

BOXING.

HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD.

"Tommy" Burns, heavy-weight champion of the world met "Gunner" Moir last week at the National Sporting Club, in a boxing match for the championship and a purse (says a cable).

There were about 1000 spectators, and Burns was favourite in the betting.

Moir was outclassed, and seemed nervous from the outset. The visiting champion toyed with him until half-way through the tenth round, knocking him down twice.

At the finish, Moir was badly used up, but Burns "had not turned a hair."

In commenting on this, the "Referee" says: Possibly Burns did "toy" with the English heavy-weight champion, but I don't believe it. No man can afford to fool with another when there is so much at stake. As long as Moir stood up he had a chance—even if it only came through a fluke; consequently I think it might be taken for granted that Burns won as quickly as he could—no matter what he may have appeared to be doing. Toying never takes place where a world's championship, a big fat purse, and a large amount of betting are involved.

The match was originally arranged to take place on November 25 but Burns was injured in a railway accident, en route to New York, to take ship to England, and, though it was said at the time that he had only suffered slightly, the occurrence prompted him, upon his arrival in London at the end of October, to ask for a week's postponement. Our American correspondent refers to the accident in his letter published to day.

London "Sportsman" published the following regarding Burns:—"The newcomer is a thick-set man for his height. This will be understood when we say that he stands 5ft 8in, and scales in his clothes about 14st. Fit and well, he told the writer he should go about 12st 7lb, which will give a pretty accurate idea of his proportions. Pleasant in his manners, well dressed, and well spoken, Burns strikes one as an interesting personality. He is 26 years of age. The latest arrival drinks not, neither doth he smoke, that is, he does not partake of intoxicating liquor. We all have to drink at times, but Burns imbibes very lightly. He never saw a fight until he was 20, and he began his boxing career by acting as substitute, and beating in five rounds a man who had staved off Young Peter Jackson for six. Burns was born at Hanover, On-

tario, and not at Preston, as some have stated. Consequently he is a British subject, and one of us. Broad-shouldered and with a good reach, Burns, all the same, does not strike one as a fighter. He must be this, however, or he would never have accomplished the fine performances that stand to his credit."

The purse given by the National Sporting Club for the contest was £1300, with the stipulation (insisted upon by Burns) that the lot should go to the winner; but at latest dates Moir was contending that a loser's portion should be provided. An allowance of £200 had been made to the American for expenses.

"Gunner" Moir visited Australia in company with Hackenschmidt as one of his wrestling partners, and after engaging in two or three boxing contests in Sydney, returned to England to win the heavy-weight championship of that country by defeating Jack Palmer, whom some months later Jack (Twin) Sullivan, the second conqueror of Bill Squires, beat much quicker and easier than he accounted for the Australian champion. Another big match won in England by Moir was that against "Tiger" Smith—a middle-weight. Moir is not by any means a high-class boxer. He is strong, plucky, and takes a great deal of punishment before it seriously affects him. In America the match was, from the first, looked upon as a good thing for Burns, and at this distance from both men there were few who thought much of Moir's prospects.

CYCLING AND MOTOR NOTES.

CANTERBURY AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION.

NEW ZEALAND RELIABILITY TRIAL

The following entries have been received for the Reliability Trial, Christchurch-Dunedin, and return. Cars will leave Latimer Square on Friday, December 27, and are due to return on Tuesday evening, December 31st:—

OPEN CLASS.

- E. F. J. Grigg's 20-22 h.p. Dennis.
- A. Jones and Sons, Ltd., 18-24 h.p., Siddeley.
- Motor Import Co.'s 12 h.p., Riley.
- Mrs Airini Donnelly's 60 h.p. Napier.
- J. McRae Peacock's 30 h.p., Stuart.
- A. G. Nalder's 10-12 h.p., Stuart.
- J. S. Hawke's 20 h.p., Alldays.
- Messrs Adams, Ltd., 15 h.p., Talbot.
- Messrs Adams, Ltd., 12-16 h.p., Talbot.
- Messrs Adams, Ltd., 22 h.p., Minerva.
- Messrs Adams, Ltd., 15 h.p. Talbot.
- Skates and Bockaert's 10-12 h.p., Darracq.
- Skeates and Bockaert's 30-40 h.p., Darracq.
- J. McRae Peacock's 15 h.p., Enfield.
- W. McRae Peacock's 18 h.p., Stuart.
- Dexter and Crozier's 80 h.p., Cadillac.
- A. J. Toxward's 6 h.p., Siddeley.
- Dexter and Crozier's 10 h.p., Cadillac.
- J. S. Hawke's 10 h.p., Alldays.

PRIVATE OWNERS.

- Donald McLean's 12-16 h.p., Talbot.
- W. E. Mills' 12-16 h.p., Clement Talbot.
- A. Morten's 15 h.p., Humber.
- Mrs Airini Donnelly's 60 h.p., Napier.
- D. Wood's 14 h.p., Dennis.
- W. K. McDonald's 15 h.p., Darracq.
- Dr Thacker's 16-20 h.p., Argyll.
- Dr Finch's 15 h.p., Humber.
- W. E. Thompson's 15 h.p., Ford.
- E. Dorman's 20 h.p., Rover.
- R. English's 10-12 h.p., Stuart.
- T. Y. Wardrop's 14-16 h.p., Argyll.
- David Matson's 15 h.p., Talbot.
- C. Bell's 15-20 h.p., Enfield.
- J. McRae Peacock's 30 h.p., Stuart.
- G. A. M. McDonald's 9 h.p., De Dion.
- Mark Steed's 8 h.p. Reo.
- T. Williamson's 7-9 h.p., Stuart.
- C. M. Olliver's 8 h.p., Rover.

Mrs E. Bockaert's 8-10 h.p. Darracq.
Mr Arthur Cleave, hon. sec. A.A.A., left for Christchurch on Sunday to act as judge for the big contest.

Exhaustive trials have been conducted with the commercial motor in England, and the one just concluded extended over a period of five weeks. It was carried out under the direction of the Royal Automobile Club, and 56 vehicles, with loads varying from 10 cwt to six tons, were driven through England, and were continuously under full travelling condition for 40 days. Notwithstanding the high standard set by the club, there were 50 of the vehicles which successfully completed the great trial, and which is considered a great victory for this class of motor car.

In conversation with a Victorian who had then just returned from a trip to the Old Country (writes "Fortis" in the "Australasian"), he confirmed the reports in the cycling papers that the wheel is again most popular in the kingdom. Of the sporting side—racing—he saw nothing, but of touring he says its popularity was most marked. Of course, the numbers that use the wheel for convenience—for business and general utility—are really enormous; a man with a bicycle attracts no more comment anywhere than does the man with an umbrella. These statements are fully borne out by the annual reports of the various manufacturers. The old firm of Humber and Co. shows a profit of £154,000 and the business in both cycles and motors is increasing so rapidly that the capital has had to be augmented by £100,000, or a total of £600,000. The Premier Co.'s profit was £34,000, and that of the River Co. £30,000, while many other firms show substantial increases this year over the profits obtained in the previous term, foremost among which is the Triumph Co., where upwards of £17,000 is available for distribution.

Motoring on ice. It is said, will be popular this winter in England and the Continent, as the result of a motor sledge, now being made in large numbers. A four horse-power motor attached to a light sledge, constructed along ice yacht lines, is guaranteed to make 30 miles an hour over smooth ice. The strangest part of the new motor sledge is that it is driven by an aerial screw instead of getting its driving power from contact with the ice.

What is claimed as a record in motor tyre durability and mileage by the Continental Tyre Co., is a run of 23,000 miles, since April 3, 1906, by a well-known Victorian motorist on one of their covers. His weekly mileage was from 210 to 280 miles.

Ellegaard, the Danish racer, has come out on top among the cracks on the Continent. He won the final of the Grand Prix U.V.F., a very important event, and it the close of the outdoor season was riding as well as ever he did. He won his first world's championship in 1901.

BILLIARDS.

A SAD TALE.

(From the "World of Billiards.")

She only said, "The night is dreary,
He cometh not," she said;
He said, "I am awearry, awearry,
I would that I were dead."
* * * * *
He only said, "The marker's beery,
I'm sure I scored," he said;
He said, "This game is dreary—Hic!
dreary,
I think I'll go to bed!"

(That night a shadow on the wall,
The old grey wall beside the door,
A wavering shadow faint did fall;
Then, in the darkness, someone swore.)

She only said, "I hear you, deary,
I hear you, brute!" she said,
He said, "I am awearry, awearry—
I couldn't pot that Red!"

The oval billiard table has been followed by the "ovalex." It has two curved cushions and six straight ones.

The discoverer of the famous "anchor" or "cradle" cannon, W. A. Lovejoy, supplied us with a new sensation in the concluding session of the match for £25 a-side with C. Harverson (writes the London correspondent of the "Australasian.") The terms were 8000 up, Harverson conceding 1500 points start, no more than 50 consecutive "anchor" cannons to be allowed. When the day's play opened Harverson had got to within 7 points of his opponent, and by brilliant play soon obtained a lead of 434, his score then standing at 7479

to Lovejoy's 7045. The latter player had not troubled to go for an "anchor" break all through the previous play, but seeing defeat staring him in the face, he went for it, and quickly working the balls into position, he rattled off 46 "anchors." He then broke the position by causing the red ball to come about an inch away from the cushion, and asked the referee if the balls were then anchored, to which the answer was in the negative. Harverson contended that they were, but after much argument Lovejoy continued his break. A deft stroke worked the red nearly back into position, and another one did the trick. Harverson again protested, but unavailingly, and Lovejoy resumed making "anchor" cannons. This time he made 41 of them, and then, there being some doubt as to the number, he again broke the position, and regained it with three strokes, as before. This time, however, after making 16 "anchors," the red ball got worked into the pocket, and the break shortly came to an end, when it had reached 357. Harverson not doing much for a time, Lovejoy went on with some fine all-round play, including a brilliant run of 200, and eventually won by 315 points. At the conclusion of the game Harverson admitted that the referee could not have decided otherwise than he did.

WHERE TO PLAY BILLIARDS.

FORD'S Waitemata Billiard Club, Custom-street, Auckland. Open to play all-comers on 100 Break Ford's Unequaled Billiard Pockets, all colours. Post free to any part of New Zealand, 10s 6d.

BARTON, MCGILL AND CO., Billiard Table Manufacturers (Gold Medalists), 422 Queen-street, Auckland. Requisites always in stock.

VICTORIA BILLIARD SALOON, Peel-street, Gisborne.—Three First-class Billiard Tables. Everything New and Up-to-date.—Segedin and Ostoja, Proprietors.

RODGERS' BILLIARD SALOONS, Invercargill. Three Tables in Esk-street and Two in Dee-street, Prince of Wales' Buildings. Visitors will receive best of attention combined with First-class Tables, etc.

COFFEE PALACE BILLIARD SALOON (close to McMahon's Hotel), Whangarei. Two Fine Tables; nicely-furnished room, where visitors can have a quiet game with best attention.—S. CALKIN, Proprietor.

VICTORIA BILLIARD SALOON, oldest and finest Saloon in Auckland. Has been thoroughly renovated; three First-class Billiard Tables, where you can enjoy a game.—Segedin and Ostoja, Proprietors.

OPOTKI BILLIARD AND TOILET SALOON—Well-kept Room, two First-class Tables. Quietness and order maintained. Note address; satisfaction guaranteed.—HARRY LAMMER, Tobacconist and Hairdresser, Proprietor.

RANFURLY BILLIARD SALOON—Two First-class Tables. Visitors can rely on strict attention. Snooker, Pool, etc.—C. H. HUNT, Proprietor, 114 Ridgway-street, Wanganui.

T. R. JENSEN, Hairdresser and Tobacconist, Broadway, Stratford. Finest Brands of Tobacco, Cigars, etc. First-class Billiard Saloon, with all accessories. Next Railway Gates, Stratford.

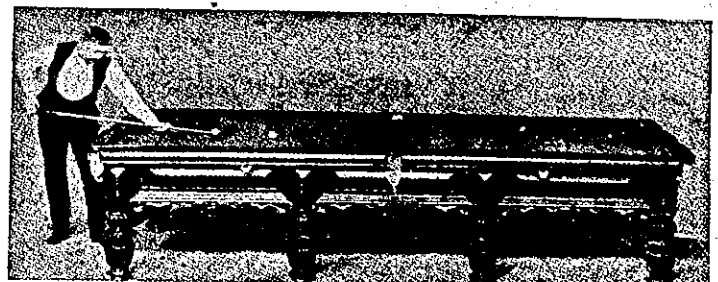
GEORGE-STREET BILLIARD SALOON, Palmerston North. Three First-class Tables. Billiard, Pool, Snooker. Every attention to visitors.—T. BILLS, Proprietor.

TAUTAKI BILLIARD HALL (late Christchurch Cycling Club Rooms), 186, Gloucester-street, Christchurch. Fitted with 3 Alcock's Best Tables and Accessories. All Brand New, including Crystalate and Bonzoline Billiard and Snooker Balls. 50 up 6d. 100 up 1s. Cycle stand provided free to customers. Telephone 2251.—C. NUNN, Proprietor.

LUTJOHANN AND CO., Billiard Table Manufacturers, Victoria Square, Christchurch. Full-size Tables from 85 guineas upwards; Special Dining Billiard Tables, from £32 to £45. Winners of Gold Medal at International Exhibition. All makes of Balls and Cues to select from.

W. LIZZANI, Expert Billiard Table Manufacturer, Dining-Billiard Tables, Bagatelle Tables, the Champion Cue, Turned-down Bagatelle Boards, all Billiard Table Requisites, Cardboard Shades, etc., etc. Lower High-street, Dunedin (next Railway Station). Repairs a Specialty. Telephone 2234.

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