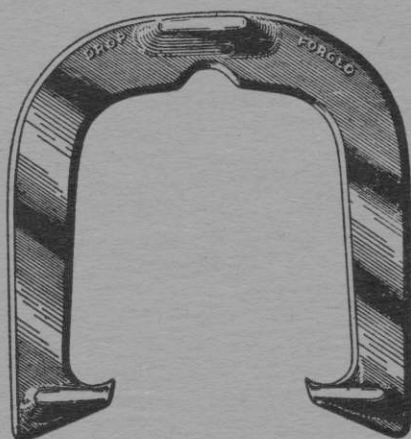


# THE HORSESHOE PITCHER



THE GORDON SHOE

MARCH, 1950

Vol. 2

No. 7

## EDITORIAL

With Spring in the offing, we are on the verge of a new horseshoe playing season. From reports coming in to me from all parts of the country, it looks like all of the clubs and associations are looking forward to a Summer of maximum activities. This feeling seems to be shared by the horseshoe manufacturers too. Beginning with this issue the Ohio Horseshoe Co. has contracted with me for a solid year's advertising. This contract, added to the one from the Diamond Calk assures the continuance of this magazine.

In previous issues, I have invited you fans to send in articles for publication. You have responded nobly. To arouse more interest in our game and tournaments, I would like to make a suggestion to you. From lots of correspondence I have received, it would be a good idea to send the dates of coming events to me. In this way the interested men and women who read The Horseshoe Pitcher would be advised as to when and where there was going to be a tournament and they could arrange to attend as players or spectators. And let them cheer or razz the pitchers. This, in my humble opinion, would make this coming season's games much more popular with the spectators than anything else. Why not give it a trial?

Editor.

## FLASH!

### **DATES FOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENT AT MURRAY, UTAH AUGUST 7th TO 12th**

This came by telegram from Harvey W. Clear.

\* \* \*

## ON TO MURRAY, UTAH

Harvey Clear, has just informed me that plans for the 1950 Tournament at Murray, Utah, are completed, with prizes totaling \$5,000. The definite date of the Tournament is August 7th to the 12th.

Those who have been to Murray in the past do not need to be told of the hospitality of the people of Murray, Utah, and Salt Lake County. Each tournament held at this beautiful court has been an enjoyable event.

It is hoped that all of the horseshoe players, fans, and their families will come to Murray this summer to enjoy the beauty of Utah, the hospitality of the people of Murray, and the good fellowship which one finds in our group. Let us get together this time and work to make this Tournament a memorable one.

Here's hoping that every state in the Union and Canada can be represented at this tournament. Our representation in the past has been excellent, but how about some of the other states getting busy and sending representatives to this playground of the West? Just as soon as possible further information concerning the Tournament will be published in the magazine so that you will be informed of the progress and can make your plans for your trip to Murray, Utah, the horseshoe Capital of the United States.

Louis Dean

\* \* \*

## AN "EXPLICIT" CORRECTION

By Roy W. Smith. Author of "Science At The Stake" and Secy.-Treas. Southern Calif. H. P. A.

In Secretary Clear's "Correction" article, in the February issue of this publication, he states that he should have been more "explicit." He should have been so in his article too. Instead, he became more vague than ever. In the face of his former statements that "there were a NUMBER OF THINGS put over by Mr. Harris," he suddenly reduced the number of things to "the thing he had in mind." Then, for some vague reason, he brings in the shoe firms. Who said anything about "pressure being needed with the shoe firms at this, or any time"?

That was not mentioned here at our So. Calif. tournament last October. Nor was it suggested to the committee at Murray. We all know that the stamp fund is a contributory fund (not a tax) which was voluntarily set up by the shoe firms themselves. So far as I know, they are cooperating 100 per cent. We could use some of that cooperation in our own ranks. What went on between Mr. Harris and Mr. Clear, in regards to the shoe firms, BEFORE the 1949 Convention, I do not know. And I do not care. But as Mr. Cartwright pointed out in his

**BACK TO MURRAY, AUGUST 7th TO 12th**  
**\$5,000 IN CASH PRIZES**

*AT LAST* I can give you the dates for the 1950 World Championship Tournament, sponsored by The Salt Lake County Recreation Department and held in Murray, Utah.

*PLEASE* spread this information as much as possible. This will be the greatest tournament in the history of horseshoes. *Eighteen of the finest lighted courts in the country.* This will be a 36 man round-robin tournament. Qualifying and entry fee will be \$5.00. There will also be a tournament for the Ladies. Suggested prize list, Ladies and Gentlemen as follows:

1. \$500	10. \$120	19. \$95	28. \$75
2. \$450	11. \$115	20. \$95	29. \$70
3. \$400	12. \$115	21. \$90	30. \$70
4. \$325	13. \$110	22. \$90	31. \$70
5. \$250	14. \$110	23. \$85	32. \$70
6. \$150	15. \$105	24. \$85	33. \$65
7. \$125	16. \$105	25. \$80	34. \$60
8. \$125	17. \$100	26. \$80	35. \$60
9. \$120	18. \$100	27. \$75	36. \$60

**LADIES**

1. \$50	3. \$30	5. \$20	7. \$15
2. \$35	4. \$25	6. \$15	8. \$10

National Secretary, Harvey W. Clear, 912 Melrose Avenue  
 Santa Cruz, California

article, Mr. Harris should be accorded justice. He should not be blamed for something he did not do in the committee. As I recall, Mr. Dale Dixon was appointed to work with the shoe firms. I think Dale is quite capable of handling this in his own way. I know of no existing dispute or need of pressure with the shoe firms.

I am sure that Mr. Cartwright was referring to the same thing that I was, in our respective articles. I thought both of us had been explicit. Evidently not. I shall be EXPLICIT now. President Dean and myself were instrumental in having Secretary Clear come down here and conduct our So. Calif. Open Championship tournament at Pomona, last October. Mr. Clear came, voicing his bitterness and resentment about the new constitution and by-laws. We all felt that he had the right to state his objections. But he refused to be "explicit" and say just what he thought was wrong. He had nothing to submit to take the place of his vague criticism. He merely remarked over and over "that the whole thing would have to be thrown out and done over. And that if he had been on the committee, he could have advised us of what would work and what would not, at least as long as he was in office."

The Secretary cannot truthfully deny this because all of our members at the tournament heard his statements. His feeble endeavor to build himself up as a mastermind at the expense of the committee created the "issue" he has mentioned. That, and another statement that he tossed off "that the tournament down here didn't mean much." Many of the boys deeply resented these remarks. I asked them to let them pass, and to avoid any dispute. Had the Secretary been at all observing, he would have noticed that his remarks were not well received. Then, he proceeded to insert some of his unfair remarks in this magazine. We think that our tournaments here in So. Calif. do mean something, or we would not go to the trouble of holding them.

And, if such remarks by the Secretary, are his idea of promotion, we don't care for that brand of "promotion" here. Not from him or anyone else. So far as I know, our members do not go to the Northern Calif. tournaments and make such statements as that. Article III, Section 5 of the Constitution states: "The Secretary shall at all times endeavor to promote harmony and good will within the association." In Mr. Clear's "two and one half years of dealing with the horseshoe manufacturers" AND the association, he should read that before he tries to tell a committee how to write a constitution. Perhaps he could advise a committee to write a constitution just as he wants it. But would the delegates pass it? When the new laws were being discussed on the Convention floor, the Secretary had the opportunity to stand up and protest anytime he so desired. He did not do so. As I remember it, he was not sitting in concrete. If he did not want to carry out the new constitution as a duly elected officer should, he was not forced to accept his office again.

Why accept the office and then gripe continually about carrying out the required duties? Why persist in wasting time and NHPA stationery to criticize the efforts of others? Why not devote more time to the fine promotional opportunities that are being offered almost every day? These are the questions that many members are asking. They are fed up with a negative policy of chronic bellyaching. Mr. Secretary, your utterances and actions since the 1949 Convention are very enlightening. You knew, when you came out with your erroneous statements of "forcing the members to take the magazine" and "putting pressure on the shoe firms," that the committee had no such thoughts yin mind. These are your own pet "red herrings" that you have been attempting to introduce into the picture.

I thank the Secretary for his belated praise of the Committee's efforts. His words are a welcome change from his previous remarks, both written and oral. I have not been asking for praise. I have been asking for a FAIR consideration of the new laws. And for the observance of majority rule, as "explicitly" expressed by the assembled delegates. I will not back down one inch from anyone in my stand for this. If I have made mistakes, in trying to help formulate a more democratic constiution, I will not try to hide behind either Mr. Harris or the shoe firms.

I, too, encouraged Jake to start publishing this magazine. I have helped all I could to keep it going. I will continue to do so. We are all to blame because NHPA has failed to support the publication up to now. We should have met with Jake and learned of his publishing problems and costs, before we attempted to subsidize his magazine. The sooner we come out of our state of "ringer-mortis" and do something worth while for him, the better I will like it.

As far as I am concerned, the members can criticize the new laws all they please. The laws are not perfect. They are there to be improved. But I think the criticism should be CONSTRUCTIVE and that the improvements should be carried out along intelligent lines. It is much easier to tear down a structure than it is to build it.

Yes, Mr. Secretary you should be explicit. A constructive report, now and then, would be appreciated by all the members, I am sure. When you abandon your vacillating policy of administration and adopt a consistent and courteous one, all of our members here will be happy to cooperate with you in every way possible. We are interested in helping to build an efficient organization. We want to see it grow. This is 1950, and the new laws—not the old ones—are in effect. As a duly elected officer, it is your duty to help administer them, not ignore them. You have the ability, if you want to use it. It's up to you. I have a number of things that I would like to discuss with you personally. Then we can both be as "explicit" as we like. There is nothing wrong with NHPA that another election will not cure.

\* \* \*

## OVER THE COFFEE CUP

By Leland S. Mortenson

George Lott, the famous tennis star from Chicago, who was a stablemate of mine in the Athletic Headquarters of the Army during the last war, once remarked in respect to the sport of horseshoe pitching; "some day the right fellow is going to come along and get hold of that game and make something big out of it, and make himself a nice pile of dough, too."

I have been following with considerable interest the results of votes being taken by the Associated Press to pick the greatest sportsmen of the past fifty years. It seems to me that our National Association officers should be "jumping" the Associated Press for failing to include horseshoe pitching. Let us hope that the affairs of this Association will be so handled during the next fifty years that when the next poll is taken in the year 2000 that horseshoe pitching will be included.

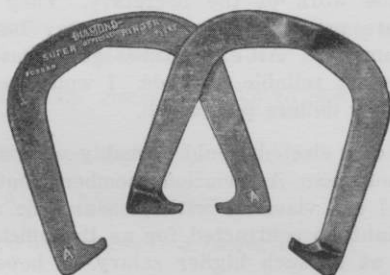
Isn't it quite evident that this Association could improve the promotional program at least 100 per cent without spending much more money? We must concentrate on trying to get other people interested in horseshoe pitching. Every college and high school in the United States and Canada should be contacted by a letter with an attractive folder enclosed. The letter should try to sell the institution on the value of horseshoe pitching as a sport to be competed in, one institution team against another institution team.

The magazines of the entire world, the newspapers, the radio, the press services, the Army, the Navy should be under continuous bombardment with reading material about horseshoe pitching.

The Encyclopedia Britannica, American Almanac and other publications, should get annual reports on the past years results in the sport.

Sports promoters should be contacted regularly and continuously in an effort to stimulate interest in bidding for National and sectional tournaments and exhibitions. The moving picture producers in Hollywood should be contacted in respect to getting their interest aroused for productions with horseshoe pitching as the central theme. And there are a couple of hundred other things that ought to be attended to regularly. The readers are well aware of them.

If a man wrote ten letters a day, twenty-four days a month, he could send out 2,880 letters a year. Surely, a man could write ten letters in two hours! I believe that we should expect a secretary to spend at least four hours of efficient performance per day, so, after writing ten letters he would still have two hours left for handling other Association matters. In order to get this accomplished, I would



**OFFICIAL**

# **SUPER RINGER SETS**

## **PITCHING HORSESHOES**

The finest pitching horseshoes ever made. Drop forged from special carbon steel and heat-treated to prevent chipping or breaking. Specially designed to catch stake with minimum danger of bouncing or sliding off. Perfectly balanced for easy control.

Dead-falling qualities of Diamond Super Ringer sets are unexcelled.

Write for information on our complete line of Diamond Pitching shoes and accessories.

# **DIAMOND CALK**

## **HORSESHOE COMPANY**

**4615 GRAND AVENUE**

**DULUTH, MINNESOTA**



do away with the system of electing a secretary. I would have the Constitution call for the election of a President, several Vice Presidents and a Treasurer. These officers would have the responsibility of hiring the Secretary, and with the power to employ would also go the power to discharge without notice.

These officers would order the Secretary what to do and would demand strict proof that it was done. They would not tolerate any failure in efficiency, would control all funds, and would vote upon all matters affecting the work of the Secretary. They could grant the Secretary ten dollars per month expense money but would have to approve additional amounts. All expenditures would have to be accounted for by receipts or other reliable methods. I would set the Secretary's salary at not over fifty dollars per month.

At first, the officers elected would probably want to hire the Secretary from among our own Association members, but with the entire system developing, I can visualize with pleasure the day when a Wall Street Promoter might be contracted for as the official business agent of the Association at a much higher salary. I hope that all of the readers, and particularly the recently appointed committee on Constitution and By-Laws will give some thought to this matter.

In the Fall of 1944 I had several chats with Prof. Staley, Athletic Director of the University of Illinois, at the time he and I were both stationed in New York City, he with a civilian group of instructors, I with Athletic Headquarters, both of us under the Army. He was interested in all sports and had given a little thought to horseshoe pitching. He had a suggestion for changing the game for what he believed might be an improvement.

He would have the pegs at forty feet in distance, but he would have foul lines at two feet between and behind the pegs back to a ten foot mark. Then, he would have the rules made that the man who wins an inning would not only pitch first for the next inning, but he would also choose the distance for the following inning. Prof. Staley claimed that this would bring more strategy into the sport of horseshoe pitching. I might have some of the Des Moines pitchers try it out next Summer. Maybe Prof. Staley had something here!

\* \* \*

## MAINE

By Marion E. Adams

I would like to see women pitch 40 feet the same as men, then we can play with men when we like. All of the women around here who play horseshoes play at forty feet. If we pitch 30 feet we can only play with the few women who pitch and very small boys.

If women and men do not pitch the same distance, their scores cannot be compared and mean anything, because the mathematical chance of pitching a ringer at 30 feet is almost double that at 40 feet, assuming equal accuracy. (This is the basis that the chance of hitting the stake varies inversely as the square of the distance, making the chances 16 to 9. I'd like to know if other pitchers agree with this.)

I was glad to see an article in the January issue by one of the ladies, Mrs. Marie Kampschroeder.

Let's have some more of Roy's Ramblings and Jake's Jottings. I thought the pen name "Jakespeare" very clever.

Here's a little poem you might like to use sometime.

For vim and vigor  
And a trimmer figger—  
Whether you're a ringer slinger,  
Or a leaner gleaner—  
Or just a horse's slipper slider  
You'll be slimmer, leaner lither  
For a daily session  
Pitching Horseshoes!

\* \* \*

## MARYLAND AND D. C. NEWS

By "Pop" Woodfield

### THE 1951 TOURNAMENT IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

Due to a late start the Sesqui-Centennial will continue through the entire year of 1951 and the World's Championship Horseshoe Tournament should, and can be included in the Special Events Program of that year IF, NHPA will get behind it.

#### Mrs. Arner Lindquist GETS GOING

Mrs. Anna Lindquist, 305 6th St., Morgantown, W. Va., winner in the world's championship (women's section) at Murray, Utah, last year writes:

"Dear Pop:

"We sure were glad to meet your horseshoe friends, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Nellis. They were truly 100 per cent horseshoe fans.

"Well Pop, do you think it is possible that we can have a World's Championship Horseshoe tournament as a special event of the Sesqui-Centennial at Washington, D. C. this year"? Answer: We already have a 1950 tournament and convention at Murray this August. I doubt if we could have a full attendance at two in one year, besides there isn't enough time to have one in the Nation's capital this year. The letter continues: "I wrote to both of my Senators in January and they gave me favorable answers. Senator Neely replied 'I think the suggestion of holding a world's horseshoe pitching tournament in Washington as one of the events of the Sesqui-Centennial is grand and I am requesting our Director to give special attention to this at once.'"

Senator Kilgore brought West Virginia's O.K. to 100 per cent with his answer "We shall at once make plans for including this in our great program of Special Events which will shortly be announced."

There, members of NHPA, is an example of the kind of promotion we need. You fellows who have Senators can help voteless Washington a lot by following Mrs. Lindquist's lead. Write your Senators, let them learn that Murray, Utah is donating five thousand dollars for our 1950 tournament on the most beautiful courts ever built. You can add if they want the games and a good reason why the tournament should be held here during the Sesqui-Centennial, to contact me at 4002 Oliver Street, Hyattsville, Md., Phone WARfield 4035 .

#### **Hats Off to Mrs. Lindquist**

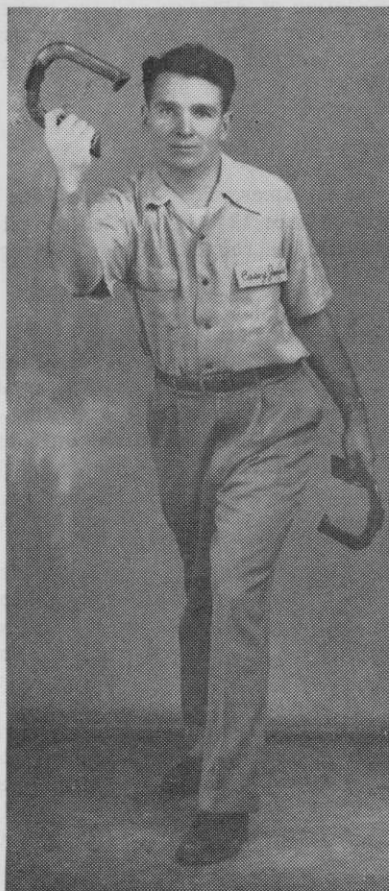
Here is a suggestion for you Mrs. Lindquist (first a request of President Dean to appoint a Women's Tournament Committee). If all State Associations and others would send in names and addresses of women pitchers you and the committee could contact them with an invitation to come to Murray for the 1950 tournament and again in 1951 wherever it may be held.

Early in 1949 when the first announcement of a proposed Sesqui-Centennial in Washington was published, I immediately sounded out several agencies here regarding our annual tournament as a part of it. Congress, who dishes out the money to carry on District government expenditures here was very much against an appropriation for the celebration, stating the money should be raised by business interests. Considerable time elapsed before an appropriation was made and it was necessary to extend the closing date in the final months of 1951.

In the meantime, Murray came up with an offer that could not be ignored. Five thousand dollars is big time money. It is up to all concerned to present the 1950 World Tournament in the manner of a major sports show.

**THE FINEST AND MOST PERFECT COURTS EVER BUILT!  
IN A BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL SCENIC SETTING! FIVE THOUSAND**

## Pitch Ohio Horseshoes and Increase Your Ringer Percentage



★

“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.

Made in four tempers—hard,  
medium, soft and dead soft.

★

(We use the 5c association stamps)

### **OHIO HORSESHOE COMPANY**

*(Makers of quality pitching shoes for 29 years.)*

**Station F**

**Columbus, Ohio**

DOLLARS IN PRIZES AND SPONSORED BY THE MOST SOCIABLE PEOPLE THE NHPA HAS MET.

Murray, and others, to the extent that they are involved, have done their part to make the 1950 tournament the greatest of all time. The Naional Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America and the present administration are on a spot as never before. Their's is the opportunity to present features never before used, absolutely essential if the World Horseshoe Tournament is to measure up to a major sports event.

### Teach the Gallery to Keep Score

Let them know what's going on at all times. This has been done in a limited manner in all the tournaments since 1940 by a pitch by pitch broadcast of a featured match in each of the rounds. It isn't enough. May I suggest the following!

### A Score Board Visible to Spectators at Each Court

All connected with these tournaments are aware of the crying need for this apparatus. Nothing has been done with the exception of those used at Milwaukee, which were not made for center court use. I have a plan of a device that can be operated by the scorer in the center of the court, size 21 inches by 24 inches, or less, according to whether players names or numbers are used.

It will be visible to the numbers of spectators that would be watching the action on one court, both from the north and south sides. Separate scoring devices for each court has been discussed over and over. All agree that is one feature we must have. It will cost quite a sum if given out as a contract.

As I have planned it, if players are designated by numbers 1 to 36 it would require 576 metal squares, approximately 5 x 4 in. painted white with black figures painted on both sides, a total of 1,152 numbers 18 square of one-half in. plywood, 18 pieces of one-half inch iron pipe 6 feet in length and 18 pieces of 1 inch pipe 12 inches in length. Metal squares to be cut from 10 oz. sheet copper.

I would suggest that the sponsor furnish the pipe. NHPA should own the boards, easily transported to city in which tournament is held. I will have mimeographed copies of plans ready for distribution to the National officers sometime in March. They will also be mailed to State Associations by sending me a self addressed stamped envelope (3c).

I do not claim that my idea is the best that can be made. At least I hope it will be the means of getting this important item settled and ready for Murray come next August.

## MURRAY DATES AUGUST 7, to 12, 1950

Just received Air Mail from Goff Berger that August 7 to 12 will be set aside for the 1950 World Tournament. Why did he send it to me? I requested him to, so I can include in a publicity illustration that will be mimeographed on every envelope I mail.

There is one sure way to make the 1950 tournament the greatest of all and right now start letting every one every where learn about it. Those grand Murray folks, NHPA and every member of NHPA should get in the act.

You fellows who have never witnessed a World Tournament! You may say "WHY SHOULD I HELP IN PUBLICITY, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ATTEND ONE."

Well brother, whether we (NHPA) have reached the goal stated in the constitution or not, we are striving for it. A financially strong National Association can, through greater numbers of loyal members, get thousands of Teen-Agers pitching horseshoes for a National Award. We can get behind AAU. We can get Europe and South America pitching and we may get in the Olympics. And you fellows who live in the East can help me to try for the 1951 World Tournament in Washington, D. C.

Everywhere BEST COURTS ARE OUR BEST BETS. Join NHPA and subscribe to The Horseshoe Pitcher.

\* \* \*

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

This is a clipping from the Uortsmouth Herald of January 19, 1950.

Maybe Charlie Gerrish and Howard White didn't have such a bad idea for these January days.

Don't forget these two men have a city horseshoe pitching championship duel at stake (no pun intended) Sunday.

White, a sailor, is now stationed at Norfolk, Va., from where he issued the challenge to Charlie Gerrish. Gerrish currently is the defending Portsomuth champion but he is a great sport because he will put his title on the line anytime anyone wants to meet him.

\* \* \*

## NEW JERSEY

By Charles L. Juliana

Following the highly successful Horseshoe Pitching Tournament held last year, the City of Wildwood Recreation Department has announced that the 1950 invitation Horseshoe Pitching Tournament will be held in Wildwood on Saturday, July 29.

Thirty-two pitchers competed in the annual summer-time tournaments in 1949 with some of the finest pitchers in the Eastern Seaboard competing. Among them were Dale Carson of Baltimore winner of the tourney, Woodrow Wilson of the Washington, D C. club, Everett Clift and Charles Clift of Hyattsville, Maryland; Elmer Schwartz of Fairfax, Virginia; Jack Waltz of Newark, N. J.; William Nellis, Washington, D. C.; Charles Lynch of Fairfax, Virginia; J. W. Hatton and E. W. Roth, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lester and Harry Coulter of Vineland; Thomas Jorgensen of Wildwood and others.

The City of Wildwood Recreation and Parks Departments are planning a program of great improvements on the horseshoe pits for this year and by tournament time they should be in the best condition.

This early announcement of the coming summer time tournaments for the New Jersey seashore resort is made so that those planning to enter may plan their vacation to correspond with the tournament time.

Further information may be secured from Charles L. Juliana, Director of Recreation, City of Wildwood, N. J.

\* \* \*

## JAKE'S JOTTINGS

Ever since the boys in New York City started the Metropolitan Horseshoe Pitchers Association, four years ago, Jake (that's me) has been Secretary and Treasurer. At a recent meeting of this Association I resigned this position due to the amount of work entailed as Editor of this magazine. In my place, Mr. Daniel Ludwig, of 2557 Mickle Avenue, Bronx 67, New York was elected. So you of the Metropolitan, please direct all your correspondence to him.

At a meeting of this association held on February 24, it was decided to start their playing season on the 28th of May. They are looking forward to a very active season.

\* \* \*

On Decoration Day, May 30th, the Empire State Branch of the NHPA will hold an Open Tournament in Central Park on the courts of the Hilltop H. C., on Circle Lawn, 106 Street and Central Park West. All players must be members of the NHPA.

\* \* \*

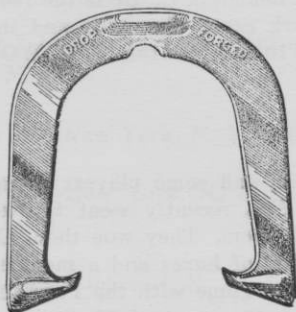
To enable the Empire State Branch to hold its third annual New York State Championship Tournament, they have already contracted for a hall in which to hold a dance on Friday evening, May 19. The proceeds will be used to cover the costs of running this tournament which will be held on the Labor Day week end, September 2nd, 3rd and 4th. A raffle will also be held. As I am Secretary and Treasurer of this outfit, I would like you boys Up State to let me know what you will do to help make this affair a financial success. The price of the tickets and other information will be published in these pages as soon as all arrangements are completed.

\* \* \*

The Inwood H. C. held one of their famous parties on February 17th at their club rooms at 500 West 215th Street. Besides all the refreshments served there was dancing. The music was furnished by the club's own horseshoe band with yours truly banging the drums.

\* \* \*

### 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**



Jim Bacon, of Little Rock, Ark., said he enjoyed reading The Horseshoe Pitcher for February. He liked the human interest stuff and the articles by Roy Smith, Pop Woodfield and Alvin Dahlene.

\* \* \*

Johnny Sebek says "I had received a notice from Harvey Clear stating that Louis Dean appointed me to the membership committee of the NHPA. And since the February issue went to the printers before you had a chance to delete my name from that list, I am taking the opportunity to announce that I am not connected with National Association in any shape or form whatsoever. Neither does the Ohio Association."

\* \* \*

Ken Huber, the General Secretary of the St. Paul Municipal H. P. A. has just sent me a mimeographed copy, in book form of their Constitution and Rules. It's a grand job. I don't know where he gets all the time and energy to do all the things he does for Minnesota's horseshoe activities. If everyone did half the amount of work he does for the game, football and baseball would have horseshoes right on their tail!

\* \* \*

Pat Brady of the Hilltop H. C. has informed me that they have lost one of their best players to the U. S. Marines. He is Private Terrence Earley who is stationed in Paris Island, S. C. He is the red headed, south paw kid who beat the New York State Champion and the Pennsylvania Champion in one day. I used to call him the "BOY WONDER." Good luck, kid.

\* \* \*

Arner Lindquist, of West Virginia, and some players from Uniontown, Point Marion and Pittsburgh, Pa., recently went to New Kensington, Pa. to pitch some games with them. They won them all. They have a nice indoor court with three sets of boxes and a membership of twenty-two. Arner pitched an exhibition game with the Fayette County champ, John Clingan, and beat him by the score of 50—9. Arner only pitched 90 per cent. Better look out for him at Murray, Utah, this year.

\* \* \*

Get one of your horseshoe playing friends to subscribe to this magazine. You'll do us both 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 will be at the new rate of \$2.00 per year.

\* \* \*

Gee! I almost forgot to mention that the Inwood H. C. made me team captain. Eddie Engelbracht is the manager. Other Met. teams take notice—you're going to have a tough team to beat! That's a promise.

\* \* \*

#### COMING EVENTS

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

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

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

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.

EDITORS NOTE: What have you got scheduled for this season?

\* \* \*

## OHIO

By John Kovacs

The American Horseshoe League will be in operation again in 1950. Last year's rules were that teams originate within thirty miles radius, using the Point System, with five man teams playing a home and home series. At present the Indianapolis Ice Cream Co. and Canton Selways are co-champions. Chicago Pat's Lounge and Covington Shady Shore Lake were the other two teams in the League. Teams desiring a franchise in the League should write as soon as possible to me at 2014 Eleventh St. S. W., Canton 6, Ohio.

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## RHODE ISLAND

By Charles A. Basset

I believe that we (the average player) should add more fun to our horseshoe playing, even in our tournaments. Let our top players around the State Champions group and higher, take the game in as serious a manner as they desire. The great majority of players play for health and fun. Many players prefer to play doubles which makes for more fun rather than high percentages. Let's have two men team tournaments and have players with 60 per cent or over be obliged to take as partners a player in the 50 per cent to 60 per cent group, players in the 50 per cent group must take a player in the 40 per cent to 50 per cent group. This would prohibit the two best players taking all the prizes.

There are two groups of players, those top players who play only for what they can take out of the game, in Money and Prizes, and those who play for health and fun. The first group should be classified as professionals and the second group as the Amateurs. From the National Association down the emphasis has been with the top group. I believe that is the reason our organization has not grown the way it should. There are millions of horseshoe players in this country but very few are members (WHY?) is it because our organization is run by and for the first group?

As a persons ability is judged by his ringer percentage try out, have them qualify with fifty, one hundred or two hundred shoes pitched,

ringers only to count, no points. This will save both time and trouble of measuring the near shoes and adds to the pleasure of the game. We have many three handed games this way and I cannot see why it will not work in two handed games and tournament play. Like all changes it would meet with objections, like the count all method, but try it out and see. It will also get the poorer player to shoot for ringers instead of points.

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## UTAH

By G. A. Berger

I have had several meetings with Mr. Paul Rose, Superintendent of the County Recreation Department, and by now, our bid of \$5,000 has been sent in and we are getting ready for the 1950 World's Horseshoe Championship tournament to be held here in Murray, Utah. It will sure be swell to meet you fine people again and a lot of new ones too, when we come together for a bigger and better tournament.

All you folks will agree with me when I say that The Horseshoe Pitcher is O. K., so why not do something to keep it going and growing? I believe our National publicity fund should set aside enough money to take a full page ad in this magazine every month. Roy Smith could write up the ads. Let me know what you think of this idea. My address is Box 113, Murray, Utah. And now, a message from the Murray Horseshoe Club.

## GREETINGS!

To all members and players of this great game of horseshoes. We once again invite each and everyone of you to come to Utah this year to take part in the biggest and the best National Tournament ever to be held in the World on the World's best lighted courts. We will try to make your stay with us most pleasant, so why not start planning now to be here when we hold the championship games. We, of the Murray Club, hope to see all you old friends and lots of new ones this year.

G. A. Berger, President

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I am Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, so come on fellows, if you have any resolutions to submit this year, please send me a copy of them. Let me know what the readers of The Horseshoe Pitcher think.

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