

Inkerman. Ont: Canada.

Jan. 18. 23.

Dear Pal.

I have just received a long letter from Mr Bernard, which explains to us just how our asso: stands, & because of this it means that we have to do some reconstruction.

Firstly, I guess he is about sick of it, & has cleared his hands of any business connections with the asso. As I told you in my last letters, I got after him strongly for not getting out the work, & his apparent lassitude, he states he never intended to have any business connections with it. So we will pass over any visible arguments, & get to the level.

He states that his mag: will be our organ as long as we wish it, & will help us every way he can, but he cannot be concerned any more with its business obligations.

He is right there, & if anything goes wrong with the mag: we are in a better position to explain things.

Now he has ceased to be treasurer, as I wished, & the rest of us did.

Therefore I am appointing you the Treasurer for same, & I believe you should also be the Sec: As these both go best together. Of course if you only wished to be Treasurer, we could have it stated that all subs must be sent to you, & you could then send the names to me, for filing, once a month. It would save postage expense this way, & I would remain the technical adviser, giving the required advise on all asso: matters regarding lifting, & the rules.

I know you will accept the post as Treas: so am sending you what we have on hand.

I am bitterly dissappointed to see how small the list is, after all the work I have done, & the one reason I wish you to Sec: also, is because it will save me much expense. You know all inquires must send postage, & 25 cts for other information. You know that American postage stamps are no good here, & that is my expense. When they write you, you will receive the postage, & they who send none, you do not have to answer.

The mass of correspondence is past, as I canvassed all on my list, frequently, they who wish to join now, must send in subs only, & you keep out \$1.50 & send the other \$1.50 to the editor for mag:

You have the subs of three men not sent in yet. Holt, Berry, & Sloan. You had better send thier mag: subs in, & thier is a few who Bernard has done, that I do not know. I have only sixteen on my list as members, after all my work, & he has five I do not know.

Now here is the proposition for us to look at. It is all in our hands now, & Bernard has sent me all that is coming to use. He claims that it cost him \$8.75 for those few blank cards. I guess they robbed him, as I could have got the few I got for a dollar. Anyway, he had \$15.00 altogether of ours, & deducting this cost leaves us \$9.25. He claims that the certificates would cost \$12.00 I do not believe it, unless they are robbing him, & I know you can get 100% done a darned sight less. You see what they will make 100 for, & have a stock cut on to make it as ornamental as possible.

I was wondering if it was worth our while to go on with it, but reconsidering the thing, I think with the little money we have, & all the work that has been done, we should make a stab as a last attempt & see what we can raise on

the strength of the record certificates. If you have enough over after 100 certificates are paid for, get some membership tickets made with the rest. This may increase the enthusiasm.

There is undoubtedly a lot of old Milo men you remember that you could influence to join for the certificates.

I have done a lot & hate to see it go flop, tho I believe Bernards inactivity has hurt us. I believe Gay will shoot in a few members, & he cannot put any thing across us.

If this fails, then, what we will do, is just this. We will write Calvert, & say that Bernard has dropped it, & ask him if they will go ahead with it, as he is always writing me of his pupils & readers wanting an asso:, & they may redeem it. Tho I believe we should give it a try first, & use up the money in an honest endeavour to save the cause.

Another plan we might take, is this. Supposing it fails. We can write Calvert & if he does not want to handle it, we can say, here. As H & L has dropped us, we have deducted the \$1.50 mag: fee off, & are accepting members at \$1.50, & the asso: is run free of any mag:, & we would appreciate it if he would be an honorary member, & give it publicity in his mag:, & amongst his pupils.

If not we will have to drop it, but I believe for the future that we are looking at, that it behoves us to give it a try, & if we run a course, we can resign, & see other good men are put in our place.

Bernard seems to be wrapt up in his mag: which I do not blame him, as it is his living, to bother with us, so we must look after ourselves.

Another thing I have in mind, is this, why I wish to see the asso: last a little longer. You & I can make records & receive the official recognition before it would close, presuming it did, & as diploma holders for records, it is very influential for our prestige.

Bernard will give all the publicity we wish for any records etc.

Now I hope you will accept the Sec: Treas: of it, as it will release me for other vital work for the asso. answering questions, & arranging rules for records, & canvassing prospective members.

I hope that you have gone into the letters thoroughly I sent you, & I will tell you Ottley, if you are more bound up in the course than in booklets, I am with you, & we will prepare our propoganda, & ads, & exercises, & personal appeals. Then we will be all ready for the time when we are ready.

As I said in my last letter, it will be much better if we can be together. So much time is saved, & we are there to snap up any prospective exhibitions that will show up. I am awaiting for your answer for touring fairs etc, before writing to Coney Island & Atlantic City for concessions on the boardwalk, or percentage. You know I am eager to begin, & so are you, & as soon as you can locate me some work to fill in on, so I will not be wasting time & money, the better.

As I said, I do not care what kind of a job it is, wether it is at my trade or not, as long as there is a decent living in it. Tho there should be work at my trade at some of the steel works. I suggest these things all for our mutual benefit, & the sooner we get together, the sooner we perfect our acts, etc, as Free attractions commence from the beginning of May, & often before.

If you have written me about our propositions, all you have to do is just write a short letter to this, saying O.K. or not. That all.

In haste your sincere pal. George.

P.S.

Bernard wrote also, saying, that he was giving a diploma away for all creditable performances & records done under our auspices, & he would require 50 cts for same. He said he would help us this much.

In my letter to-day, I pointed out, that this would hurt us, as many will say, "Why should we pay out \$3.00 to join an asso: & have our efforts recognised, when we can pay just 50 cts to "H & B", same as we would have to pay the asso:, & get just as much official recognition."

I said this was taking things out of our hands, & if it was not it would not help him, as members would prefer asso: records.

I think he sees an opportunity of a few spare dollars, & now he has broke with us officially, he can make it at our expense.

Of course if we had to quit the asso: it would be alright for us all, & I therefore asked him if he would hold it up a while to see what conclusions we could come to.

If we decide to go ahead, we cannot stand for it, & if we quit, we can encourage him to go ahead.

I am enclosing a few American stamps for you to use up.

Snyder writes me he is greatly in love with his new bar & belt.

Now remember Ott: to send Bernard \$1.50 for each mans sub: you have, as it makes them feel we are only out for graft.

Earle is having my photos issued thru Britain & Europe in the famous athlete postcard classes, & I am going to get him to have you issued also. It will give us foreign reputation.

So send me a photo or so, for when he comes home, then he can send them to London for publication.

Now I will close, & hope to hear soon from you, & that we can soon be making some money, & preparing the way for our future, which should bring us an harvest.

I shall draft out some schemes for advertising us as a corporation. You understand the value of this idea Ott: There is people who will say. Jowett & Coulter are getting out a course, & they were pupils of Liederman & Milo, & it will be just the same. This other way, we can advertise as tho the corporation has hired the two greatest experts on the continent to give personal attention to all pupils. Gay is talking about a course, & we want to beat him to it, you know that "First there is first served"