The Gycle Deli

FACULTY

If one of the first topics does not attract the attention of the players, one of the latter nature is sure to do so, and the game is on. Not the billiard game, however—that is all off. The real game is baiting the players, and no one should venture to draw a "pill" at the noon hour and assume a cue unless he is willing to stand the cross fire from the side lines.

That often repeated statement, "He who fights and runs away may live to fight another day," has been changed by the management of the noon-day game to, "He, who starts a fight and runs away, may hope to start once more another day." And they do start on another day and they do run away again, or otherwise disappear from the zone of action by withdrawing within a shell of submissive silence.

For quite frequently the hunters become the hunted. Particularly is this true on those occasions, when, the setting having been properly prepared, a verbal attack is directed at the principles of organized labor. The end of the battle is always the same. The management invariably beats a mumbled retreat, leaving the field to that courageous and witty descendant of the originator of the diplomatic interrogation in regard to the publicity of a public fight.

With the main event over, the process of addition as practiced by the Chinese laundryman is renewed, while from the reading room comes the now audible fragments of the general conversation on those ever interesting topics of foreign travel, philosophy, literature, art and music.

Through the doorway across the entrance hall is observed a thoughtful reader who in a preoccupied manner directs his gaze toward the origin of a staccato lecture on the subject, "Why is a loop?" and knitting his eyebrows in questioning manner, readjusts his heavy eye-glass and arising slowly, walks into the billiard room to enjoy in peace the remainder of his story, not without, however, giving expression to the plural of a term sometimes applied to a small piece of hexagonal steel with a threaded hole in it.

The noon-day hour is at an end and those who have duties of a more serious nature depart for office or class room or go into executive session in a quiet corner where matters of importance may be discussed in comfort without interfering with the enjoyment of a good cigar.

