

# BUSY SEASON FOR BILLIARD PLAYERS

## Slosson Is Arranging a National Championship Tournament

at 14.1 for This City.

### ONLY AMERICAN ENTRIES

#### First Amateur Matches Scheduled for This Week — Schaefer and Sutton Practicing.

Amateur and professional billiard players will be kept busy this Winter. Although the season is still in its infancy many tournaments are already being planned. The championship of the National Association of Amateur Billiard Players will be decided in Chicago, but the international tournament between the American and French amateurs, which is being arranged, will take place at the Liederkranz Club in this city the latter part of March. This tournament promises to be the most important amateur affair ever held in the United States, and as it has been suggested to throw it open to the world it is not improbable that Canada and England will be represented.

The professionals will engage in several tournaments. Jacob Schaefer and George Sutton will compete for the 18.2 balk line championship of the world on Nov. 5 at Chicago. Sutton has also challenged for the 18.1 championship, but no date or acceptance has yet been announced, although it is expected in a few days. The game if arranged will probably be played in Chicago.

George Slosson is arranging the first national professional 14.1 balk line tournament ever held in America. Entries will be confined to Americans, and the tournament will be held in the Madison Square Garden Concert Hall in December or January. Slosson says the professionals say the 18.2 balk line is too slow and the 18.1 is too tedious and slow, and a desire has been expressed to strike a medium. With this in view the 14.1 National Championship will be arranged. He has assurances from Jacob Schaefer, George Sutton, William F. Hoppe, Ora C. Morningstar and Albert C. Cutler that they will enter, and he will enter the tournament himself. This will probably be the only tournament of note to be held in New York, although Slosson will begin practice at once with a view to challenging the winner of the 18.1 or 18.2 championship, in which event the game may be played in this city, although the holder of the championship has the right to name the place for the match.

Slosson expects to have his new academy finished some time this week. The formal opening will take place during the week of Oct. 21, when Ora Morningstar and Albert C. Cutler will meet in a match at 18.2 balk line to continue the entire week. After the Morningstar-Cutler match a three-cushion tournament, open to all amateurs will take place. The first game will probably be played the second week in November.

The annual Harlem amateur handicap 14.2 billiard tournament is scheduled to begin tomorrow night at Morningstar's Academy, 125th Street and Lenox Avenue, but will be postponed until Wednesday or Thursday night on account of the absence of three of the contestants from the city. The entries and handicaps are: J. A. Hendricks, winner of last year's tournament, scratch; William Gerson, 275; J. Whitehead, 275; Dr. Beck, 225; M. Isaacs, 225; D. Weiner, 225; W. H. Leonard, 225.

The Class B 14.2 balk line amateur tournament for the Championship of Brooklyn will start early next month at the Knickerbocker Billiard Academy, Fulton and Jay Streets, Brooklyn. Entries have already been received, and a record-breaking list is expected. A pool match has been arranged between John Horgan and Jerome Keogh, which will mark the formal opening of the season at the Knickerbocker Academy. The Class B amateur billiard tournament at Maurice Daly's, 1241 Broadway, has closed with six entries, and will start the first week in November. The matches will be 300 points at 14.2.

Jacob Schaefer has finished a ten-day visit at West Baden, Ind., Springs, and will begin practice to-morrow in Chicago for his World's Championship contest for the 18.2 trophy with George Sutton. The latter has been preparing for the match at Chicago, and both players are reported to be in splendid form.

### Track Racing Dangers Pointed Out.

In discussing the dangers of automobile track racing in connection with the death of L. W. Smelser while driving a Lozler car in the last 24-hour race at the Morris Park track, Harry Lozler says:

"As regards the dangers of track racing compared with road racing, about which a great deal has been said recently, it has apparently been forgotten that fatalities have happened in road races, and will, as long as they are conducted along country roads and highways bordered by fences, telegraph posts, and stone walls. The fatal accidents in track racing have, in almost every instance, been caused by cars running through fences, and it is very improbable that a fatal accident will result by a car running off the track if wooden posts and other obstructions of this nature are removed. Track racing can be made just as safe as road racing, on a millé horse track, too, but not until these horse tracks are cleared from death-dealing contrivances, fencing in cars and drivers. If there had been no fence at the outer edge of the track where Smelser went through, he would have probably escaped without injury, as the car remained right side up, and Hall, the mechanic, who was low enough in the car to go under the fence, was uninjured."