsound, so unfirm, so fully cracked, so full of flaw" that it affects me like a double-size Serutan cocktail. (I am over 35, you know). Now try this on your T-zone: when YOU, or anyone else tries to tell me that I HAVE to use YOUR pet scoring-method only I will tell you where you can go. And in no uncertain terms. Don't take your horseshoes along. They will melt before you get there. I can take criticism, and I can dish it out; but I simply detest anyone who is so narrow-minded, so selfish, and puffed up with self-importance, that they try to play God with one of the finest games on earth.

You keep repeating that "you were under definite instructions from your group to get what you wanted, at Murray, or else." This proves that you are not a free-thinking individual, and that you NEVER had the true interests of NHPA at heart. If you were "instructed" to rob a bank would you do it? NHPA continues to grow, despite all your puny efforts against it. You say that you will not attend the \$5,000 tournament, at Murray, this year. Do you expect all traffic to stop, and the flags to fly at half-mast, because you are not there? You remind me of the story of the fond mother who was watching her son march down the street, with a company of soldiers. She turned to a neighbor and proudly exclaimed, "Just look at that! ALL of them are out of step, except my Johnny!"

I do not think that you have proved me wrong "before God and everybody." But IF you have, my statement still stands. I feel that we committeemen acted in a fair and democratic manner, at Murray. We legislated to PREVENT dictatorship. When you "get your seat back" from Murray, I hope it will enable you to begin thinking along more constructive, and intelligent lines. But I doubt if it will. We still differ as widely as ever. However, despite this, I wish you an enjoyable pitching season. So Long, Dear!

* * *

ARIZONA

By Mrs. Pat Deleary

We have a new city that has formed a horseshoe club in Arizona; it is Mesa. The officers are John Crandall, President; C. L. Carson, Vice President; W. A. Stamm, Secretary-Treasurer. They held a sanctioned tournament from Feb. 18th through the 26th which they called the Mesa City Open and on March 4th they had a doubles tournament for Winter visitors. The winner and runner-up of the Open, in class A were W. A. Stamm and W. R. Honneywell. Class B it was V. F. Klema and H. Starks.

In the Winter Visitors Doubles C. L. Carson from Kansas and J. H. Summers of Colorado, were first with F. Dykes of Phoenix and W. A. Stamm of Mesa and Indiana trailing right after.

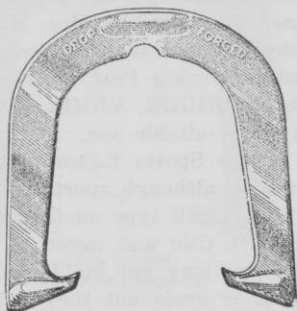
* * *

WASHINGTON, D. C.

By Bill Nellis

I have a sure cure for the blues here in regard to horseshoes. This is guaranteed to boost the NHPA. With the manufacturers' consent the Association card can be added to the shoes when they are sold. This will eliminate the NHPA of having to have agents have pitchers join the association. The manufacturer could rebate to the Association the \$1.00 representing the membership in the National Association, or if a fellow bought more than one pair of shoes he could either contribute the other \$1.00 to the Association's sustaining fund or else try to sell a membership to another who is not now a member.

GORDON SPIN-ON HORSESHOES



The New 1950 Gordon "Spin-On" Horseshoe is now available in all three tempers. The Gordon "Spin-On" horseshoes have led the field of horseshoes in sales again in 1949 of those using the 5¢ Association Stamp, because it is the best balanced shoe made. Write for prices. Buy the shoe that won the National Tournament in 1949.

THE GORDON HORSESHOE COMPANY

c/o THE QUEEN CITY FORGING CO.

Station C

Cincinnati 26, Ohio

I believe that most pitchers who are seriously interested in this game will not mind paying an extra dollar or two in order to boost interest in the game. We all know that the majority of shoes sold are not official but are of the picnic type. I believe we could interest these manufacturers of these unofficial shoes into having the National Association card put into these shoes. This does not mean a man is entitled to pitch that shoe in a sanctioned tournament. It would just make him a member of the Association. In order to pitch in a tournament a pitcher using the unofficial shoe would have to purchase a pair of the regulation type such as the ones now used by the leading pitchers in the association.

I wish the membership would vote on this idea of mine before time for printing of the new membership cards.

Received the last issue of the Horseshoe Pitcher and noticed an article in it by "Pop" Woodfield wherein he mentioned that Mrs. Lindquist wrote of our visit to Morgantown. My wife and I were impressed by the indoor court that Arner and Frank Murphy have installed and I certainly enjoyed the opportunity of pitching shoes on it. I believe other pitchers who live nearby would like the court and Arner Lindquist and Frank Murphy sure could give them a run for their money when it comes to pitching those shoes. I hope that we may have the opportunity of meeting them again this summer and if Maryland or the District of Columbia decides on holding an open tournament I hope they can be here.

* * *

POP-OFFS

By "Pop" Woodfield

If JAKE can JOT, and ROY can Ramble surely I can pop-off excess steam. The first burst is a pleasant one. The poem by Mrs. Marion E. Adams in March issue of The Horseshoe Pitcher is a classic. To my mind, it is worth space in The Saturday Evening Post. A short title would dress it up for publication such as "RIGOR, VIGOR FIGGER." No doubt Mrs. Adams could think of a more suitable one.

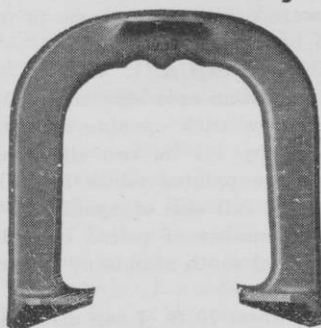
Soon I will send some brief copy to the Sports Editor of the Sat. Eve. Post, with a faint hope he may use it, although sports articles in the Post are rare. Now Mrs. Adams, if you will type another copy on your own personal stationery with a short title and agree to let me submit it to the Post along with mine, you may get in. Include your address so, if it is accepted and a check is made out they will know where to mail it. I would like permission to use it on my bulletin board that is shown at out of town events that I attend.

I have an idea that Ray Adams of Auburn, Maine, was the first man to read your poem. As long as 30 feet for women remains in playing rules of NHPA, the Women's Championships will have to be pitched at that distance. I have a leaning toward the greater distance, more so since I have watched with what ease Ruth Allen makes the 40 ft. pitch. Ruth is a light weight. Another is Pat DeLeary of Arizona who made her first appearance in a World Tournament at Murray in

1947 with a smooth easy 40 ft. pitch that she acquired because she pitched constantly with her husband Stan. who was fifth in the finals at Murray last year. Pat of a necessity changed to 30 ft. and entered both the 1948 and 49 women's tournaments.

I believe yardage on the golf course is slightly less than for men. Tennis, Bowling, Soft Ball, Track and Swimming are practically the same for men and women, also Pro. WRASSLING. You ladies who favor the 40 ft. pitch; there is one sure way to learn which distance is the post popular. Build up a strong membership in NHPA and then take a referendum vote on it. GET ACQUAINTED WITH EACH OTHER. Write to each other. All of you subscribe to The Horseshoe Pitcher and have a women's section in that fine publication. Remember Mrs. Marie Kampschroeder, 2nd Vice President of NHPA, wants to get in touch with the women pitchers of the U. S. or any other country. Her address is 656 W. 23rd St., Lawrence, Kansas. WRITE TO HER. You'll be glad you did.

Pitch Ohio Horseshoes and Increase Your Ringer Percentage



1950 MODEL
Made in 4 tempers

"CASEY" JONES champion horseshoe pitcher and holder of two great world's records (87½% ringers and 13 games of 90% and over in the Milwaukee National tournament), says, "I changed to OHIO shoes in 1948 and increased my ringer average over 5%. OHIO shoes are well balanced and stay on the stake. I recommend them to beginners and all players who want to improve their game."

Price \$3.50 per pair postpaid. Write for quantity prices in lots of 4 or more pairs.

(We use the 5c association stamps)

OHIO HORSESHOE COMPANY

(Makers of quality pitching shoes for 29 years.)

Station F

Columbus, Ohio

D. C. & MARYLAND

By Harry T. Woodfield

The tournament program for this section is substantially as follows:
MARYLAND:

Maryland State—for NHPA members.

Maryland State—for Teen-Agers.

Prince Georges Co.—NHPA.

Prince Georges Co.—Teen-Agers.

AAU Seniors and Juniors, combined Maryland and D. C.

Maryland-D. C. Open.

Prince Georges County League.

D. C., Va., Md. League—NHPA.

For the past month I have spent considerable time perfecting a score board for use on each court in our annual World Championships. For years it has been the opinion of all that have attended the yearly events that something must be done to keep the spectators informed of the progress of the scores of both pitchers in each game on all courts.

For the first time since 1940 and probably for the first time in the history of NHPA, score boards for each court were used at Milwaukee. It was not possible to operate them in the center of the courts so they could be seen equally as well from both south and north stands.

I sent mimeograph copies of my idea of a center court board to all members of the Executive council and some few men who use much of their time for the benefit of NHPA. The plans gave a general idea of the set but several changes since plans were printed have come to mind that are a decided improvement.

SCORE BOARD IS ONE FOOT SQUARE

A piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 5-layer ply-wood has four openings size $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. horizontal by 4 in. vertical. Above and below each opening are metal grooves in which metal squares size 4 in. by $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. can slide easily in or out as scores are changed. These are painted white and black figures from 0 to 9 are painted on them the full size of openings. The same figure on both sides, thus the exact number of points earned by each pitcher can be seen from both north and south stands at the same time.

The scoring figures can be seen clearly from 70 ft. I can distinguish them at 100 ft. Slots are cut in the top of the board at both sides to hold metal squares with player's numbers in black also on both sides.

HOW TO READ SCORES

The score boards will be attached to wood standards $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch and adjustable to a height to suit scorer by several holes in standards secured to standards by thumb bolts. Bottom of standards can be set in nail kegs filled with sand and will be placed in exact center of courts.

As the board is viewed from north stand (at Murray) looking at the left half, the square in the slot on top is No. 1 designates player No. 1 Fernando Isais, present World Champ. Directly below this is the

figure 4 and the opening under 4 is the figure 9. Fernando has scored 49 points. The south stands will see the figures exactly the same as the north stands only they will appear on the right half of the board. An oblong box approximately 5 in. by 12 in. will hold all scoring squares. Each figure stored with a like figure in one of ten compartments.

Those desiring a copy of original plans can get one by sending me a self addressed 3 cent stamped envelope.

* * *

MINNESOTA

By Andy Moehn

Goody, Goody, Mr. Elkins. You surely opened up a new keg, something I have toyed with for some time, but lacked the nerve to bring to the front.

The present membership dues places the National Horseshoe Pitching Association as something too cheap to buy. However, we might over do it by going to \$5.00 in one leap. I set my sights on \$3.00 dues a year, "Combination Card" of course. Two dollars for the National and one dollar for the State Association. This would give both funds to work with. For the National, \$1.00 for the General Fund, 50 cents for Publicity and Promotion, or, divided into 25% for Publicity and 25% to be left in the Treasury with the Stamp Tax. The National has had fair sailing so far, but, will it always be that way?

Before we get too serious about raising the dues, let's take an inventory of our organization and see to what extent we can go as to the amount it can stand and be saleable on the open market. What is behind our stock to warrant the raise? What is the National's assets? It seems to me that the only stock in trade we have to offer would be a more explicit and concrete Constitution, setting forth a unified aim as a National Organization. Also, a more efficient standard of rules and regulations for our Branch Managers (The State's Horseshoe Pitchers Officers). That is the one poor thing in our organization. It seems as if little though has been given as to how they travel, with or against, just as long as they furnished a few members each year.

Membership: I wonder if that is not our biggest asset. Upon the membership hangs the organization's future, and, if we stop to analyze the situation, we MUST concentrate upon continually enlarging, and the writer sees no other medium but to rely on the officers of the States Horseshoe Pitcher Associations to whom the National has granted State Charters. But, is there any specific instructions or rules for them to follow and still be within the National's Constitution? Such being the case, then, is it not up to the National Association to include in their next revival of the Constitution such proper method that will bring the desired results? When such provision is agreed upon by the National Association in a regularly constituted assembly, no one shall have any legal right to advise or propose any changes affecting such constitution until the year is up, and the same has been revised.

Did it ever occur to you that YOU have invested in your National Officers and your Delegates the power to provide YOU with the rules and regulations that can only be done at a regular Constitutional Assembly at an annual National Assembly, and by virtue of power invested in the President under the Roberts Rules of Order, to name a Constitutional Committee to draw up such changes and present them to the Assembly for approval, rejection or modification?

I wonder how many of us have ever thought of the N.H.P. Association as a two-part association. Nevertheless, such is the case, the same as any other stockholders organization. First: Organization and membership. We can no more do business without members than any cooperative association. Second: Showmanship, and there is where the top pitchers come in. In order to find and maintain this Showmanship and hold the interest of the fans, we must continually keep building our organization. Our present stock of showmen is tops, but sooner or later they will drop out and the association must have others to take their places. Baseball must have the sluggers; Football the fleet-footers and big bruisers to draw the crowds. So, we need the high percent pitchers. After we have agreed upon the best methods to get the desired results, why not go to work and do some real organizing in 1951. Then it will be up to the State officers to portion their respective States into districts and place a commissioner or captain over each district to organize local clubs under the rules and regulations of National and State H.S.P. Association, but not particularly bind them to any set rules for their local playing as time and location play an important part there. However, the State Constitution should govern the playing rules for Intra-District and Intra-State play.

We should all realize that there never will be any great advances in membership by one big local trying to grab up pitchers from all over the state for their very own. Nor will there be any advances in membership for the State and National by sending out 4-6 or 10 of the best pitchers to show off. On the contrary, sending 6-8 or 10 of the 60%ers to pitch against a local aggregation with an average of 30% will do more harm than good, as it is apt to make them disgusted and ashamed of their ability to pitch horeshoes. It takes salesmanship to get a local started. You must bring the local Recreation Department and the potential players to see the advantages of organizing. You must sell the Recreation Department on the idea of furnishing regulation courts for them to pitch on. As a result of this double duty, the organizer's job is usually a difficult one. There is where the raise of dues will fit in, as he should not be expected to work on his own time, or at least get his expenses paid for so doing.

Again I call attention to the need for a closer observance of all chartered State H.S.P.A. of their respective State Constitutions, in

order to really see and know what the subordinates are working on. If they are on the up and up with the National's rules and regulations, there would be nothing to fear. On the other hand, if discrepancies and irregular rules are found, the National Constitution should set forth specific rules for the officers of the H.S.P.A. Also set the punishment for infractions of the National's laws covering all chartered State H.S.P. Associations, which, in any event, should not be less than the loss of charter and suspension from holding office or membership in the State or National Association for 2 to 5 years. Nor shall such State Association be allowed to hold annual State Tournaments for the same period of time. Without specific rules set forth in our Constitution, the officers are unable to function properly. By calling in a copy of each State Association's charter, a chance would be had to pick out the best parts and create a uniform State Association constitution. As it stands today, there are no two alike. How then can we expect top results?

What is the actual opportunity facing us at the present for building for the future without first building a Consitution setting forth what the Association means and stands for, and granting the officers powers to act in any capacity in conformity with the laws and in the best interests of the Association. Then, and then alone, can we really expect the good will of the public to fall for a large raise of dues, but we can work to that end by making the proper improvements in what we now have. I honestly believe it is worth the try.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America, with its many State Associates (State H.S.P. Associations) should have top billing. Think it over!

* * *

JAKE'S JOTTINGS

To the long list of those authors whose works are considered as CLASSICS, must be added the name of Ken Huber when it comes to horseshoes. He has just completed a mimeographed book of eighty-three pages containing the records of the past fifteen years of every player and team in the St. Paul Municipal H.P.A. The size of the pages are 8½ by 11. With this book, he sent me the following letter:

"In order to bring the interest of Horseshoe up, I spent months assembling the data, cut the stencils and run them off on my lettergraph. I then bound and stapled the books. My good friend Mr. Youngen, owner of the Hoppe Printing Co. cut the edges of my books for me to give it that finished appearance.

"I put an ad in for you also (the sixth page from the back of the book) and possibly some one will take a hint and subscribe. Let's hope so anyway.

"To me, horseshoe pitching has a great future; but until all the players sign up with the National Association we are not going to get too far. The players should also take 'The Horseshoe Pitcher' because of the interesting articles from all over. Another bad feature which

can be and should be adjusted are the squabbles over the Rules. I do not claim to know too much about the workings of the National, Jake, so if I go off at a tangent, please tell me. Maybe it's just growing pains we are having.

"Our league starts May 8th and from the looks of it now we are going to have from 34 to 36 teams this year. So far we have contacted 23 new people who are interested so we should have at least 175 players in our Association.

"I am selling this book for 75 cents each to the players. Well, I'll close for now. During the coming season I'll send you our Shoe Tossers News. I'm going to try and have two pages this year. The second page to consist of interesting highlights during the week.

"Sincerely,

"KEN HUBER."

* * *

A card from George A. Elder of Casa Grande, Ariz., says "we are enjoying your magazine to the fullest. Hope you keep it going forever." Thanks, George, but I doubt very much that I will live that long!

* * *

In looking over the suggested prize list, I think the ladies should get a better break! Why not chop off twenty-five dollars from the men's second and third prizes and give it to the girls? I'd say the top lady \$75 and add another five dollars to each of the other seven prizes. How about, it gals?

* * *

When you answer any of the ads in this magazine, don't forget to tell them where you saw it.

* * *

On Sunday, April 2nd, the horseshoe club in Phoenix held a tournament. Prizes were donated by The O. S. Stapley Co. of their City. They also donated 1000 score sheets with their name and address on them. I got the order for these. Who's next?

* * *

Get one of your horseshoe playing friends to subscribe to this magazine. You'll do us a favor.

* * *

If you have changed your address, let me know what it is because the Post Office Department does not forward this class of mail.

* * *

Attention! Members of the Empire State Branch of the NHPA. It is now 1950 and that means that it is now in order to pay your dues. Just send a buck to your Secretary - Treasurer, Byron Jaskulek (Jake).

* * *

Have a few back numbers to October if any of you fellows want to subscribe at \$1.50. Those starting with the January number, or later numbers, will be at the new rate of \$2.00.

* * *

COMING EVENTS

May 3 to 12 — Baltimore, Md.—Sportshow by Glen Martin Airplane Manufacturers.

May 19—New York, N. Y.—Dance of Empire State Branch, NHPA.

May 28 — New York, N. Y.—Metropolitan H.P.A. season opener.

May 30 — New York, N. Y.—Empire State (NHPA) Open Tournament in Central Park.

July 29 — Wildwood, N. J.—Invitation Tournament.

Aug. 7 to 12 — Murray, Utah—World's Championship.

Sept. 2-3-4 — New York, N. Y.—New York State Championship.

EDITOR'S NOTE: What have you got scheduled for this season?

* * *

If you know anyone who would like a sample copy of this magazine, just send me his name and address.

* * *

Mr. & Mrs. George A. Bowser announce the marriage of their daughter, Irene Louise, to Alvin C. Gandy, Thursday, the 16th of March, 1950, 2 o'clock in the afternoon, First Methodist Church, Topeka, Kansas. (May all your troubles be little "ringers".)

* * *

That affair the Empire State Branch of the NHPA which we are holding on May 19th is all set. The price of the tickets will be one dollar per person. There will be a raffle held for a fifty dollar bond. This will cost ten cents per ticket. How many of these and regular tickets can you use? Drop me a line. Jake.

* * *

LOUIS ZIEGLER

A great horseshoe sportsman, retired from the game to meet his Maker. Louis Ziegler, member of the Woodlawn Horseshoe Club, and good friend of all the horseshoe pitchers throughout New York State and neighboring states as well. Mr. Ziegler was past President of our Club, as he was of the N. Y. State H.P.A. and the Knickerbocker H.P.A. He served his club for fifteen years as horseshoe manager. Lou, as he was known on the courts by all the players, had at one time, one of the strongest horseshoe teams in N. Y. State and which he was proud of. Some of the players on this team have since passed to the Great Beyond but lots of us old-timers can still remember them. Lou promoted horseshoes wherever and whenever the opportunity arose. He became Manager Emeritus and Life Member of our Club before he went into retirement. As yet he has not been replaced on the field as manager. He was the man who introduced rubber horseshoes for the kiddies. R. I. P.

* * *

THE PERFECT SCORE SHEET

Now is the time to stock up on your club supplies. Don't wait until the last minute. You can have the name, city and state of your club, printed on each sheet. Write for sample.

**The price is \$7.50 per 1,000, in pads.
Cash with order. Your Editor.**

* * *

"SCIENCE AT THE STAKE"

This 66 page book is a complete analysis of the Scientific art of tossing ringers. Contains 1001 hints from the champions on how to improve your game. Well illustrated. No horseshoe pitching fan can afford to be without this book. Send only 50c in coin or (3-cent) stamps. No checks or C.O.D. orders please.

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