

ATHLETIC BOARD HOLDS ORGANIZATION MEETING

The Yellowstone county athletic commission, empowered to regulate boxing, wrestling contests and athletic exhibitions in this county, met Wednesday noon at the Commercial club and perfected its organization. The commission was recently appointed by District Judge A. C. Spencer and Robert C. Stone, Joe L. Markham, chairman; Walter H. Innes and Dr. T. V. Moore, members; the commission, and D. L. Hays was appointed secretary.

At its initial meeting the commission decided to so regulate all athletic contests coming under their supervision as to limit the number of clubs to one for each city for the present, and will insist that clubs granted charters must live up to the strict regulations prescribed, bearing in mind that only clean athletes will be sanctioned. Suspensions for any infractions of rules will be the penalty noted out to participants or clubs, as the case may be, it was said.

Rules and regulations will be adopted similar to the code now in vogue in the states of Wisconsin and New York. No boxing or wrestling matches, so reads the law, will be allowed unless approved by the commission, and clubs staging contests must first make application to the commission for a charter and file a bond with the county treasurer in the sum of \$5,000 before any action is given the application.

The law provides that 50 per cent of the net receipts shall be turned over to a fund which shall be used for the support and maintenance of a home for returned soldiers, sailors and marines of the world war.

Notice was given the commission by the American Legion Athletic association that preparations are being made to make application for a charter. It is the plan of the legionnaires to stage their first athletic show under the supervision of the commission a week from next Friday. The program will be submitted to the commission for approval, following the granting of a charter. The committee expressed approval of the best legion post in its endeavor to promote clean athletics.

The appointment of an inspector to act as agent for the commission at all matches was deferred, as were the appointments of referees, of whom, it is understood, there will be three or more.

The power invested in the commission, according to the law, is far-reaching. The governing body is invested with the sole direction, management and control of all matches, and there is no appeal from the decision of the commission, the law being so framed that all matters pertaining to licensed athletics is to be handled by the commission. The law even prescribes that any person who violates any of the provisions of the act is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Every effort will be made by the commission to govern athletics on a clean, sportsmanship basis, say its members, and the support of all the civic men's clubs in the city has been assured.

The next meeting of the commission will be held some time next week, perhaps Tuesday, it was said.

Athletic Board Holds First Meeting

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