

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

**ACCLIMATISATION AFFAIRS.**

**TROUT IN LAKE TAUPO.**

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Referring to my letter which you so kindly published in reference to the stocking of Lake Taupo with brown and rainbow trout, I find I omitted to state the date the rainbow were first liberated in the lake, and as this is of national importance to New Zealand in the future, may I ask you to publish this letter? I have before me the original petition from East and West Taupo residents, referred to in my letter. The petition distinctly states that the first rainbow were placed in Taupo in 1903 but only a very small quantity. I believe also there were a few hundred placed in the lake in 1904. You will therefore, note that brown trout were first placed in the lake in 1893, and 10 years later (1903) the rainbow. Rainbow were placed in the Waikato River below the Huka Falls previous to the stocking of Lake Taupo. It is most important that these dates be made clear, because it shows the abnormal growth of the rainbow, which were caught in Lake Taupo five years after they were first liberated, up to 21lb. in weight. The enormous quantity of food in the lake, such as frogs, koura, enunga, and young brown trout, was no doubt the cause of the wonderful growth of the trout in the lake.—I am, etc.,

(Sd.) C. R. CHAPMAN.

Mt. Eden, Auckland, July 14, 1911.

**PETITION TO THE AUCKLAND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.**

We, the undersigned residents of Taupo, Tokaanu, and Wairakei districts, beg to petition your Society to arrange to liberate one million (1,000,000) rainbow trout fry in the rivers running to Lake Taupo, next season (1905).

Experts on these matters have stated, and we are assured, that these rivers are the very best and most approved for rainbow trout in New Zealand, having gravel bottoms, and being free from contamination by poisonous matters from the washing of mining districts and saw mills.

We feel sure that there is a great future for anglers on these rivers, should our application be acceded to.

We have petitioned the Government to include Lake Taupo and all the rivers emptying into this lake, in the Auckland Acclimatisation Society's district. We have also petitioned the Government to vote £1 for £1 to your Society to enable it to carry our application into effect next season, and we have every reason to hope that they will grant our petition, in view of the large increase of tourist traffic the good fishing in these rivers would bring.

We take the opportunity of thanking your Society for the fry placed in the Lake Taupo rivers last season (1903), but the quantity is so small in comparison with the mileage of the rivers and the enormous expanse of the lake (25 x 17 miles), that it would be many years before these rivers would be stocked at that rate of liberation. You are no doubt aware that rainbow trout have become well acclimatised in the Waikato river below the Huka Falls.

AN old racing celebrity once paraphrased Solomon's famous proverb thus: Wisdom 1. Rubles 2. In the tobacco competition, we might say "Royal Standard" 1. Several others also started.

**AQUATICS**

**ARNST STILL UNDEFEATED.**

**A GREAT RACE.**

**NEW RECORD ESTABLISHED.**

The race for the sculling championship of the world between R. Arnst, the holder, and H. Pearce was rowed on the Parramatta River course on Saturday, under perfect weather conditions. There was a bright sun, smooth water, and a steady westerly wind right behind the scullers. The tide was also in their favour. The attendance was easily a record, a crowd of probably 100,000 witnessing the race. The river was black with small craft.

After one of the most gruelling races on record, Arnst won easily by four lengths in 19min. 46sec., which is record time for the world's championship.

Arnst won the toss, and chose the inside course.

The men got away well together, the champion rowing thirty-four strokes to the minute and Pearce thirty-seven.

There was no advantage on either side for the first 200 yards, when Arnst, pulling close to Pearce, was forced to stop and lose a stroke. This gave the challenger the advantage of a length, which he held passing Uhrs Point.

At the mile the defender's mighty strokes began to tell, and he started gradually to overhaul his opponent. He managed the corner badly, however, and got into Pearce's water, coming within an ace of colliding. Arnst had in consequence to stop rowing for a couple of strokes to allow Pearce to draw ahead.

Pearce kept on, thus showing his sportsmanship, as, had he stopped, Arnst must have collided and lost on a foul.

After negotiating the point, the champion beat his great back and settled down to a steady pull of about 28 strokes to the minute. He overhauled his opponent at the mile and a half. Pearce was rowing a slightly quicker stroke, but not with the same power.

Once in front, Arnst headed for home and rowed like a machine, gaining steadily until at Cabarita Point he led by six lengths.

Pearce was undaunted, and pulled magnificently. He tried to gain by repeated spurts, but the New Zealander was too powerful, and kept driving on in a heart-breaking fashion.

On rounding the point at Putney, a few hundred yards from home, Arnst was leading by a good ten lengths, and dropped to twenty-two strokes a minute.

Pearce at this stage looked round and wavered and then put in a last tremendous though futile effort.

Without doubt Arnst had never been more fully extended than when he passed the post a winner by four lengths. He immediately stopped rowing and dipped his hands one after the other into the water. The race had been a fearful strain, too much for the champion's condition, causing him to vomit.

Pearce in the last struggle felt the agonising torture of defeat, and when the pistol was fired he placed his hands before his face and sobbed.

The time for the total distance (3 miles 167 yards) was 19 minutes 46 seconds, and for the first mile 5min. 39sec. Arnst's weight was 13st 3lb., and Pearce's 12st 10lb.

Pearce admits that Arnst was too good for him. He will not challenge him again.

Arnst declares that it was the hardest race of his life.

Mr Beach says there is nobody in sight to beat Arnst.

The takings amounted to £800.

**BOXING.**

**BOXER'S REMARKABLE GAME-NESS.**

**A PAINFUL ENCOUNTER.**

Yank Kenny, a huge heavyweight, who acted as sparring partner for Fitzsimmons and Jeffries, and gained a little newspaper notoriety recently by suing Champion Jack Johnson for alleged services rendered the coloured pugilist in the capacity of trainer, once took part in a ring encounter which served to display the amazing gameness of his opponent—Jack Bonner, a well-known American boxer. Bonner was really a middleweight, but never objected to taking on a man a good many pounds heavier. Bonner was only a shade shy of championship form, and it took such top-notchers as Tommy Ryan and Kid McCoy to make him acknowledge defeat. Bonner was matched with Kenny, the contest to take place in New York. The latter stood considerably over six feet, had a tremendous reach, and weighed fully fifty pounds more than his prospective opponent. These odds were bad enough, but a few days previous to the battle Bonner found himself labouring under a still worse handicap. One of his teeth became ulcerated and an abscess developed which gave his left cheek the appearance of an over-ripe pumpkin. His friends wanted him to declare the fight off and lose his forfeit, but Bonner needed the money and decided to stick.

**LOOKED LIKE A PUMPKIN.**

When the men entered the ring Bonner's face was a sight. The man was hardly able to open his mouth and replied to the advice of his seconds with grunts and gestures. Kenny, sitting in his corner, saw Bonner's plight and grinned joyously. There was a mark he could not miss that immense swelling on Bonner's jaw. The fight began and Kenny aimed again and again for the swollen cheek. Several times he landed and all the agonies of hades were concentrated in the expression of Bonner's countenance. But he stuck to his guns, wading in doggedly, and hammering Kenny's immense body fiercely at close quarters. Along about the eighth round Kenny slammed a terrific right swing to the swollen jaw, and Bonner took a header on the floor. He was up at the count of seven, and clinched the round out. When he went to his corner he looked at his seconds, and grinned joyously. Then he opened his mouth for the first time since he had climbed under the ropes.

"Say," he said, "just watch me go after that big stiff now. I feel like a new man. That punch he gimme busted the abscess and the pain's all gone. I hate to hurt him after he's did me a favour, but it's got to be done."

He kept his word. From then on Bonner rushed his man like an avenging demon into whom his satanic majesty had injected a fresh dose of infernal fury. Try as he might, Kenny could not stand off his attacks and by the time the end of the twenty-fifth round was reached the big fellow was on the verge of collapse.

"I don't go much on Yank Kenny as a fighter" said Bonner after the fray. "He's big enough to whip two guys like me. But I tell you, pals, he's all there as a dentist. Old Doc Kenny's the goods for a tooth-curer."

**JOHNSON'S NEXT OPPONENT.**

**BOMBARDIER WELLS UNDER REVIEW.**

On September 30, Jack Johnson will be called upon to defend his title against Bombardier Wells, holder of the Lord Lonsdale heavyweight championship of England, belt and "hope" of the English race. That Wells is considered to have a good chance against the world's champion is the firm opinion of the promoters of the match, otherwise a purse of £8000 would not have been offered for the contest. Wells is almost an unknown boxer, except in England, and a few particulars regarding the English champion are not without interest.

First of all it is necessary to mention that Bombardier Wells has all the earmarks of a champion with the exception of stamina. This lack of stamina is a serious handicap to Wells and amounts almost to a dangerous weakness. He is lightly built in the legs and about the waist. He has a

wonderful reach and a fine pair of shoulders, but these will not serve him far in a match with a real good man unless he becomes better able to take the gruelling punishment that is sure to come his way.

Another point in connection with Wells which must also be counted as a weakness is his unconcealed dislike of the fighting game. He went into the ring as the quickest and best way of raising money, having, of course, a natural ability as a boxer, and as his tastes are quiet and his desires limited there is always the possibility that he will retire. On the other hand, Wells has, as good judges say, everything that a real champion needs except natural ruggedness and strength. He has no favourite blows. He can hook, swing, jab, and uppercut with equal power. He is not a one-handed man, but carries the soporific swat at the end of either arm.

Wells began fighting in the army in India. His father was a musical composer who earned enough to keep the family in modest circumstances. When he died the responsibility devolved upon Billy. Finding the wages of a bombardier insufficient for the new demand upon it, he supplemented his earnings by turning professional boxer. Like Gunner Moir he eventually won the army championship of India. Returning to England he won a couple of contests when he was seen by Eugene Corri, who can claim the distinction of being the real discoverer of this particular "white man's hope." Corri told McIntosh that Wells was the most promising heavy-weight he had ever seen, and the Australian lost no time in placing him under contract.

Under the wing of Hugh D. McIntosh and Jimmy Britt, who were then running a boxing establishment at King's Hall, in South London, Wells disposed of three fairly good men in Sergeant Sunshine, Private Voyles, and Seaman Parsons. He was then matched to fight Gunner Moir, the one-time English champion. Wells beat his man to the boards in the first round, but was prevented from finishing him by the bell. In the second round, thinking he had his man well beaten, he waded into him recklessly, with the result that he ran up against a stiff punch from the gunner and went down for the count. It has been impossible to coax Gunner Moir into the ring again with Wells.

This experience had the result of making Wells err on the side of caution in his next fight. He was matched with Porky Flynn, the Boston heavyweight, who came over here with Sam Langford. Although he was totally outclassed Flynn really treated the English crowd to a wonderful exhibition of ring generalship. Wells had him down several times in the early rounds of the fight, and during the best part of the contest Flynn was staggering round the ring from the effects of the Englishman's jabs and straight rights. But so clever was the American in conveying the impression that he always carried a dangerous punch that Wells with the lesson of the Moir fight constantly in mind, was unwilling to take any chances to finish his man. The result was that Flynn stayed the full twenty rounds when there was no reason why he should have lasted over seven or eight. Wells's most recent fight was with Iron Hague at the National Club, which he won rather easily by a knock-out.

A cablegram has been received in Sydney to the effect that Al Kaufman had accepted an offer from Mr. H. D. McIntosh of a match with Bill Lang or Jack Lester in Sydney in October, Kaufman's remuneration to be £1000.

In a match at Boulder, Western Australia, for the featherweight championship of the State, Billy Wenand, the New Zealand boxer, was obliged to give in to Tommy Jones, of Melbourne, in the eleventh round, owing to injuries received, Jones being declared the winner.

Arrangements have now been completed for a match for the heavy-weight wrestling championship of Australia between Clarence Weber, the well-known Victorian athlete, and Alex Bain, the Scottish wrestler, the match to take place in Melbourne during Show week, probably on September 7.

Harry Lawson, the celebrated club-swinging, established a fresh world's record of 90 hours continuous club-swinging at Kempsey, N.S.W., on July 22.

The cabled information that Jack Johnson is to meet Sam Langford and

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