

# WRESTLING LOST OUT

## Had Chance to Enter Mat Game But Medicine Proved Greater of the Two Lures

Known In Hawaiian Athletic World For His Football and Rowing Abilities; Has Wrestled Exhibition Matches With Some of the Best Matmen of the World

By MIKE JAY

In the Hawaiian athletic world Dr. Paul Withington is known for his performances in football and rowing, and in these two branches he is well known indeed. But there are few here who know that Paul Withington had an excellent opportunity at one time to become a leading heavyweight wrestler, a champion if he wanted the honor. He won the New England amateur heavyweight wrestling title in 1909 and so impressed wrestling promoters that he was approached with some excellent offers, but the science of medicine proved a greater lure than the art of wrestling, and so today Dr. Paul Withington is a practicing physician of Honolulu instead of being rated in the wrestling handbook.

There is precedent in the case of a physician turning to the mat game in "Doc" Roller of Seattle, who found pulling teeth less remunerative than pulling wrestling matches. But whereas the lure of matwork took Roller away from dentistry the lure of medicine took Withington away from wrestling.

In his time Dr. Withington knew many of the prominent wrestlers of a decade ago, including Zyzsko, Roller, Craddock, Stecher and Gotch. With a great many others Dr. Withington is a strong believer in Gotch, who, he says, was the greatest of all wrestlers.

### Lost Art

"Most of the wrestlers nowadays," said Dr. Withington, do not know much about wrestling. This man Lewis has turned out to be a better wrestler but he did not know a great deal when he started and he does not know as much as Gotch or some of the older men did in their day.

"Wrestling is the one game in which once you have beaten a man you can always beat him. The element of chance is almost negligible.

It was following his winning of the New England heavyweight championship in 1909 that he was approached with a view to entering the professional wrestling game. He gave the matter due thought but the lure of medicine was stronger and so while he wrestled in many exhibition matches he remained an amateur and continued his study of medicine.

### Career

Dr. Withington was born in Econdido, Cal., in 1888 but came to the Hawaiian Islands as a boy and attended Punahou academy. Later he attended San Diego high school in California and then Harvard university.

His career, though he is only 36 years old, brims with activity of many kinds. This sketch only endeavors to cover the highlights of his athletic activities and hence does not really give the correct impression, for he did not by any means devote all his time to athletics.

### At Harvard

He studied at Harvard for nine years, starting his attendance there in 1906. He made the football team in 1908 and 1909 and was picked by Walter Camp on his second All-American team of 1909 as center. He did not make the team before because of his weight for he only scaled 142 pounds in his freshman year.

After graduation he spent some months at Watalua plantation here, riding 30 miles a day on horse back. Then he went back to Harvard to the medical school for four years, completing in 1914. During that period he was assistant graduate treasurer for the Harvard athletic body. He rowed for the Union Boat Club, winning the New England intermediate singles in 1911, senior singles in 1912, metropolitan sculls in 1913 and the junior sculls in the American Henley the same year. It was in 1914 that the Union Boat Club sent a crew captained by Dr. Withington to the English Henley. This crew went into the finals and lost out to the Harvard crew. That was the first time that two American crews were in the Henley finals.

In 1915 Dr. Withington went to France with the British army, a member of the Harvard surgical unit and in the fall of 1915 was an interne in the Boston City hospital. He spent quite a lengthy time in the Boston hospital and took a vacation in the fall of 1916 to go to the University of Wisconsin as instructor of surgery and coach in football.

### War

The year 1917 found him at Camp Funston where he became athletic officer of the 89th Division under General Leonard Wood. Dr. Withington developed the only football team that beat Great Lakes in two years. He went to France with the 89th Division in 1918 and his divisional team won the A. E. F. football and baseball titles in 1919. After the war he was with G-5 in Paris and rowing coach to the American army, taking a crew to Henley. The eight got into the semi-finals, the four in the finals and he himself in the scull into the finals.

His crews also took part in the Inter-allied regatta. He rowed in the four and sculled also, finishing in third place. He returned to Cambridge in 1919 to coach the Harvard freshmen and then in 1920 came out to Hawaii to play football that autumn with the Outrigger Canoe Club team. He also played with the team in 1921.

He was coach and played with Palama in 1922 and last fall assisted Percy Haughton to coach Columbia university in New York. Meanwhile he had been building up his practice and it begins to look

now as if this fall will be his last chance in many moons to don the moleskins even as a coach.

In local rowing he was on the Myrtle senior crew which won in 1920 in the big local regatta and on the senior crew which won in Hilo in 1921. In his rowing at Harvard he made the varsity crew in 1908 and 1909, both years seeing the Harvard crew victorious over Yale.

### Busy Man

His activities have been so numerous that it is quite a task to tabulate them in their order and hence no effort has been made in that direction with the result that we have overlooked a number of them. For instance he was quarterback of the Punahou football team in 1903 and on the Punahou tennis team in 1904.

He was on the Harvard swimming team from 1905 to 1909 and captain of it for the last two years. From 1907 to 1909 he held the intercollegiate championship for 100 yards and was invited to go to the 1903 Olympic games but could not accept because of college crew work.

In baseball he pitched for the second Harvard team in 1907. In his football career previous mention has not been made that he was line coach from 1910-14 for Harvard. It was in 1914 he edited the "Book of Lothrop Lee Shepard, publishers, the second edition of which came out in 1921.

## VOLLEYBALL RACE PROVES SUCCESS

Many Business Men Taking a Vital Part in the Circuit

The summer volleyball league at the Central Y. M. C. A., which was begun July first and will continue through August, has resulted in a lot of interest among the business men. Where formerly the summer months showed a decrease in attendance and a lack of interest, this year has shown increased attendance and an interest that has been growing. Every Wednesday and Friday afternoon there is an attendance of from 35 to 45 men who are keeping themselves in condition with volleyball.

Though the series is drawing near the close, the closeness of the teams is remarkable, only a few games separating the leaders from the tail-enders, while any day may see a complete upset of the rating.

The scores to date are as follows:

	W.	L.
Bollermakers, Capt. Hull	23	22
Colts, Capt. Holt	27	24
Pointers, Capt. Whittle	26	23
Quinines, Quinones	20	21

## National League

### Yesterday's Results

At Chicago—Philadelphia 6, Chicago 6.
At Cincinnati—Brooklyn 5, Cincinnati 10.
At Pittsburg—New York 4, Pittsburg 6.
At St. Louis—Boston 2, St. Louis 6.

### Standings

(These do not include today's games)	W.	L.	Pct.
New York	70	41	.631
Pittsburg	64	44	.592
Chicago	60	48	.556
Brooklyn	60	51	.541
Cincinnati	59	55	.518
St. Louis	45	63	.423
Philadelphia	40	67	.374
Boston	29	69	.361

## DR. PAUL WITHINGTON



## COMMENT

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America; but it will be noted that all that palaver has died down now that the Olympic games have come and gone.

A little close study of the results of the track and field events at the Olympic games reveals the interesting fact that the west outscored the east two and one-half to one.

Uncle Sam could have gone to Paris without a single eastern athlete and won the Olympic games just the same. Because Uncle Sam won the Olympic games on field strength as much as on anything else.

As they do in intercollegiate meets, the westerners grabbed most of the field events. Just about one-third of the 167½ points were made on the cinder track. Westerners placed 16 of the 22 individual events.

Some record for the west.

They say that "Doc" Adams has got his driving down so well and has cut out hooking and slicing so much that a dozen balls is enough now to get him around 18 holes. (Adv.)

It is always pleasant reading to

hear about the clown that became the circus owner, or the messenger boy that became a railroad president. Horatio Alger, Jr., continues to appeal, but even more pleasant reading than that is about some dumb animal who gained the heights after years of obscurity.

The mail service of the Associated Press carries a yarn under a Regina, Sask., date line which reads interestingly as follows:

"A year ago plugging to supply locomotion to a Regina Beach milk wagon: today one of Saskatchewan's unbeaten race horses. That in brief is the astounding record of Tony Silvester, the seven-year-old speed from the Vassar and Taylor stables who has already hung up a brilliant record on western tracks.

Last summer the homely Tony spent dragging the morning milk to families that had moved to the beach to escape the oppressive heat. Though he came of a racing sire, Silvester J, neither his appearance nor his gait had given any indication that he might be a money winner on the track.

"This spring, however, the horse was given his chance and trained for six weeks. The first hopeful sign was when he waxed temperamental, a sure indication of a star, either on the track, stage or baseball diamond. His debut was not auspicious, for he trailed badly be-