

BEE REPORTER INDICTED

WRESTLING GAME IS AGAIN BEING PANNED

Attempt to Decry the Efforts of Jack Lewis, Omaha's Live Promoter

REYNOLDS WRITES VIEWS ON MATCH

Gene Melady Belittles Pesek and Says Not Championship Calibre —Stecher and Lewis Put on Madison Square Exhibition and Get the Money.

There is more grief in the wrestling game these days than for a long time before. Some of the grapplers are getting all swelled up on themselves and are demanding unusual conditions before they will enter the ring. They appear to all be making a bid for the big money and the game of double-crossing is growing with leaps and bounds.

Nebraska has been the grazing ground for a lot of these fellows, two or three of whom are making bids for near championship honors. It appears that promoters, too, have some differences of opinion about who should have the inside on everything good that is to be staged.

John Pesek, who has been making something of a name for himself, is now out for one of the big matches with either Caddock or Stecher. Pesek is a protege of Jack Lewis of this city. Lewis practically brought Pesek out and put him in front. The recent match between Pesek and London was a losing business for Lewis because of the riot that was staged just before the match was to have been pulled off. The authorities delayed the match for a week and everybody was interested in anything but wrestling when it was finally staged.

Lewis, following this match, proposed one between Pesek and either Stecher or Caddock. There appeared a chance that he would land it. But "Honest" Gene Melady also had an eye on all the promoting business and belittled Pesek, who he said was not of championship calibre. Apparently Melady was afraid this big fellow would shoot up a lot of his own promoting ambition if Lewis got a match between Pesek and either of the other two men. The result has been that a

lot of big talk has been put out, with wooden money purses aggregating immense sums being talked about.

As a matter of fact Pesek and Caddock had one match. Caddock undertook to throw Pesek twice in one hour. He not only failed to throw him even once, but Caddock himself came near being pinned on two occasions. Both of these men have developed greatly since that time. Pesek has participated in 200 matches and his shoulders have never been pinned to the mat.

Lewis has been a square shooter in the wrestling game and has come out of some of his promotions much to the bad financially. He has never squawked, however, and is still ready to offer a satisfactory purse for a Pesek-Stecher match, with a guarantee posted in advance.

The Stecher-Lewis match in New York the other night went considerably more than an hour, with Stecher securing one fall. Of course, it was not a finish affair, because Stecher will not take a chance on a long drawn out bout. If Stecher can not win in a short tussle he goes down and out in the second and third bouts, as was witnessed in Omaha when he wrestled Caddock.

Edwin Reynolds, writing from the Paxton hotel, has some pertinent remarks to make about what The Mediator has had to say about some of the matches of the past. His letter is as follows:

"Mr. Editor: Please note in today's dispatches that Joe Stecher won the wrestling match at Madison Square Garden in New York last night.

"Please tell us how this could have happened, as, according to the dope published in your weekly sheet a

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



Doings In Omaha Fifty Years Ago

Some joker passed off a flock of mud hens as Asel Steere for wicks. Asel had them cooked and never knew the difference.

Hugh Murphy was not high-jacked, as previously reported. Murphy said he had not seen liquor since the state went dry.

Edwin Reynolds, a versatile correspondent, lost \$25 by refusing to take a tip he had on the Stecher-Lewis match.

John Weiberg went into the taxi business and had two passengers the first trip. Mr. Lemp bought the gasoline.

Oscar Young, an industrious young Omaha paint dauber, overlooked a drink and was assessed a fine of thirty-five cents by his wife.

Johnny Moriarity was authority for the statement that nothing but chicken dinners and lemon pop were served at Scheschy's. Everybody said Johnny ought to know.

The Louis Nash stock was confiscated by persons absolutely without a conscience. Louie had many sympathizers.

Charlie Tyrrell entertained friends at his home one evening during the last week. He was a great entertainer in his time.

Ike Grossman said he was able to explain everything to his wife, which was considered a fine thing by his friends.

Jack Baldwin, just back from the war, started a campaign for his favorite presidential candidate. Jack was original if he was anything.

A statement was given out that former Officer Fimple was not interested in the North End Retailers' association. Fimple confined himself to the wholesale business, it was stated.

Luke McDermott said water was thinner than whisky and for that reason he got on the water wagon. The price of whisky had nothing to do with his decision.

CHARGED WITH BEING IN ARSON CONSPIRACY

Reporter Moore Declares Was Not In City When Riot at Height

ALLEGED ATTEMPTS AGAINST BEE

Friends Say Accused Has Perfect Alibi—Final Result May Become Boomerang to Promoters of Testimony—Indicted Man Was Witness Before Grand Jury.

Friends of the Omaha Bee and of J. Harry Moore, reporter for that paper who was indicted Thursday for conspiracy to commit arson, in connection with the court house riot, were not surprised to hear of the indictment. Moore himself sat in the courtroom of Judge Redick, reporting the case against Ira Johnson, charged with assault, when the grand jury returned the indictment against him. He delivered himself to the sheriff and was at once admitted to bail.

Moore was not even in the city the night of the riot. The grand jury took evidence, it is presumed, that tended to show that Mr. Moore's work on The Bee had much to do with what finally resulted in the riot. It is not a far stretch of imagination to understand why no jury would convict on such evidence. Although it is not known what evidence was presented to the grand jury to secure Moore's indictment, it is a safe guess that it was influenced by the leaders of the important police heads who have been objects of much criticism, facts in which were unearthed by Mr. Moore.

The Bee, like The Mediator, has for a long time been outspoken in connection with weaknesses in the police department. Criticism has not been withheld at any time and the plain truth has been given to the public. The plain truth, when printed, causes more excitement than the telling of untruths, and Mr. Moore, of course realizes that fact.

While this indictment is returned against J. Harry Moore, it is in reality an attempt, it is believed, to censure the Omaha Bee. We doubt not that Mr. Rosewater will be able to take care of himself and his paper, and that this indictment will have an effect quite different from what those responsible for it had expected.

This indictment will be a good thing in many ways, if Mr. Moore's case is ever permitted to come to trial. It will have the effect of bringing out a great deal of new stuff that the public has not heretofore been permitted to learn. In fact it is said that the indictment will be welcomed for that reason.

INTERESTING DOPE ON STECHER-PESEK STUFF

Alleged Stecher Takes No Chances on Being Defeated by Nebraska Competitor.

There is much interest in the story of Anton Stecher, manager for his brother, refusing to meet John Pesek for less than an \$8,000 guarantee. Stecher has been meeting a bunch of fellows in handicaps and one-fall affairs. He has been looking Pesek over, however, it is said, and wants to make a cleaning before if he ever meets that gent from the west end of the state.

As a matter of fact, should Pesek defeat Stecher the latter's star would quickly lose its brilliancy. Stecher never has taken any chances and is not going to begin now. Truth is, Pesek would probably defeat Stecher in an honest to God match, best two out of three. It would be bad business for Stecher to mix with this fellow. For that reason the price has been set so high that no promoter with common sense would talk about it. Jack Lewis, best of them all, would doubtless front for the big purse if he thought there was a chance to get these two gents in the ring.

If Gene Melady really wanted this match he would not haggle over a miserable thousand bucks, which San-

Some months ago when the Omaha Bee discovered how the present city government that paper undertook to point out and give publicity to what might be termed something near maladministration. Mr. Moore was assigned to the task of ferreting out much of the rottenness that existed, something that he accomplished in a most efficient manner. He has not fallen down on the job at any time, with the result that certain police officials and others were shown up in their true light. It is easy to understand why these influences should attempt to impose on a grand jury to secure Mr. Moore's indictment.

Moore was one of the witnesses before the grand jury. Just what effect his testimony had on that body is unknown, because publicity is not given to testimony before that body. Persons who know Moore intimately, however, could imagine that he would not mince words before the grand jury any more than he has minced them in his daily routine of matter printed in the Omaha Bee.

"I am not surprised," said the reporter. "I am free to say, however, that I was not even in the city the night of the riot, which will be brought out very plainly when I shall come to trial. I am not posing as a martyr, but it will be interesting reading when my trial comes up."

Mr. Rosewater, editor of the Omaha Bee, had nothing to say with respect to the indictment, but he gave every evidence of feeling that his newspaper had no apologies to make. In fact the impression was gained that the story has only been half told and that The Bee would be better than ever from now on.

Moore was in the criminal court room, reporting the assault case against Ira Johnson when the grand jury returned the indictment. He at once surrendered to the sheriff. Bond was quickly fixed and he was released from custody. He will doubtless have some good things to say in The Bee and readers of that paper will find it interesting to read his stories from this time on, as they have in the past.

OMAHA ENGINEER RAN LAST TRAIN TO FRONT

Joe Krebs Saw Much Service During War and Returned to His Home Recently.

Joe Krebs, who recently returned to Omaha from France, was the man who ran the engine pulling the last contingent of American soldiers from Brest to the fighting front. Early in the war Krebs volunteered his services to Uncle Sam. Being an experienced locomotive engineer, he was assigned to railroad duty in France. He was in the service two and a half years and during that time is said to have not spent an hour in a hospital.

Krebs says the big roundhouse in Brest would cover an ordinary American railroad yard. He was on the job early and late and hauled hundreds of train loads of soldiers and supplies to the fighting front. He is a brother of Officer Krebs and of Mrs. L. F. Dwyer.

When Krebs returned to Omaha he was given a reception at the Dwyer home, where all the relatives gathered to celebrate his return.

SENSATIONAL SCENES MARK TRIAL OF NEGRO ON TRIAL FOR ASSAULT

Sheriff Uses Big Force to Insure Safety of Accused—Mother of Victim Attempts to Use Fist on Accused in Court—Accusing Girl Swoons.

Scenes no less dramatic than sensational marked the trial of Ira Johnson, negro charged with assaulting Miss Bessie Kroupa. All week the trial has been on and may not be finished before Saturday.

Johnson is charged with one of the most serious crimes on the statute books, but maintains his innocence. His attorneys, the firm of Smith, Schall & Howell, of which the mayor is a member, made heroic efforts to minimize the tell-tale testimony which has been advanced against Johnson during the week.

Miss Kroupa, a frail girl of 15 and victim of the alleged assaulter, swooned under the rigid cross-examination of the court. The incident caused considerable excitement, the mother of the young lady threatening the negro, with physical violence.

Sheriff Clark, with four strong-armed deputies, have been in the court room all week. The sheriff has given personal attention to the trial and has kept his eye on the big crowd that has daily visited the court. The sheriff insisted that there should be no repetition of scenes in which a colored man was recently hanged from a pole by a blood-thirsty mob. He has stationed himself in an advantageous position in the court room to

watch every person who entered. Four of his deputies have continually surrounded Johnson and prevented any attempt being made to get near him. Even newspaper men have been kept at a safe distance.

Father Williams, colored Episcopal prelate, has watched the proceedings closely. Numerous members of the women's welfare organization, headed by Mrs. Jennie Calfas, have been in the court room each day, listening to the proceedings.

The prosecution was expected to close today. Among the state's witnesses was a 9-year-old boy, whose concise but to the point story could not be broken down by Mr. Frank Howell, who cross-examined him. It is said that a fund of \$1,000 was raised for Johnson's defense, that amount being required before the mayor's firm would take up the case.

The sobbing story of Miss Kroupa moved the strongest hearts in the court. She recited the assault, told how she was gagged and bound and dragged to a weed patch near Tenth and Canton streets. She was found there by George Kerrell and released an hour after the assault. The recital was too much for her already shattered nerves and she fell faint in the arms of an attendant while under cross-examination by Mr. Howell.

DESPERATION

The last gasps of the Ringer crowd are being heard in their desperate attempts to "pass the buck" to somebody for the burning of the Douglas county court house September 28. Mayor Smith returned to the city last Tuesday and, according to reports, he has not read a newspaper since the Sunday on which the famous Omaha riot occurred.

About the first interview the mayor gave out, however, declared that the city police were in no wise responsible for the safety from fire of the Douglas county court house and that the entire responsibility lay with the sheriff. "Under the law," he said, "the sheriff is the custodian of the court house and has authority to swear in as many deputies as are necessary in an emergency."

In his next breath he says he was in the court house himself, with gun in hand, until 9:30 p. m. Then he left the court house and entered the streets. It was on the streets where Mr. Ringer's police force was in charge that the mayor all but lost his life at the hands of the mob, not in the court house. The mayor is a fair-minded person, and those who know him best will wonder why he did not admit that the police did not protect him after he left the court house, which was in charge of the sheriff.

As a matter of fact, the mayor escaped with his life because a few husky Omaha citizens prevented a mob from hanging him on the streets, which was the very proper thing to do. Why does not the mayor admit this fact, instead of attempting to throw the onus of the affair on the sheriff? If Ringer and his men had done their duty not a single rioter would ever have entered the court house. After Ringer permitted them to get in and set fire to the building, with the sheriff's force on the top floor, an army of deputy sheriffs could not have stopped them.

So far as we know the mayor is a perfectly sane man. We do not know what the general public thinks.

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TUESDAY'S ELECTIONS

These are days when everybody is trying to get some consolation out of Tuesday's elections, but from our modest point of view we see nothing in these elections over which anybody can gloat very much. Perhaps the biggest significance to be placed on any of the different angles was the fact that both Ohio and Kentucky confirmed the present prohibition legislation. That was to be expected, however.

In the governorship contests democrats and republicans divided even, each electing two governors. There was no great upheavals, however, in any of the states where elections were held. Ohio already was dry and Kentucky had previously given evidence of joining the prohibition column.

There has been a disposition among those who opposed prohibition that a change in sentiment had come about and that Ohio, at least, would vote to retain Old John Barleycorn. They were given an emphatic disappointment. Ohio was about the last state to take action to cinch the fact of universal prohibition. Those who have had financial interest in retaining the liquor business as an American institution were only lukewarm in the fight waged on the prohibition issue. Most of the men who have fought this battle to retain their business gave up hope long ago, with the result that there was no pep behind the move to keep Ohio in the wet column.

Even Samuel Gompers' appeal to labor and to the country to retain booze as a national institution did not cut any important figure. From now on the moonshiner will be about the only person doing business. Of course there will be plenty of competition in the moonshine business, as is already indicated. A great nation cannot break off in a day a habit that it has taken centuries to form. The natural result will be a resort to other narcotics, including a generous stock of moonshine whisky.

The country is dry and it is going to take more than a generation to put it again on a wet basis, even in a modified form.

Note—Since the above was written it has become apparent that prohibition in Ohio, Kentucky and New Jersey has been defeated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NOT UNFAIR

Last week there appeared in the Monitor, organ of the colored people, an extended article, captioned "Withholding the Truth—Associated Press Abets Mob," in which that great news-gathering and distributing organization is taken strongly to task. We do not believe Father John Albert Williams is familiar with the workings of the Associated Press, lest that story would not have thus appeared.

The writer spent seventeen years in the service of the Associated Press and he never saw anything in its service that would indicate that a single one of the Monitor's statements was true. Father Williams is always fair, but he is simply mistaken. Ninety per cent of the daily newspapers of the country are voluntary members of the Associated Press. They are members because they know they will receive the news uncolored in all respects. That institution has experts who are quick to note any taint in a news item and they at once send a "kill" order on anything that smacks of being colored up or of being an untruth.

The Monitor is entirely wrong in its assertion. The writer happened to be an emergency man for the Associated Press the Sunday night of the Omaha riot and wrote 6,000 words of that story for that institution. We know that not a line of that story

MEDIATION

The columns of the Mediator are open for expression of opinion on any of the subjects enumerated below. Communications must be accompanied by name and address of writer. Capital and labor are equally invited to respond to this invitation. Send communications to 512 Brown Block.

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 The Preying Stock Gambler.
 The Evil of Strikes.
 The Misunderstanding of Labor by capital.
 The Wrong View of Capital Held by Labor.

was colored up to any person's detriment and that only the facts were stated. The Associated Press is not a race institution and is not interested in whether its legitimate news concerns either the black or white man, so far as racial considerations are concerned.

INDICTING A REPORTER

The grand jury is an important body. It meets from time to time as the courts decide is necessary, to ferret out crimes and take such action on the testimony deduced as may appear proper.

For three weeks Douglas county has employed a grand jury to look into certain matters in particular and into casual cases as they came before the body. Many indictments have been returned and others will doubtless follow before that body finally adjourns.

But the grand jury was never intended to become the butt of any particular political clique. Such a thing was farthest from the intentions of the men who framed the constitution by which a grand jury became possible. It is the business of a grand jury to indict persons who, by sworn testimony, are believed to be guilty of crime.

During the present session of the Douglas county grand jury numerous persons have been called, among them men whose reputation for veracity was questionable because of their individual records. There is nothing in the indictments thus far returned to indicate that politics entered into the action of that body.

It is significant, however, that a newspaper reporter, whose articles have been read far and wide, is among those indicted. There can be no doubt that the grand jury acted on the evidence presented, whatever it might have been. But wise citizens will doubtless ask who offered or gave the evidence under which this indictment was returned. It will, of course, all come out in the wash.

The grand jury is absolutely right, but the honest citizen will deplore any condition by which that fine body of men can be imposed upon.

GOMPERS AND THE COAL STRIKE

The strike of coal miners last Monday was apparently about as complete as leaders of the miners' union hoped it would be and the entire country has already begun to feel the effects of the walkout, although the battle has been on for only a few days.

Mr. Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, has stated that much of the unrest among the laboring classes has been caused by the action of the country in depriving millions of men of their personal liberty, by refusing them the privilege of intoxicating liquor. He believes that many of the big strikes may be traced to that condition.

Be that as it may, it is evident that this great labor leader is taking cognizance of the revolution that is already under way. Nominally, he has given sanction to the big coal miners' strike, but it is also evident that he is somewhat in doubt about the feasibility of the sudden action taken by leaders of the miners' union. He sees the unpopularity of such a strike at this time and doubtless scents defeat for the men who are striking.

In several states there is an apparent inclination of many thousands of miners to return to work and leave the settlement of the strike to mediation. There are also hints of disaffection among these thousands who were dissatisfied with the strike and wished to continue at work. Mr. Gompers doubtless has taken cognizance of this condition also.

It is significant that the great railroad brotherhoods have hesitated to give their sanction to the strike. The reason is obvious. With an extended strike of coal miners the brotherhoods themselves will be among the greatest sufferers. Their individual members and their families are among the first to feel it.

Mr. Gompers should take action looking to a speedy settlement of this strike before an eruption occurs that may have the effect of well nigh destroying the very interests that are seeking preferment. Later he will be thanked for such action and will also strengthen the position of organized labor more than he will by pursuing a suicidal struggle.

BARTOS BROTHERS ARE BEFORE SUPREME COURT

Disbarment proceedings brought against Frank W. Bartos and Stanley Bartos, both of Wilbur, has much significance and has also an Omaha end not generally known about.

One of these men was formerly connected with a brewery in his home town and was one of those sporty old guys who have more than one viewpoint of life. According to the charges made in the action for disbarment, these fellows attempted to get some of their German friends out of the army during the war.

Serious as is this case, more serious is one which connects one of them with an Omaha widow. She lives up on South Twenty-fourth street and is party to a divorce proceeding. It is stated that some of the letters written her by one of the Bartos family came into the hands of her husband. It is a full of racy matter, according to those who have read it, and has been the cause of a lot of trouble.

It is not known whether this tell-tale letter will be part of the exhibits in the disbarment proceedings, or whether it will be used in a civil suit which is said to be pending.

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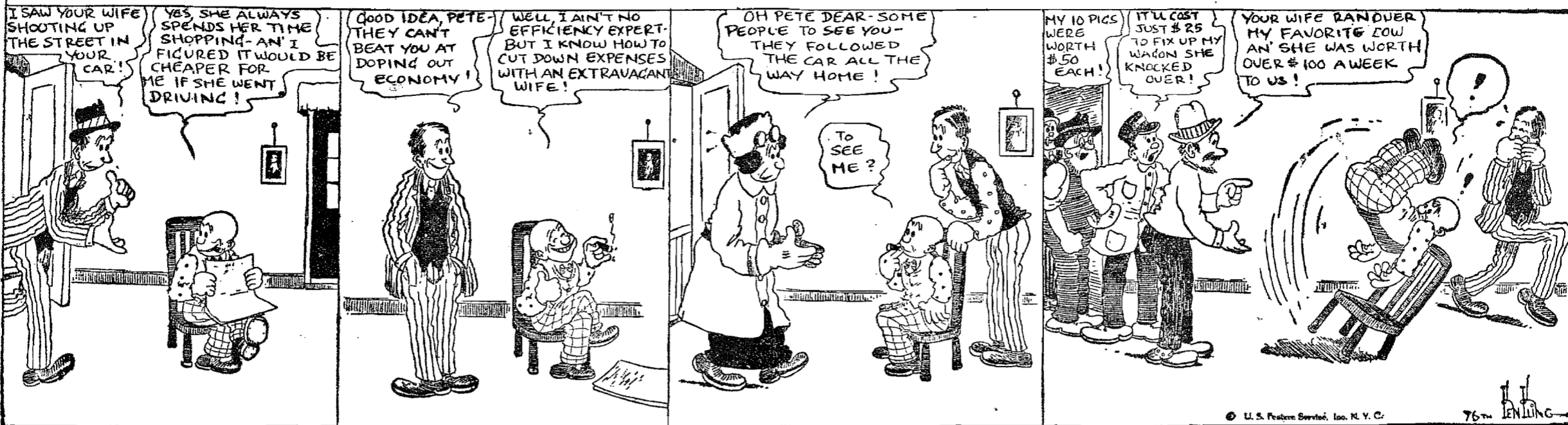
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HANK and PETE

GUESS PETE WILL LET HER SHOP AFTER THIS

By KEN KLING



WRESTLING GAME IS AGAIN BEING PANNED

(Continued From Page One.) while ago Lewis should have won this time; it was his turn. "Understand I did not lose a cent, because I always figure things right to the contrary as to what your sheet says, and I am ahead twenty-five bucks. Thanks." If he had really figured things just the opposite he would have bet on his own judgment and won twenty-five bucks, if he ever had that much. A one-fall match is no match at all, just a money-getting exhibition. Neither man is credited with either a defeat or victory in a one-fall affair. Both men were either afraid or had agreed mutually to do nothing which would prevent them both from bidding for big purses again in the near future and bilking wrestling fans out of their money.

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE REFUSED BY COUNCIL

Refusal of members of the city commission to support Police Superintendent Ringer in an attempt to "railroad" Jack McDougall off the police force is significant. As a matter of fact, McDougall took no chances and copped a job well in advance and does not care a penny whether he is exonerated or convicted. He has been on the police force twelve years, but did not care to take a chance with any framers. He just resigned.

Now the city council has refused to accept Ringer's recommendation that McDougall be dismissed. Ole Knutson, also a police officer, is also under fire, but the council refuses to confirm Ringer's recommendation with regard to charges made against him.

PINKETT ATTEMPTS TO HANDLE RINGER NEGROES

H. J. Pinkett, a four-flushing shine of the north end, has attempted to throw the colored vote in line for Ringer, et al, by constituting himself king of the north side colored population. From reports thus far received Pinkett confided to Ringer and his associates that for a political consideration he would swing every negro vote in the city to the Ringer side of the political ledger.

Everything had been arranged to carry out the big program when a majority of the city council got hep and, for the first time, turned down this fat cipher who has so long got away with the rough stuff. The famous Pinkett committee is said to have been indefinitely slated.

NEAL AND KATLEMAN CASES HEARD IN SUPREME COURT

The appeal of Fletcher Neal and Morris Katleman were argued in the supreme court this week. It is not expected a verdict will be rendered for two weeks. A. S. Ritchie and Benjamin F. Baker appeared for the defendants. The appeal is for a retrial on the grounds of new evidence. Neal lives at Peru and Katleman is proprietor of a local haberdashery.

One of the witnesses who testified against these men admitted to being an automobile thief and another that he was a confirmed dope eater.

ROTHERY TO MANAGE OMAHA ATHLETIC CLUB

Those of Omaha who have an acquaintance with Fred W. Rothery, just named manager of the Omaha Athletic club, will congratulate the club on its selection. Rothery is not only a keen business man, but has a fine sense of what is desired by members of such a fine institution as the Athletic club.

A Sure Thing. "Ah always had mo' faith in sympathy an in congratulations," observed Shlone. "You knows fo' sure dat dar n't anybody gwinter be jealous ob ou' habd luck."—Boston Transcript.

FIGHTING THE H. C. OF E.

Economy is a Point of View just as Extravagance is. The national bugaboo, the "H. C. of L." has become the "H. C. or E.", the "E" representing "Everything," and numerous authorities have laid down tactics for fighting it. Among the best are those from the pen of Thomas L. Masson, appearing in the Country Gentleman, as follows:

"Economy in a household consists in minimizing the nonessentials. That is, economize in the things you don't need, and the things you do need will take care of themselves. Remember this: that if you are on the right road what you don't need today is often what you thought you must have yesterday. Economy is a point of view just as extravagance is. No matter who you are or what you do, you can get along on what you have and be happy. Those people who are always worrying about money are the ones who are always wanting things they don't need. Here are a few rules that members of every household should keep in mind:

"The more you want a particular thing the more you should wait until the day after tomorrow before getting it.

"Making an impression on others is often robbing the future; beside, in some mysterious manner everybody knows when you are doing things that you cannot afford.

"Pay the highest for the best, not the lowest for the worst.

"When you shrink from knowing where you stand you need a guardian. The things that money buys are incidental when you cannot afford to buy them.

"When you find it necessary to economize on having the right kind of good time, then there is something wrong with your system.

"Buy what you can't afford only when you can afford it."

PRACTICE ECONOMY NOW.

Attorney General Palmer Says It's Every Patriotic American's First Duty.

"It is as much the duty of the patriotic American citizens to economize as it was when our boys were over there," says A. Mitchell Palmer, Attorney General of the United States in charge of the Government's investigation of profiteering. "All public men, as well as the press and the pulpit, should preach saving. They should plead with the people to do these things—produce more, consume less; work and save."

The Savings Division of the Treasury Department, and the \$30,000 War Savings Societies of the country have been co-operating with Mr. Palmer and his department in the effort to reduce the cost of living, check the profiteer, eliminate waste and reduce extravagance by means of sale and distribution of War Savings Stamps and Treasury Savings Certificates.

Better Off Than His Dad. Nowadays a man thinks he is having a rough time when he has to help move the furniture around a bit, forgetting that his glorious dad used to spend a week out in the back yard seating the dust out of carpets and thought nothing of it.

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