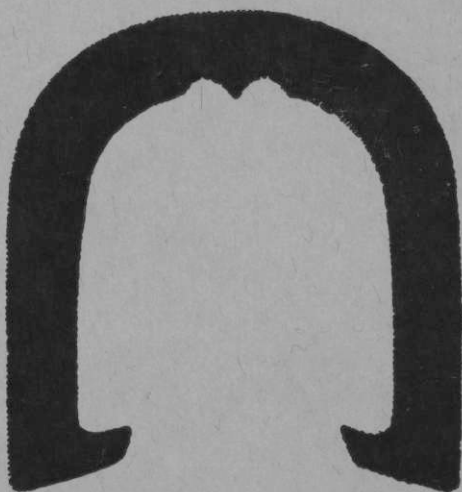


THE HORSESHOE PITCHER

Official Organ of
**The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
of America**



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Vol. 8

No. 6

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CALIFORNIA

Northern California Percentages

| | Percentage |
|------------------------|------------|
| 1. Don Titcomb | 77.1 |
| 2. Paul Mori | 73.6 |
| 3. W. Blexrude | 64.9 |
| 5. W. Fraser | 58.1 |
| 6. G. Callas | 56.6 |
| 7. L. Bridges | 55.0 |
| 8. G. Hoxmeier | 54.5 |
| 9. J. O'Brien | 53.2 |
| 10. B. Zumwalt | 53.1 |
| 11. A. Anderson | 55.0 |
| 12. E. Henderson | 52.3 |
| 13. L. Martin | 52.3 |
| 14. H. Martin | 52.2 |
| 15. A. Almeida | 52.0 |
| 16. D. O'Hara | 50.1 |
| 17. B. Stevenson | 49.9 |
| 18. C. Lindhout | 46.6 |
| 19. E. Davis | 42.5 |
| 20. E. Bradt | 41.3 |
| 21. V. Rasmusson | 40.0 |
| 22. V. Terlicker | 36.5 |
| 23. C. Morean | 36.5 |
| 24. H. Nielson | 35.0 |
| 25. J. Smith | 35.0 |

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| 26. M. Butler | 35.0 |
| 27. A. Michelcic | 33.0 |
| 28. F. Fisher | 31.5 |
| 29. B. Lyons | 31.0 |
| 30. V. Porter | 31.0 |
| 31. P. Foley | 30.0 |
| 32. C. Anderson | 31.0 |
| 33. R. Jarman | 25.0 |
| 34. L. Hale | 23.0 |

* * *

Annual Southern California Meeting

The new officers for 1956 are as follows: James Weeks, President, 12133 Graystone, Norwalk, Calif.; Louis Dean, First Vice President, 379 W. McKinley, Pomona, Calif.; Waldo Hagy, Second Vice President, 1619 E. Broadway, Long Beach, Calif.; Norman Smith, Third Vice President, 4064 Jackson Ave., Culver City, Calif.; Billy Crick, Secretary-Treasurer, 1716 W. 62nd St., Los Angeles, Calif.

* * *

1956 SCHEDULE OF TOURNAMENTS

Southern California Horseshoe Pitching Association

- April 8—Open Class "D", Huntington Park
- April 22—Open Class "A", Long Beach
- May 6—Open Class "C", Ontario
- May 20—Open Class "B", South Gate
- June 3—Class "A", Harvard
- June 10—60 years and over, Huntington Park
- June 24—Added Class "B", Long Beach
- July 7—Added Class "A" (Night), Ontario
- August 5—Added Class "C", Pomona
- August 19—Added Class "D", Huntington Park
- August 26—Western Open, South Gate
- Sept. 9—Amateur, Harvard

Sept. 30—Championship Class "B" (10 man), Ontario
Oct. 6-7—Open, Victorville
Oct. 14—Championship Class "D" (10 man), Long Beach
Oct. 21—Championship Class "C" (10 man), Harvard
Oct. 28—Championship Class "A" (10 man) South Gate

* * *

COLORADO

By TED ALLEN

Attention all horseshoe pitchers in Canada and east of the Rockies, but not excepting any of those anywhere else, who are contemplating the trip to Murray, Utah. We, in Boulder, Colo., are planning to hold a tournament here for the first time. The Rocky Mt. Open Championship. To be staged July 14-16, just prior to the big one in Utah, July 18-25th.

It will be staged primarily for three reasons.

1. The tune-up contest that will condition you for Murray. Remember how much better one is after a tournament. This will polish you off. (Not to mention how we will polish each other off, Ha.) This one will help settle you down, before you get there. Be ready at the beginning.
2. To help you win something extra and make your trip more enjoyable.
3. To give Boulder its first view of really good pitching, as a group. No jokes, now. I have been living here 32 years.

The idea was born last fall after eight new courts were put in, back of the new municipal building along Boulder Creek. Cooperation between a group of horseshoe pitchers and the City Recreation Director, Bill Leuthauser has been very encouraging and by the time you read this we hope to have progressed even farther. Perhaps to have the boost of the Chamber of Commerce who can give us a sendoff that would make it easier to raise a prize list. Publicity for the tournament will be well carried by our Boulder Camera. By not later than the June issue of The Horseshoe Pitcher we will announce the prize list. And we will keep you further informed in coming issues.

Our first meeting January 19th laid the general plans. The next meeting February 2nd will be for the further discussion of the courts, the lighting and plans for the drive to get the necessary backing. The

courts will be worked on and we expect to have them in good shape by July.

The time element in running this tournament is important. And, too, we want to tune you up. Not wear you out. At the same time that we want to make the deadline of qualifying in time so that pitching the semi-finals may start in time so you may finish at a reasonable time Monday night July 16th. So that you will be in ship-shape to start for Utah bright and early July 17th. Every one that I have known, have always made it to Utah in one easy day from Boulder. This will be the first time in several years that I must also make it in one day, instead of our usual fishing and fooling along the way. As I understand the convention meeting will be before the tournament, and very likely on the 18th or 19th.

Plans are to be through qualifying the 100-shoe pitch by 2 P.M. Sunday, July 15th. Class B, 16 men, start playing in two 8-man groups at 3 P.M., seven games per man. The two highest from each group to start their playoffs at 8 P.M. of three games round robin.

Class A, 16 men in two groups of 8 men each play Monday afternoon on the 16th. The two highest from each group go in the 4-man playoffs at a probable time of 7 or 7:30 P. M.

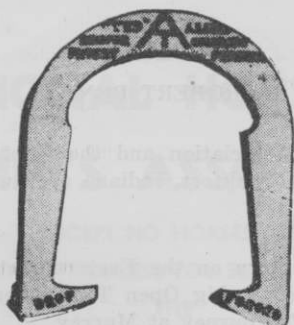
We prefer that the Colorado players, and all others who can do so, will qualify Saturday or Saturday night so that we will have the courts clear for late arrivals. For at the best those coming in from the mid-west will barely get here in time to qualify Sunday morning.

I am not familiar with the time you have formerly started for Utah, or when you will be able to leave home this year. So we want you to write us as soon as possible for two reasons.

1. To let us know whether you can make it here in time to qualify. I want to know whether most of you can. If not, we may have to make other arrangements, to cooperate.

2. This is entirely a new thing in Boulder, although we have had pitchers of sorts around her for many years. And the necessary people to sponsor this will want to know how successful the chances are that it will draw you players. They may be somewhat skeptical. I, personally can almost name correctly about 75 per cent of those who might be here, but, skeptics, they do not know that. So if you are contemplating the trip to Utah, please let us know. Write to me or to Bill Leuthauser, City Recreation, Municipal Building. It isn't necessary to promise to be here, I just want to know whether you have any thought of going to

THE TED ALLEN HORSESHOE



BALANCE: Most important feature to pitching right. World's best balanced shoe. The same that has been used in making world's records in tournaments since 1936.

To help make these 1955 world's records, not a single ringer came off. And the new treatment of the points proved a sensational help in catching the peg. (Write for details.)

1. Qualified with 570 points, 187 ringers, 93.5%, in 200 shoes.
2. 36 straight double ringers.

What more can any shoe do? Except that this one has also won many world's championships.

Frank Cotton, Decatur, Ill., a player of sorts for 30 years, had trouble averaging 63.5% at Murray, 1955. Then he changed to this shoe and started hitting 70% easily. Says he, "I find that with Allens, if you can hit the stake, nine times out of ten you will have a ringer. An Allen shoe just seems to open naturally at the stake." Try a pair and you will see.

This winter the side notches, weakest point, have been re-inforced. Remember: without sacrificing the full 3½ inch opening, the slant from the points is enough to achieve all the maximum efficiency necessary to get ringers. Any more slant is pointless.

Orders between now and March 1 will be filled the first half of March.

TED ALLEN HORSESHOE CO.

**1045 Linden Avenue
Boulder, Colorado**

Utah. We are going to erect four more courts to practice on while Class B are in action. And other courts will be available.

* * *

INDIANA

By ROBERT PENCE

The Indiana State Association and the Clinton County Horseshoe Pitchers' Association of Frankfort, Indiana are putting in a bid for the 1956 Eastern National.

If they are turned down on the Eastern National bid the Hoosier organizations plan to hold a big Open Tournament at Frankfort some time prior to the World's Tourney at Murray.

Oris Harshman and Nelson Pickering, officers of the Clinton County Association, have been assured of at least \$300.00 by Frankfort businessmen for the Eastern National and hope to up that amount to \$500.00. With this backing plus the excellent facilities of the 12 court Frankfort setup they believe they can put on a really first class tournament.

The big Indiana State Tournament has been held at Frankfort for the past six years and annually draws 100 or more entries which means the Indiana boys have the know how to handle a big tourney.

The Frankfort setup has two sets of six courts each placed back to back and fenced in with huge 2 feet by 6 feet scoreboards for each court. Bleachers are always available for the fans comfort for big tournaments. The courts are regulation in every respect and the stakes are tight and uniform and the clay the very best obtainable. All twelve courts are lighted.

The Indiana State Association, which has been the largest state division in the N.H.P.A. for the past few years, will assist the local club in staging either the Eastern National or an Open tourney.

Tentative plans call for a two day affair with a 100 shoe qualifying round on the first day and two 12 man classes on the second day. If there is a big entry list three additional eight man classes may be held on the evening of the first day.

The tentative date that has been selected is Saturday, June 30, and Sunday July 1. This would give players of the East a taste of top flight competition prior to the National at Murray. If, however, New York and other eastern seaboard pitchers would prefer the Tourney to be held a

JOIN and SUPPORT . .

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Canton, Illinois

Elmer Beller, Secy.-Treas.
111 Via Buena Ventura
Redondo Beach, Calif.

These are your Regional Directors on Publicity. Contact them for information, or any assistance you might give them.

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559 W. 191st St., New York 10, N. Y.

Southeastern States

Arner Lindquist, 305 6th St., Morgantown, W. Va.

week later so they could proceed directly to Utah after the tournament it will be held July 7 and 8.

Players who are interested in entering such a tourney are asked to write to Bob Pence, Secretary of the Indiana State Association, at 341 Polk St., Gary, Ind., and express their ideas as to the most satisfactory date.

It might also be added there that Truman Standard of Canton, Ill. is Chairman of the Committee for awarding the 1956 Eastern National.

* * *

The following is an excerpt from the biography of Rev. Charles M. Sheldon (world famous Congregational minister from Topeka, Kansas, and author of the book "In His Steps," which was translated into 45 different languages and ranks as one of the "Best Sellers" of all time.) by Glenn Clark of McAlester College, St. Paul, Minn.

"I have found that a good game of horseshoes every afternoon with a neighbor has been worth more than golf, hiking or other sports and the expense is only nominal. In any case a minister needs to keep his body in shape . . . as any man does, in order to have a physical endurance that will prevent mental depression and at the same time be a constant example to the congregation of Christian strength.

". . . After trying golf and finding it too expensive, tennis and finding it too strenuous, horseback riding and finding it too risky for a man of my age, I have at last settled on the game of horseshoes and find it a noble sport. Anyone with 50 feet of backyard and five dollars can start the game. He needs the backyard space to build a regulation clay court and the five dollars for a set of horseshoes. The game can be played alone, but it takes a neighbor or three of them to make the game give its fullest satisfaction and beats every other form of sport for social contact with a man's neighborhood.

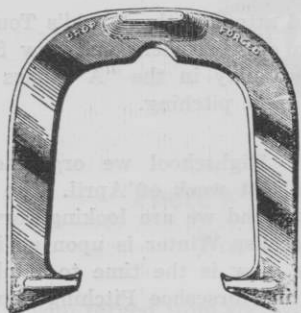
"The game is classic and calls for skill of a high order. Any man who can throw two and a half pounds of iron 40 feet and make ringers on an average of every other throw is entitled to be called a descendant of kings, for the old Greek discus is the father of horseshoe and Greek kings used to throw the discus and became so excited over the game they forgot their crowns in striving for the laurel wreath, which was the winner's only reward."

The Rev. Charles M. Sheldon died in 1946 at a ripe old age. His book "In His Steps" was written shortly after the turn of the century and Mr. Clark's biography of him was written prior to his death.

BOB PENCE

* * *

**"IT'S THE GORDON SPIN-ON HORSESHOE
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The 1955 Spin-On Horseshoe has again added fame to its name. More Spin-On Horseshoes pitched this year than ever before. They are pitched by Champions in the United States and Canada. Not by only a few champions, but by most of the champions.

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MISSOURI

By DAVE BAKER

Here we are right smack in the middle of winter, a time of the year when most of us must lay aside our shoes and be content with looking forward to next season's activities.

As I am only sixteen years old, and writing my first article in The Horseshoe Pitcher, I would like you to overlook the errors I may make.

In order to create interest in Horseshoe Pitching these two things are among the necessities: the **Organization** of the Horseshoe pitchers to promote a tournament, or some interest.

The main or most important is the **Attraction** of the one lookers.

I am a Sophomore in Highschool, and attended the World's Tournament last year along with Earl Winston our President and now State Champion. I was lucky enough to get to play in the "A" Class and ended up thirty-fourth, and experienced great pitching.

Two years ago when I enrolled in Highschool we organized a Horseshoe Tournament which is held the last week of April. The students enjoy it as well as any other sport, and we are looking forward to having another one this year. Just because Winter is upon us is no reason why Horseshoes should hibernate, now is the time to think up new ideas for next season. Our success in Horseshoe Pitching depends on the degree in which we cooperate with each other for the good of the game.

* * *

OHIO

By JOHN SEBEK

It has been some six years that the group with which I am connected withdrew from the National Association and formed the American Horseshoe Pitchers Association, Inc.

During all this time I have been a subscriber to the Horseshoe Pitcher magazine and have followed the progress of the National Association. With the knowledge I have of the sport in general throughout the country, especially in regards to organization, it does not surprise me that the sport is still in a pitiful condition under the leadership of the cancellation scoring proponents.

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As many of the old readers know, I have, for years, fought at National conventions for the principles of promotion as advocated by the late D. O. Chess. Doc's basic theory was the employment of the Count-All system of scoring and the use of it to attract the average pitcher (Mr. Huber, are you listening?).

There were many other sides to Doc's theories. The Count-All system, alone, is not enough. We who have used his theories in practice know that the beloved Doc was the greatest promotional genius in the history of the sport. Had the old National leaders listened to him—well, that is history.

I do want to prove my point and enough time has elapsed since our withdrawal from the National in 1949, that curpicture is very plain. And I am referring to the Ohio Division of the American Association.

Here is a state organization whose membership in three COUNTIES, alone, equals half that of the National Association! Perhaps more. Our organization has no card holders they are all ACTIVE pitchers in the state program. Not one of our affiliated clubs has card holders. Every single member PITCHES.

Our Ohio Division had the largest state tournament ever held by a bona fide horseshoe organization. One hundred and twenty-two men competed in the 1955 tourney at Canton. We actually had 137 entries but we count only those who COMPLETE their games (Mr. Pence are you listening). Our estimate for next years event, 1956, is 200 entries. The Stark County tournament had 86 etnries, all who completed their games.

I notice where Mr. Gerrish is proud of his state's 66 members. And that in a population of several millions. Two new club affiliates of the Ohio Division had twice that many. And that in a total population of 25,000 people. Both these new club's had no courts in 1955, in fact, no nothing. Once we got things underway, they had to close their membership for the year because they could not be taken care of in the pitching program.

The Canton Horseshoe Club, Inc. of which I am President is the largest private horseshoe club in the world as well as the wealthiest. During its growth from 1952 when it purchased its own property, it was under the direction and leadership of average pitchers and the beginner.

The Canton Club owns over two acres of land complete with facilities. Ten courts with absolutely the best in lighting system (12,000 watts) plus other facilities, it is what every horseshoe pitcher dreams of.

Its income last season (14 weeks) was GREATER than what the National received last year from the Chamber of Commerce at Murray. The Canton Club will spend almost that amount for 10 additional courts and improvements to its holdings in March and April of 1956.

The organizational structure is such that club officers are interlocked with those of the State division and the parent American Association. Rule violations are almost non-existent. One in 1955. The members are fiercely proud of their self-supporting organization and they constantly boost the sport and organization.

The parent American Association has slowly, since its inception, organized the sport within a limited area. It is now prepared to aid in organization of the game on a nation-wide basis. And we will make the move soon.

Those who genuinely love the sport and are willing to work to get this grand game out of the barnyard class can succeed with our help. We know what has to be done and we know that what has been accomplished in certain areas can be accomplished anywhere in the world.

Here is the first horseshoe pitching organization that KNOWS what and HOW to organize and to STAY organized. I welcome no curiosity seekers who just want to fish for information nor those who are hide bound in their love of cancellation. Cancellation has to be forgotten and relegated to the past.

Those who want to organize and to do it successfully can get help. BUT the loyalty is to the American Association only. And that must be given in advance of any help. There is no charge for the aid but absolute affiliation is required and essential.

The A.H.P.A. has need of men of leadership qualities in all the 48 states; men who are strong willed, dedicated, and firm of purpose. Together we can make horseshoe pitching the No. 1 summer participating sport.

* * *

SOUTH CENTRAL STATES

By ALVIN DAHLENE, Director

Fellow Horseshoe Pitchers:

Do you want to give your game a possible lift this year—maybe the best Nation Wide lift it has ever had. If you do contact the following

Mr. Dave Garroway Todays Program,

National Broadcasting Company,

RCA Building, 30 Rockefeller Plaza,

New York 20, New York

Write a simple sincere letter to Mr. Garroway telling him that you would appreciate his efforts in getting a few minutes Nation Wide TV cast from the Studios in New York. Tell him that you want our Regional Director from New York—Mr. George Hart to appear on the program a few days or a week prior to the National Meet in Murray, Utah. Get busy every shoe pitcher that reads the Horseshoe Pitcher and do your duty. Contact your pitchers who do not take the "Pitcher" and have them write also. If we can get lots of letters to Mr. Garroway we have a chance since pitcher interest can turn the tide. Remember that procrastination is the thief of time so—get busy and get that letter to Garroway. The game needs the push of all the pitchers and just remember your Director can do very little unless you are willing to get in there and PUSH, PUSH, PUSH.

* * *

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- ARIZONA**—Peart Park, Casa Grande; Rendesvous Park, Mesa; Encanto Park, Phoenix.
- ARKANSAS**—Fair Park, Boyle Park, MacArthur Park, Little Rock.
- CALIFORNIA**—Community Center, Compton; Exposition Park, Los Angeles; Union Pacific Courts, Long Beach; Mosswood Park, Oakland; Horseshoe Grounds, Ontario, Golden Gate Courts, Candlestick Cove, Crocker-Amazons Courts, San Francisco; Memorial Park, South San Francisco; Lincoln Park, Santa Monica; McNear Park, Petaluma; Ives Memorial Park, Sebastopol.
- CANADA**—Dieppe Park, East York.
- COLORADO**—City Park and Washington Park, Denver; City Park, Greeley.
- CONNECTICUT**—Beardsley Park, Bridgeport; Pope Park, Hartford.
- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**—Commerce Courts, Washington.
- FLORIDA**—South Waterfront Park, St. Petersburg; Bradenton Trailer Park, Bradenton.
- ILLINOIS**—Welles Park, Chicago; Athletic Park, Canton; Riverside Park, Moline; Mineral Springs Park, Pekin; Reservoir Park, Quincy; Long View Park, Rock Island; Big Creek Park, Canton; Laura Branley Pk., Peoria; Kings Park, Pittsfield; Fairview Pk., Decatur.
- INDIANA**—Brookside Park, Indianapolis; Dornier Park, Frankfort; Columbia Park, Lafayette; Forest Park, Noblesville; 3rd Street Park, Bloomington; Greendale Park, Lawrenceburg; Jackson Park, Gary; Tower Park, Valparaiso.
- IOWA**—Birdland Park, Des Moines; Riverside Park, Ottumwa; Grapo Park, Burlington; Island Park, Cedar Falls; Ellis Park, Cedar Rapids; LeClaire Park, Davenport; Byrnes Park, Waterloo;
- KANSAS**—Forest Park, Ottawa; Gage Park, Topeka; Katy Park, Chanute; Huntress Park, Clay Center; Riverside Park, Iola; Klamm Park, Kansas City; South Park, Lawrence; City Park, Manhattan; Prospect Park, Wichita.
- KENTUCKY**—Shady Shores, Covington.
- MAINE**—Auburn, Riverside Courts, Bangor; Bangor Club, Farmington; City Park, Hebron; Community Courts, Portland; Deering Oaks, Rumford; High School, So. Portland; Wilkinson Park.
- MARYLAND**—Carroll Park, Baltimore; Magruder Park, Hyattsville.
- MASSACHUSETTS**—Municipal Playgrounds, Westfield.
- MICHIGAN**—Grand Rapids, Franklin Park.
- MINNESOTA**—Como & Elfelt, St. Paul; Soldier Memorial Field, Rochester; Loring Park, Minneapolis.
- MISSOURI**—Municipal Park, Carthage; Neosho, Fair Grounds, Springfield; Grant Beach Park; St. Joseph, Noyes Blvd. at Edmond; Forest Park, St. Louis; Liberty Park, Sedalia; Memorial Park, Sweet Springs; Phelps Grove Park, Springfield.
- NEBRASKA**—Harmon Park, Kearney; Dewey Park, Omaha.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE**—South Playground, Portsmouth; Ryan H. S. Club, Dover Point; Pop Ryans, 14 Central Ave., Portsmouth; White's Courts, 942 Woodberry Ave., Portsmouth; Henry Law Park, Dover.
- NEW JERSEY**—Warinanco Park, Elizabeth; Branch Brook Park, Newark; Wessel Brook Park, Wessel Brook Playground; Nash Park, Clifton.
- NEW YORK**—Central Park, Fort George, 193 Fort George Ave., Inwood Hill Park, New York City; St. Mary's Park, Williamsbridge Oval Park, Woodlawn, Van Cortlandt Park, all in the Bronx; Parade Grounds, Fort Green Park, Brooklyn; Belmont Lake State Park, Babylon, L. I.; Johnson City, Endicott-Johnson Courts; Kirk Park, Syracuse; Recreation Park, Port Chester; Edgerton Park, Rochester; K of C Courts Hoosick Falls.
- OHIO**—Jermain Park, Toledo; Cedar Point, Sandusky; Williams Memorial Pk., Wilmington. Community Park, Cedarville; Norwood courts, Norwood; St. Margaret Cartona, Cincinnati.
- OKLAHOMA**—Oklahoma City, Wiley Post Park; Sapulpa, City Park; Tulsa, Central Park.
- OREGON**—Laurelhurst Park, Portland; Bush Pasture Park, Salem; Atkinson Park, Oregon City; Columbia Park, Portland; East Side Park, Eugene.
- PENNSYLVANIA**—District Courts, Pittsburgh; Pt. Marion, Frank Murphy's Courts; Joe Mett's Courts, Reverse; Oakhurst Courts, Johnstown; Playground Cts., New Freedom. Millsboro Hotel Courts, Millsboro.
- RHODE ISLAND**—Columbus Square, W. Warwick; Olney Courts, Washington.
- SOUTH DAKOTA**—McKenna Park, Sioux Falls.
- TEXAS**—Will Rogers Park, Amarillo; Elwood Park, Amarillo; Mason Park, Houston; Bellvue Park, Wichita Falls.
- UTAH**—County Fair Grounds, Murray; Liberty Park, Salt Lake City.
- VERMONT**—Stolte Field, Brattleboro; Memorial Park, Bennington; Ethan Allen Park, Burlington; Local Athletic Field, Springfield.
- WASHINGTON**—Zelasko Park, Aberdeen; City Park, Bremerton; Woodland Park, Seattle; Wright Park, Tacoma; Fair Grounds, Yakima; Lions Park, Hoquiam.
- WEST VIRGINIA**—Bar B-Q Courts, East Nitro; Wheeling Island, Wheeling; Midelburg Park, Logan; Winisle Coal Corp., Chapmanville.
- WISCONSIN**—Washington Park, Milwaukee; Jones Park, Fort Atkinson.
- WYOMING**—Pioneer Park, Cheyenne; Washington Park, Rawlins; Washington Park, Wheatland; Community Courts, La Grange.

IF YOU ARE NOT LISTED HERE, GET BUSY!