

SPORTING LIFE

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DEVOTED TO
BASE BALL AND TRAP SHOOTING

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ACTION IN BASE BALL WORLD

Pending the Judicial Decision in the Trust Suit the Major and Minor Leagues Are Continuing Their Preparatory Work for Coming Season By Schedule Adoption, Team Completion and Training Plans

Pending the decision of Judge Landis in the great Trust Suit case, base ball activities are proceeding as usual in the major and minor league world, in this preparatory period. The American League schedule will be given out this week; next week the National League schedule will be promulgated; and then the Federal League will adopt its schedule. Each league will also close up its legislative business. In the matter of player signing and training preparations all leagues are making progress. The latest news from all points will be found below and on our inside pages.

President Gilmore Has Hopes

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 2.—President Gilmore, of the Federal League, left this city yesterday for Chicago. He stated that he would return East in the course of a couple of weeks to aid the detail of organization in the new minor league of New England cities, which proposes to operate as a farm for the aspiring independents. Mr. Gilmore declared that Saturday's meeting in New Haven convinced him that such a circuit would be a paying investment for its promoters. He declares these men are willing to provide both capital and co-operation on the assurance that Federal League club presidents turn over surplus talent and guarantee salaries in excess of the usual minor league rates. It was learned yesterday, however, that Mr. Gilmore did not come East with the sole purpose of investigating conditions in the New England cities. He was prepared to accept Newark as a substitute for Kansas City in his big circuit, but would not guarantee a permanent franchise. It is stated that he has designs upon New York and that ultimately the Indianapolis Club will be switched to the environs of the Greater City.

Latest National League News

NEW YORK, February 2.—The Brooklyn National League Club today received the signed contract of Sherrod Smith, pitcher, who was with the Newark Internationals last year. * * * All the young players of the New York Nationals have been ordered to report for Spring training practice at Marlin, Tex., on February 28, it was announced today. The regulars will start from here on February 25. Manager John McGraw will be in charge of the contingent if he gets back from Cuba in time. Emilio Palmero, the young Cuban left-handed pitcher, has signed a contract for a year with the Giants, it was stated. * * * The National League Spring meeting has been set for February 9, at the Waldorf-Astoria. * * * The Pittsburgh Club has transferred catcher Frank Kafora to the Omaha Club, of the Western League.

Latest American League News

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 2.—The signed contract of Fred Tutweiler, an outfielder sold by the Providence Internationals to the Boston Americans, was received at the Red Sox headquarters in Boston today. * * * When the American League assembles here on Wednesday, it is expected that an announcement will be made in relation to an

important trade to be accomplished with a view of strengthening the New Yorks. President Ban Johnson said today that more than one big trade was under way and that he had strong hopes that some of them would go through in order to give the new owners of the club here a better team with which to start the season. * * * The American League, after adopting its schedule for the coming season, will also take action on limit-

ing the number of players to be carried during the playing season. It is stated that the American League will reduce the limit to 20 players. The National League has decided on 21.

Ban Johnson's Summary of Situation

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 2.—President Johnson, of the American League, is here



EUGENE PACKARD

Pitcher of the Kansas City Federal League Club

Eugene Packard, the young left-handed pitcher of the Kansas City Federal League Club, was born at Colorado Springs, Colo., on July 13, 1889, and played his first professional ball with the Wichita Club, of the Western Association, in 1908. His work in his first year of professional ball attracted the attention of the Louisville Club, which drafted him that Fall. He was with the Louisville Club for the season of 1909, and was then traded to the Columbus Club, of the same league. He remained with Columbus until the Fall of 1912, when he was drafted by the Cincinnati Club, of the National League. Packard remained with the Reds until last Winter, when a tempting offer from the Kansas City Club, of the Federal League, caused him to cast his fortunes with the new organization. Packard is a left-handed hitter and is so proficient with the bat that he will be able to turn to the outfield when his pitching days are over.

resting from his arduous New York deal labors and awaiting the gathering of his league club owners here tomorrow. He does not take the proposed independent New England invasion seriously. "I sincerely hope the Federals do get mixed up in a minor league," said Johnson, yesterday. "It will mean the loss of just so much more money." It is stated that millionaire Plant, of New London, has officially notified Ban Johnson of his determination to resent intrusion by the independents. Regarding the general situation, President Johnson said: "Personally, I do not care to discuss the base ball situation. I await the outcome of Judge Landis' decision. I feel that the reservation of the Judge's decision has created a moral truce in the warfare. Certainly Organized Ball will delay action until a ruling is handed down. Mr. Gilmore, however, is not only rushing around talking minor promotion, but has been actively engaged signing players that belong to Organized Ball."

Latest Federal League News

CHICAGO, Ill., February 2.—Shortstop Ernest Johnson, signed by the Federal League, who was reported as having jumped back to the San Francisco Club, is on his way to Chicago, under the wing of Manager Stovall, of Kansas City, and he is now certain to play with the St. Louis Club next season. * * * A dispatch from Kansas City is to the effect that the Kansas City Club is relying upon President Gilmore's promise to assign four star players to the Kansas City Club in the near future. * * * Manager Tinker, of the Chifeds, has signed Edmund S. Gillette, former Wisconsin University all-around athlete; and is negotiating with the veteran, Jimmy Sheppard, late manager of the Cleveland American Association Club. * * * Pitcher Fred Toney, drafted by the Brooklyn National Club from Louisville, has signed with the Pittsburgh Federal Club.

The International League Circuit

BUFFALO, N. Y., February 2.—President Stein, of the Buffalo Internationals, was up in arms yesterday when news was sent out from New York, to the effect that the circuit was to be reduced to six clubs, and that the two to be dropped were Buffalo and Jersey City. President Stein says the report is absurd; that even if the circuit be reduced Buffalo would be retained; and that there was absolutely no danger of International League suspension for a season. President Stein added that within ten days a meeting of directors of the International League clubs would be held, and that at that time the public would be apprised of just what was going to be done.

Six Clubs for Eastern Association

NEW HAVEN, Conn., February 2.—The Waterbury and New Britain Clubs were dropped from the Eastern Base Ball Association at the adjourned annual meeting of the directors of that organization held here yesterday. This reduces the circuit to a six-team league, made up of Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport and New London, in Connecticut, and Springfield and Pittsfield, in Massachusetts. The much discussed subject of possible consolidation of the Eastern Association and the New England League was dismissed by the directors with very brief discussion, as was the proposed invasion of New England by the Federal League. The consolidation was not feasible, owing to the impossibility of securing a unanimous vote, to dissolve the

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Base Ball and the Law

ECHOES OF THE RECENT TRUST SUIT TRIAL

Speculations as to the Judicial Decision and the Possible Moves of the Litigants After Decision Is Rendered.

BY W. J. M'BETH

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 28.—John M. Ward, former business manager of the Brooklyn Federal League Club, and a lawyer of



Judge Landis

ability and standing, is very much interested in the Federal League suit and discussed the question at some length. He pointed out that the hearing last week before Judge Landis, in Chicago, was simply the preliminary skirmish in the proceedings. Even if Judge Landis decides in favor of the Federal League, that cannot be construed as a victory for the independents, because the temporary injunction, if granted, will extend for only 30 days, when the suit itself will be heard. In the event of Judge Landis deciding that his court has no jurisdiction in the matter, the case will probably be thrown out. It is not likely that the Federal League will appeal, because this would put the case over into the base ball season, and it is not the purpose of the Federal League to carry the legal complications to the point where they will in any way interfere with the playing season. Base ball men have come to realize that the public does not take very kindly to the prolonged legal and political features of base ball. What they want is the game itself, and the less the public knows of the inside workings of the organizations the better they like it.

THE FEDERAL VIEW

President Gilmore Declares That the New League Will Go Right Ahead With Its Plans No Matter What the Outcome of the Suit May Be.

By H. D. Johnson

CHICAGO, Ill., January 27.—“We haven't given that matter a thought,” replied President James A. Gilmore, of the Federal League, last night to a query as to whether in case an adverse decision was handed down by Judge Landis in the pending anti-trust suit the Federal League would appeal to a higher court. “Offhand,” continued President Gilmore, “I should say that we would not, but I do not think that will be a point we will be called upon to decide anyway. Without wishing to commit myself, and speaking purely for myself and not for the league, I should say that the Federal League lawyers would be inclined to abide by

JUDGE LANDIS' RULING,

whatever it is, and I think the other side will do the same. I know we do not want to be forever and a day in the courts; neither does Organized Ball. You know we didn't go into courts anyway until Organized Ball forced us to and defied us to. Even then we brought the suit at this time of the year in the hope that the present muddled condition might be cleared up before the starting of the season and thus relieve both sides of a lot of unnecessary annoyance. I feel, though, that we have everything to gain and

NOTHING TO LOSE.

in the suit. Should Judge Landis grant a favorable decision to the Federal League it will mean much to us. Should he decide in favor of Organized Ball, however, it will not mean the end of the Federal League. We will have a league this season and the next, regardless of what happens.” In the opinion of the Fed's chief, the Federal League was organized because there was a feeling among the promoters and stockholders that there was room for a third major league. After a year's experience at the head of the third league he still is in favor of three major leagues. Gilmore grants that a few

CHANGES IN THE CIRCUIT

may be necessary to successfully bring about the desired results. “When the idea of promoting a third league was conceived,” continued Gilmore, “we sought the advice of the best legal talent in the country. We would not for a minute have thought of opposing the major leagues and organized base ball had we been advised by our legal talent that the reserve clause and the 10-days' clause in players' contracts were valid. We were told that these contracts were not binding and for that reason we had a right to sign ball players not legally bound to clubs in Organized Ball. Our argument since our beginning has been that we do not want to tamper with a ball player who is obligated to any other club. But our contention also is that a player who is signed to a contract, including

THE RESERVE CLAUSE

or the 10-days' clause, is not legally bound to a club and we may dicker with such a player.” “In the event that Judge Landis renders a decision in favor of Organized Ball, what will happen?” we asked of President Gilmore. “So far as the Federal League is concerned, we will continue to play,” answered the Fed president. “Our club owners have invested a whole lot more. They feel that they have a right to operate base ball, and propose to do so.” After that we put this

question to the Fed's leader: “If the decision is in

FAVOR OF THE FEDERAL LEAGUE, and Organized Ball is declared a trust, what then?” “I suppose the American and National Leagues would endeavor to operate independently, but such a decision would prevent the major leagues from molesting our players, a point we hope to gain in the suit,” he said. “We would then also be in a position to file individual suits against the clubs.”

EBBETS' SUIT VIEWS

Believes That Judge Landis' Decision Will Not End Court Proceedings, Which Will Drag Over Into the Next Season.

By Fred Van Ness

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—President Charley Ebbets, of the Brooklyn Club, who has just returned from Chicago, does not believe a final decision in the trust suit will be rendered before the opening of the base ball season, and it is very probable that the case will drag along in the courts far into the summer. As a consequence, plans for the training trips of big league clubs are not being held up or influenced by the pending decision. Club owners are going right ahead with their original plans, and the teams will begin to drift South late in February, as usual. They feel confident that even if Judge Landis should decide against them on some points their organization will

NOT RECEIVE A SERIOUS BLOW

Organized Ball was given 20 days in which to file its answers to the charges made in affidavits introduced by the Fed's last week. When these are filed, if Judge Landis does not make a decision, the Fed's, in their turn, will have another 20 days in which to file answers. That will carry the case into the middle of March, and then, unless the suit should be thrown out of court, an appeal can be taken to the United States Supreme Court by either side if the decision is not satisfactory to it.

WHAT THE LAWYERS DO

Ebbets brought back with him stories of at least two instances where the lawyers for the Federal League tried to color the facts in charges made against him so as to make it appear that he had been one of the “cruel club owners” frequently referred to in the general charges. One instance was in the case of pitcher Elmer Stricklett, who jumped the Brooklyn Club a few years ago to play with the independent Pacific Coast League, which has since been taken into Organized Ball. Stricklett's wife did not want to come East, and so Stricklett joined the independents and played with them for three years.

HE FAILED TO REPORT

to Brooklyn he was suspended in accordance with the rules of the National Commission. This is the only means club owners have of protecting themselves against having to pay the player for the time he is away from the club, as otherwise the Commission will find for the player. When the Pacific Coast League was taken in Stricklett applied for reinstatement, and Ebbets urged his case for him. He was reinstated, but fined \$100, which was eventually paid by Ebbets in a roundabout way. But the Federal League lawyers attempted to make it appear last week that Ebbets had placed Stricklett on the so-called blacklist, which in reality does not exist in base ball, and had tried to prevent him

FROM MAKING A LIVING

in his profession. They also attempted to make it appear that the fine imposed on the pitcher was a payment for the removal of his name from the blacklist, and offered it to show that a condition of slavery exists in Organized Base Ball. Ebbets was in Kansas City at the time these charges were read in court, and when he learned of them he immediately got hot under the collar. He will prepare detailed answers for the next hearing of the case. “I don't claim that base ball has a perfect organization,” said Ebbets “but I cannot reconcile myself to a deliberate attempt to distort facts in order to gain an advantage. I am glad to have the true facts known because I feel that I was in the right in the case and Stricklett appreciated my efforts in his behalf at the time.”

SEQUEL TO “DOG” STORY

The original story of the famous dog trade between Dick Kinsella and Roger Bresnahan having had a wide circulation, the sequel has now come out, in which it is shown that Kinsella did not get so much the worst of the trade after all. Pitcher Hopper, who was supposed to have been given for a dog, has just been secured by Clark Griffith, of the Washington team, in a trade with the Cardinals, who had a claim on him.

ORGANIZED BALL PLAN

Allegation That in Event of Adverse Decision a Counter Injunction Will Be Sought By the National Commission.

By Joe Vila

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 28.—If Judge Landis, after hearing arguments in the Fed's suit against Organized Ball, decides to grant a temporary injunction restraining the latter from interfering with the Independents' players under contract it is said that the big league men will also ask for an injunction of a similar nature. Organized Ball in that way will appeal to the courts for protection calculated to put a stop to contract jumping and the tampering with players during the championship season. Base ball men hope that Judge Landis, no matter how he decides

the case, will settle the status of the sport as it has been governed for all time.

Federal League View

In commenting upon the above, C. Starr Mathews said, in the Baltimore “Sun”: “One of the New York newspaper experts (Joe Vila, of the New York ‘Evening Sun’) declares if Judge Landis grants the Fed's an injunction preventing Organized Ball from tampering with the Independents' players, the older majors can seek the same relief and end the snatching of stars. That's true enough, but all those cases eventually will come to trial, and it will be up to some court to finally say whether or not the Fed's are right in their contentions that the ten days' clauses are illegal and that options expire. Whether the Fed's are granted a temporary injunction or not, they will win a great victory if they have the Walter Johnson case decided in their favor. They think they have a mighty good chance of getting the decision in that legal battle on the contention that the Washington Club's option expired at the same time Walter's contract did.”

IMPROVEMENT NOTED

Wherein the Base Ball War Was the Direct Cause of Reformation in Some of the Methods of the Old Major League.

By William G. Weart

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 29.—The base ball magnates are encouraged in their belief that Judge Landis' decision will be in their favor by the impression which the arguments of their attorneys apparently made on the judicial mind and also by the remarks of President Robert R. Ward, of the Brooklyn Club. The latter, judging by his statements, has very little reason to look for a favorable decision. The suit, no matter which way it goes, is going to redound to the credit of the Philadelphia lawyers. George Wharton Pepper, of this city, made the principal argument for Organized Base Ball. According to the interviews which the writer has read of those present at the hearing, Mr. Pepper made a “home run” in his

PRESENTATION OF THE CASE

I have read several interviews with magnates, players and managers who attended the hearing printed in newspapers in different cities. Those interviewed declared that Mr. Pepper brought out the points in the case so clearly that they now have a better idea of the working of base ball than ever before, and that it was a treat to listen to his argument. Where Mr. Pepper appears to have “put one through the legal groove” was in his answer to the attorney of the Federal League regarding the methods of Organized Base Ball. One of the Fed's attorneys in his argument made various charges against Organized Base Ball and cited cases which occurred 15 or 20 years ago. In his answer Mr. Pepper brought out the fact that early in 1914

ORGANIZED BASE BALL “REFORMED.”

That is, the National Commission one year ago gave the committee of the Players' Fraternity a hearing. Out of 17 requests made by the Fraternity about 14 were granted. Mr. Pepper showed that there had then been a house-cleaning by Organized Base Ball, which proved a desire to wipe out any evils which existed and that it was not fair for the Fed's to go back of 1914 in making their charges. This was a striking point, since Organized Base Ball claims that it desires to

WIPE OUT ANY EVILS

which have cropped up in its 40 years' conduct of the national pastime and that it made a fresh start with the year of 1914. President Baker, of the Phillies, declares that Mr. Pepper's argument was the best, most complete and most interesting of any that he ever heard on any subject in any courtroom, and that the grasp which the latter has on the workings of base ball was amazing. The leader of the Phillies is confident that the decision will go against the Fed's.

HEDGES HITS

The St. Louis Browns' Owner Gives His Views and Impressions of the Recent Trust Trial Before Judge Landis.

By Clarence F. Lloyd

ST. LOUIS, Mo., January 28.—President Hedges, of the Browns, who attended the four days' trust-busting suit of the Federal League against Organized Ball, in Chicago, says the Organized Ball legal battery was well pleased with the defense made against the Fed's charges. Judge Landis, of the United States District Court, took the case under advisement. Until he announces his decision, the Fed Forces will feel just as confident of a favorable verdict as the Organized Ball crowd.

CLAIM GILMORE WAS TRIPPED

According to Hedges the heaviest blow scored by the Organized Ball side probably was in answer to the Fed's affidavits that they never sought admission in Organized Ball. “President Gilmore, of the Fed's, made an affidavit in which he said that the Fed's did not want to come in with us,” said Mr. Hedges to the writer. “After we had produced letters and telegrams from Federal League members, which proved that negotiations were on for the admission of the Federal League, Gilmore made another affidavit in which he said that the Fed's agreed to become part of Organized Ball only on condition that the drift be eliminated.”

DECISION MAY BE DELAYED

The squabble may be a long way from a settlement. After taking the case under advisement, Judge Landis may do one of several things. He may throw the case out of court on the ground that he has no jurisdiction, and because there is no Federal matter involved. He may throw the case out of court on the ground that the Fed's came into court with “unclean hands.” He may grant a temporary injunction, restraining Organized Ball from tampering with players under contract to the Federal League, and set a date for hearing the

case on its merits, when a permanent injunction will be issued or denied. He may refuse to grant a temporary injunction on the ground that the Fed's have no right to ask an injunction restraining Organized Ball from tampering with players which originally were the property of Organized Ball.

THE FEDS BACKED DOWN

According to Hedges, the Fed's backed down considerably in their demands on the court. Originally they asked that the big leagues and National Agreement be dissolved, and that the players under contract be declared free agents. When Judge Landis asked the Fed's what they desired in the event a temporary injunction was granted, they requested that the big leagues be restrained from tampering with their players. Mr. Hedges says that Judge Landis lived up to his reputation of being a fan by displaying as much interest in the base ball scrap as the most rabid fan, magnate or player. It is customary to adjourn court at five o'clock and hold no court on Saturdays, but Judge Landis permitted the sessions to extend until six o'clock, and scheduled the hearing last Saturday, when the arguments were finished. Judge Landis is also the Beau Brummel of the Legal League. It was no uncommon thing for him to make a complete change of attire of clothes during the noon recess of court.

LANDIS DIDN'T KNOW MAGEE

During the arguments, Attorney Miller, of the Organized Ball forces, had occasion to refer to a petition filed by Lee Magee. “No such petition has been filed with me,” said Judge Landis. One of the Federal League attorneys then offered the information that Magee had made application to have the hearing of his case transferred from Cincinnati to Chicago. Judge Landis still was not convinced that his petition had been made in his court. Then Attorney George Williams, of St. Louis, said: “Your Honor, that's the petition of Leopold Hoernschmeyer, alias Lee Magee.” Although a fan, Judge Landis did not know that Hoernschmeyer and Magee were one and the same.

THE MONEY SIDE

No Vast Fortunes Made in Major League Ball Outside the Eastern and Western Metropolises, New York and Chicago.

By Grantland Rice

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 31.—A correspondent requests precise information as to the money taken in at the major league gates and the amount thereof paid to the players. Any reply to this would be more in the nature of a guess than an estimate. However, as the saying is—The average annual payroll in the major leagues today is about \$80,000 for each club. There are 16 clubs under Organized Ball's standard, bringing up the total salary list to \$1,280,000. Each club in the Organized Ball circuit carries about 25 men, totaling something like 400 ball players, who, therefore, average \$3200 each a season.

AS TO GATE RECEIPTS

Against this we have annual gate receipts, which is an even more extended guess. Last season in the two big leagues there were 2508 games played—1250 in the National and 1258 in the American. Granting that the average daily attendance was about 3000, the total paid attendance would be in the neighborhood of 7,500,000 for the year. At an average charge of 50 cents per fan, this would leave the total gate-receipts around \$3,250,000. Out of this, in addition to the salaries of \$1,280,000, the owners had to pay traveling expenses and hotel bills for 400 men for three of the six playing months, the amount of time spent by each club on the road. At an average charge of \$4 a day for 400 men for 90 days, the total would be \$144,000 for hotels alone. With three jumps a year half way across the continent and various switches back and forth, the railroad and Pullman fares will verge upon another \$100,000. Added to this are expenses for training trips, ground rent and upkeep, and another vast smear of coin is tacked on.

EXAGGERATED CLUB PROFITS

As to what profit ball clubs amass each season we have practically no idea. Last Fall Giants and Braves were about the only two clubs to gather in any kale. The Mackmen claim a deficit of \$20,000 up to the rim of the World's Series, where they slipped out of debt. It has been claimed that Mack and Shibe have only made three per cent. on their investment of some \$500,000, despite the fact that in the last five years they have won four pennants and three World's Championships. We have taken our share of shots at certain magnates, but we know for a fact that they have as a whole

MADE NO BIG FORTUNES

out of base ball. The Giants have made money, because they had 5,000,000 fans to draw on and McGraw has won five pennants in ten years and has always been up there giving the top crest a battle. Charley Murphy made a killing in Chicago, because Chicago happens to be a great city for the game and because Frank Chance and cast gave Murphy four pennant-winners and two World's Championships. But beyond these two entries and that of the Chicago White Sox, the financial clean-up has been more of a myth than an actual development. We'll take a gamble that Charley Somers alone has lost \$200,000 in base ball in the last ten years.

Cuban Ideas of Pet Names

Cuban fans have humorous pet names for their ball players, and leading American players also have received some pertinent pet names. Mike Gonzales, of the Cincinnati Reds, is a long loaf of bread; and Almeida, former Redleg, is the Marquee. If it is not lese majeste, we will tell you what they call our own John McGraw. He is termed “Mono Amarillo,” which is translated the “yellow monkey.” They had better not call John J. anything like that while he is around.—New York “Press.”

Clarence Rowland, the new manager of the White Sox, does not intend to be a bench leader. He will wear a uniform so that he may get out on the coaching lines.

National League News

TENER AT LAST ASSUMES HIS PLACE AT THE HELM

The President Right on the Job Now With a Lot of Plain Talk on Some of the Most Important Topics of the Hour.

BY W. J. M'BETH

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 1.—John K. Tener, on Thursday last, officially took charge of the executive offices of the National League for the first time since he was elected president of the league more than a year ago. Mr. Tener said that he was now in a position to give all of his time to base ball and that he intended to try to do that. He said that he would be in the local office at least four days a week, commuting each day from his home in Philadelphia. Mr. Tener refused to comment upon the action heard in Chicago recently in connection with the Federal League. He said he had perfect confidence in Judge K. M. Landis, and was certain that the United States judge would give a correct verdict. Taking up the questions one at a time, Mr. Tener said:



John K. Tener

NATIONAL COMMISSION CHAIRMANSHIP
"There is no reason whatever why we should seek another chairman for the National Commission with such an able man in that place as Garry Herrmann. In the many years he has occupied the chair he has passed on thousands of disputes and never once has his decision been questioned by either party to the contention. That seems as fine a record as one can acquire. Mr. Herrmann will be the next chairman of the Commission, that is certain."

NO MINOR REPRESENTATION
"Concerning the request of the minor leagues for representation on the National Commission, I do not think such a move feasible, as with four men passing on disputes there would be more arguments, more time wasted, and always a chance for indecision with a split vote. Heretofore the minor leagues have received unusual consideration from the Commission, and I do not think that any of the minor league owners will dispute this. I can see no reason why a fourth member should be added to the Commission."

"THE PLAYERS FRATERNITY"
has recorded the request of the minor leagues, for a fourth member of the Commission, but I think they will reconsider this. It is a known fact that since the inception of the governing body every case in which a player was concerned has been judged from the standpoint of the player. By this I mean that always the player has been given the benefit of the doubt. This is a matter of record and easily proven."

CHIVINGTON ASSUMES TOO MUCH
"Reports from Chicago say that Thomas Chivington, president of the American Association, stated that the A. A. Class leagues have been exempted from draft. This statement is premature. It is true that the Commission has talked of such a move and has considered it closely, but there has never been any assurance given that such a move would be made. Possibly it will come, but I do not think that the A. A. Class leagues will be exempted this year. Base ball is not in the right condition to flood the country with individual leagues such as would be the case if the three AA class organizations were given major league rights."

THAT BASE BALL TAX
"The bill recently introduced in the New York State Legislature asking for a five per cent. tax upon base ball would be an injustice upon the business men engaged in the profession if it became a law. Right now every one of the 16 major league clubs pay a corporation tax besides the usual property taxes. This is all that any other corporation is asked to do. Why should base ball men be asked to do more?"

CONFIDENCE IN THE SYSTEM
President Tener, of the National League, believes that the future of base ball rests solely upon the decision of Judge Landis or the ultimate conclusions deduced therefrom. "Either base ball as conducted by the National Agreement clubs is right or it is wrong," said he, "and the sooner we find out where we stand the better for us. The game has suffered much within the last year as a result of the many attacks upon its integrity. However, such questions will have no lasting effect. I am sure that I speak for every member of the National Commission when I say that I will welcome any ruling upon the situation. I have had from the first no doubt about the ultimate"

RULING OF THE COURT.
but still I realize that I may be prejudiced. Base ball has made great strides since its introduction two generations ago. It has been through a process of evolution. And the law governing it has passed through evolution just as there has been evolution in the Constitution of the United States. I regard our fight as just. If I am wrong I wish to know it first of all. Errors may be corrected in time. For this reason I await the decision of Judge Landis. I think our organization is right. If it is wrong the quicker conditions are readjusted properly the better. For after all the conservation of the game is what I most desire."

THE PEPPER STATEMENT
President Tener was asked to give his view

of the statement made in court in Chicago by Attorney Pepper to the effect that a ball player could become a free agent in two years under the present optional contract. Mr. Tener replied with a smile, "I suppose a free agent to deal with the Feds. You know base ball needs its rules and regulations like any other business, and they must be lived up to. You know it is optional with the young player whether he wants to play in the National or American Leagues or in some independent leagues. But if he comes in our 'lodge' he naturally must obey our rules." This was tantamount to an admission that the player, though a "free agent," would be held by rules of the National Agreement.

WOULD HELP INTERNATIONAL
President Tener, although reluctant about commenting on the Feds' suit, declared that the labor of a ball player was not a commodity of commerce. The president was asked about the possibility of the International League throwing up the sponge. "It is news to me," he replied. "There was absolutely no friction between the National and International Leagues that I know of. Ed Barrow's circuit was no beggar. But if the International League future depended upon the friendship of National League club owners I am sure there would be absolutely no occasion for worry on its part."

SECRETARY JOHN A. HEYDLER
was back in New York last Monday for the first time since school was dismissed in Judge Landis' Chicago court last Saturday. John is well satisfied with the outcome of the Feds' suit so far. "We had to listen a long time to hear our faults bared to us, but when we heard our virtues, they were so great that they had such a big advantage over our faults, that it impressed me more than ever how much organization is necessary to the welfare and continued success of our national game."

PHILADELPHIA POINTS
Manager Moran Still in Doubt About His Team Line-Up Owing to Inability to Complete Boston and Cincinnati Deals.

By Thomas D. Richter
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., February 1.—With less than a month remaining before the start of the Phillies' training period, the list of men who will go South with Manager Moran is not yet complete, due to the failure of the Boston and Cincinnati Clubs to name the men who will come to this city in exchange for Magee and Dooin. The action of these two clubs is at wide variance with that of Manager McGraw, of the Giants, who named his men and delivered them as soon as the trade for Lobert was completed. Manager Moran tried to dicker with outfielder Whitted, of the Braves, last week, but the Boston man only wanted a \$6000 contract to save his feelings at leaving the World's Champions, so that Moran was forced to forego any hope of landing him. It is

NOW UP TO BOSTON
to make good on the trade, but just how Manager Stallings will do it still remains a mystery. Charley Dooin signed his contract with Cincinnati during the past week, so that completes the Phillies' part of the deal, leaving it up to Manager Herzog to name the man, presumably an infielder, who will wear the Phillies' uniform this season. Either Groh or Niehoff would be an acceptable man for the Phillies. If Pat Moran can get these two ends sewed up he will be in good shape, as it is doubtful whether any of the threatened desertions on the part of Marshall, Stock and Byrne will materialize. Moran sent out his contracts to those unsigned recently and also the details of the training trip, so that none can complain of having been neglected. He will move to this city and take up his residence on February 9, so that it appears that he is confident that he will be here a long time in the capacity of manager, something that the fans are also hoping, for in the last few weeks that he has been at the helm, the local fans have

WARMED UP TO HIM
in good style. While neither the Phillies nor Athletics think this city a good enough place for Spring training, the officials of the Pittsfield Club, of the Eastern Association, think otherwise. Acting on this belief, they have engaged the Stenton Athletic Club field at 22d and Westmoreland from April 4 to 20 for their Spring training work. The Pittsfield officials are willing to give a trial to any young semi-professional or amateur base ball player who will present himself at the field during that time. As this city has turned out some of the best players in the world on its lots, it is probable that this move will prove the starting point for some young players who will later graduate to the major leagues.

NOTES
Charley Dooin is not going away from this city with a good send-off. During the past week the Knights of Columbus banqueted him, while on Sunday, Dooin and Magee were the guests of Harry P. Sauer, one of the former owners of the club, at a big dinner at his place at Northeast, Md.
Last week Presidents Baker, of the Phillies, and Gaffney, of Boston, got together in an effort to settle the Magee trade, and the Braves' owner gave the local executive the privilege of dicker with certain players.
Harry Weiser, the young outfielder of Shamokin, Pa., who led the North Carolina League last season in batting, has received notice from Manager Moran to report for Southern training.
When Manager Moran learned that Dooin had signed his contract he called up his predecessor in the managership and congratulated him and wished him a successful season.
Charley Dooin was guest at a house party recently where a rifle range had been installed in the basement. When it came Dooin's turn to shoot he gave an exhibition of snuffing

out matches and other fine work that had the crowd gasping with amazement. He afterward admitted that he had never tried rifle shooting, but that it was luck combined with a good eye.

PITTSBURGH PENNINGS

High Sea-Prizes Captured By Independents Sized Up By O. B. Men—One Good Pitcher to Each Team Is Admitted—Other Stars in Doubt.

By A. R. Cratty

PITTSBURGH, Pa., February 1.—"After all, what of them?" This query formed the basis of a big side discussion among Organized Ball men who attended the legal laundry in Chicago. The matter came up when a roster of reserve rule and pact jumpers was read by one of the attorneys interested. It was an entertaining topic, for every person was dead tired of listening to affidavits, etc., and yearned for something far removed from matters couched in law lore. One by one the jumpers were gone over. Most every club in the big show was represented and these representatives were posted on the good and bad points of the plungers. Sifted without malice, each and every player being given credit for his skill, disposition, etc., the gathering of magnates reached the verdict that the Feds' sum total of player grabbing had yielded them a fine pitcher for each outfit. After that the catch was unimportant. Koney, Magee, Wingo and others were scanned in the estimate of regulars and found wanting in numerous respects.

A SORRY DEAL
Deal's jump was ridiculed by O. B. lads. They aver that the young man was an accident in 1914; that he cannot bat. He never will be able to do much with a right-handed server because of his style at the plate; being a lean over type of batsman. Deal, by his position, is perhaps better prepared to swat a southpaw server inasmuch as the latter's pitch breaks away from him. The young man's head was evidently turned by skyrocket success in the World's Series. His divvy was a windfall, and by his desertion he loses a chance to get any more of such plum duff. "I cannot understand some ball players," remarked Col. Dreyfuss. "Suppose that Deal get a two-years' contract and the Federal League lives, won't they cut him when his agreement ends? Ask Campbell and McKechnie."

MIRTHFUL VAPORINGS
It is to laugh. Gleanings from the Chicago inquiry say that Fed affidavits aver "Howard Camnitz was acting on his own hook at Hot Springs last March." Imagine J. A. G. also making affidavit that "he didn't know any S. H. Camnitz." These are only a few bits of humor that made the court hearing worth a smile every minute. No wonder Judge K. Mountain Landis pulled the watch on the litigants and said that he hoped they would appreciate his position and get down to brass tacks. Howard, or rather S. H. Camnitz, for that's the way the ex-Pirate jabs his fist to contracts, had \$11,000 cold cases in his inside pocket while gunning for Corsairs in the Ozarks. Point out a man who will accept contention that this was Howard's own gas-pipe roll. "Silk Hat Harry" would howl with rage at the effort. This awful twaddle was served to the distinguished jurist last week. Odd that he didn't arise in his seat and throw the gang out of court; boots, saddle and green bag likewise. Camnitz was loaded for bear in Hot Springs. He peeled off five thousand dollar bills from his wad and handed them to Jim Viox, or rather, "Veex," as Ed Gwinner calls him in a communication to J. A. Gilmore (part of Exhibit A plus). Cammy, mind you, did all this unauthorized, the dough was his own, and he no doubt had it changed into \$1000 bills so that the sum wouldn't cause Viox discomfort by bulging his pockets. That money unquestionably came from the Pittsburgh Federal League Club or its angel.

OPINIONS DIFFER
The Feds press bureau spun two pages of flimsy stuff, quoting John M. Ward on the great rise in base ball. "Monte" attributed the same to an invasion of New York City in 1883, together with newspaper support. The screed struck Corsair headquarters Saturday and gave old boys something to talk about. Ward's ideas didn't hit everybody just right. Base ball flourished before the New York Nationals were extant and until the Giants began to win pennants, around 1904 and thereafter, then alone did they create great crowds. "The World's Series of 1903, to my mind, was one of the biggest things that ever aided base ball," declared Col. B. "The Temple Cup post-season game idea had been abandoned for a number of years. Even in its best days the affair never aroused much enthusiasm. After-season series now between third and fourth place teams in the American and National unions draw more people than did the Temple Cup combats. Having a World's Series between National and American champion teams was my idea in 1903. I went through with it against the advice of my best friends. It proved to be a most popular step and the game gained hundreds of friends thereby." The writer admitted the World's Series was a factor in boosting base ball, but added as close seconds two points, namely, abandonment of thoroughbred racing and creation of superb plants like Forbes Field, which opened the recreation to people of class who hadn't known the fascinations of the grand pastime.

NUGGETS
Somebody is in for a big printing bill. While in Chicago listening to affidavits, Col. Dreyfuss met a posted court officer who said that the paper books in the case would cost over \$5000. Pirate headquarters possesses a pile of printing five inches high, all relating to the battle before Judge Landis. That isn't all of the proceedings, either.
Five weeks from Saturday and Pittsburgh's O. B. boys will be on their way to lumber up for the race of 1915. Notices were sent out calling them to the colors. Ten minutes before their departure Joe Kelley, local-paragrapher, came to headquarters with a press

dispatch saying that Lejeune would jump to the Feds. "I have his contract; he was perfectly satisfied when he signed," so commented Col. Dreyfuss.

Asked to name the "Spring let-outs" a local paragrapher spun the following list: Catchers Murphy and Smith; pitchers Marty O'Toole, Herbert Kelly, perhaps Vance and McArthur; infielders Leonard, McCarthy, Mentor, Altenberg and Berger. No doubt three-fourths of these boys have gone already.

NEW YORK NEWS

Little Prospect of the Acquisition of Marsans, and Still Less Hope of Any Deal With the Cincinnati Club.

By Harry Dix Cole

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 1.—Reports of McGraw's progress in snaring Armando Marsans down in Cuba are just about as satisfactory as the conflicting returns from the European war. Federal League press agents have it that the ex-Red has promptly declined all of McGraw's offers and has announced his intention of pasturing with the St. Louis Federals for the next three years. He gives as his reason that he does not wish to be bothered by large crowds. On the other hand, O. B. war correspondents insist that negotiations are still on and that any mail addressed to Senor Marsans during the next three years should bear the Polo Grounds address to insure delivery. From a pretty authentic source comes the story that \$10,000 is

THE BEGGARLY STIPEND
the Cuban desires to collect from the Giants for keeping the grass of the P. G. from growing under his feet for five months in the year and that Mr. McGraw is quite sure he can obtain a lawn mower for a somewhat less amount. Palmero, the Cuban southpaw, seems also a trifle balky and apparently unversed in McGraw's methods, demands a contract stating he will be used as a regular and not simply as a twirler for the Long Branch squad. Probably by this time McGraw has informed him who has entire charge of all such stipulations. We can almost imagine McGraw or any other successful manager allowing any player to dictate when, how, and where he shall play. It looks as if

THE CINCINNATI DEAL
was closed for the present. Jack Murray's war contract proved an insurmountable obstacle, but we still insist McGraw is angling for another seasoned veteran pitcher. The opening of the season is still two and a half months away and much may happen in that time. Josh Devore has once more been given the gate, this time by the Boston Braves, and all the rest of the clubs are anxiously waiting to see on which one he is going to wish himself, for he seems to carry with him a World's Championship. Charley Herzog is still convinced that

ONE OF THE REASONS
the Reds did not win the pennant was that Devore was let go to the Phillies. Yes, Chatley, no doubt that was one of the reasons. About 25 athletes who were not allowed to go are prominent among the other reasons. By the end of the month Matty and McGraw expect to have finished their Spring plowing, otherwise known as golf, in Cuba and will then make connections with the awkward squad, who will be expected to have picked out all the pleasant walks around the Texas town of Marlin.

GAFFNEY'S VIEW

Organized Ball Magnates Quite Satisfied With the Way in Which Their Lawyers Presented Their Case to Judge Landis.

By Paul Shannon

BOSTON, Mass., January 27.—Having escaped from the base ball tangle involved in the suit that has brought a bundle of money to the lawyers of the Federal League and those of Organized Ball, President Gaffney, of the Braves, arrived in Boston last night at a late hour, prepared to turn his mind to more congenial business than legal wrangles. He reached his home in New York on Sunday, having been accompanied on the trip from Chicago by other Eastern magnates who were at the hearing before Judge Landis, and at once prepared for his departure to this city, where it was his intention to spend several days, as he had considerable business on hand.

CONCERNING THE SUIT
at Chicago he gave voice to the opinion that it would prove a large and monumental fizzle, if it had not already, from a Federal League standpoint. "The legal lights employed by the Feds failed to shine very resplendently," he stated. "It was surprising how unprepared they were for their task of demolishing Organized Ball. Further than that there is really nothing to say regarding the subject. The National Commission rests satisfied that the weakness of the Feds' argument is apparent. In fact, it would be hard to hope for such an amazingly weak presentation of argument in the bringing forward of a suit of the dimensions threatened." Beyond this he would not discuss

THE PROBABLE OUTCOME
of the now famous anti-trust suit upon which Judge Landis has reserved decision. It is an understood matter that the magnates have been warned by their chiefs to say nothing before a verdict has been rendered. It is evident though that supreme confidence in the outcome of the suit favorable to Organized Ball may be interpreted in the demeanor of President Gaffney. Complete satisfaction with the manner in which George Wharton Pepper, the Philadelphia attorney, who presented the Organized Ball side, has performed his task for his clients is expressed by the Braves' owner.

George Burns, of the New York Giants, recently underwent an operation at Faxon Hospital, in Utica, N. Y., for a growth in his nose. George is making a good recovery, and will be ready to report at Marlin Springs, Tex., when he is summoned by Manager McGraw.

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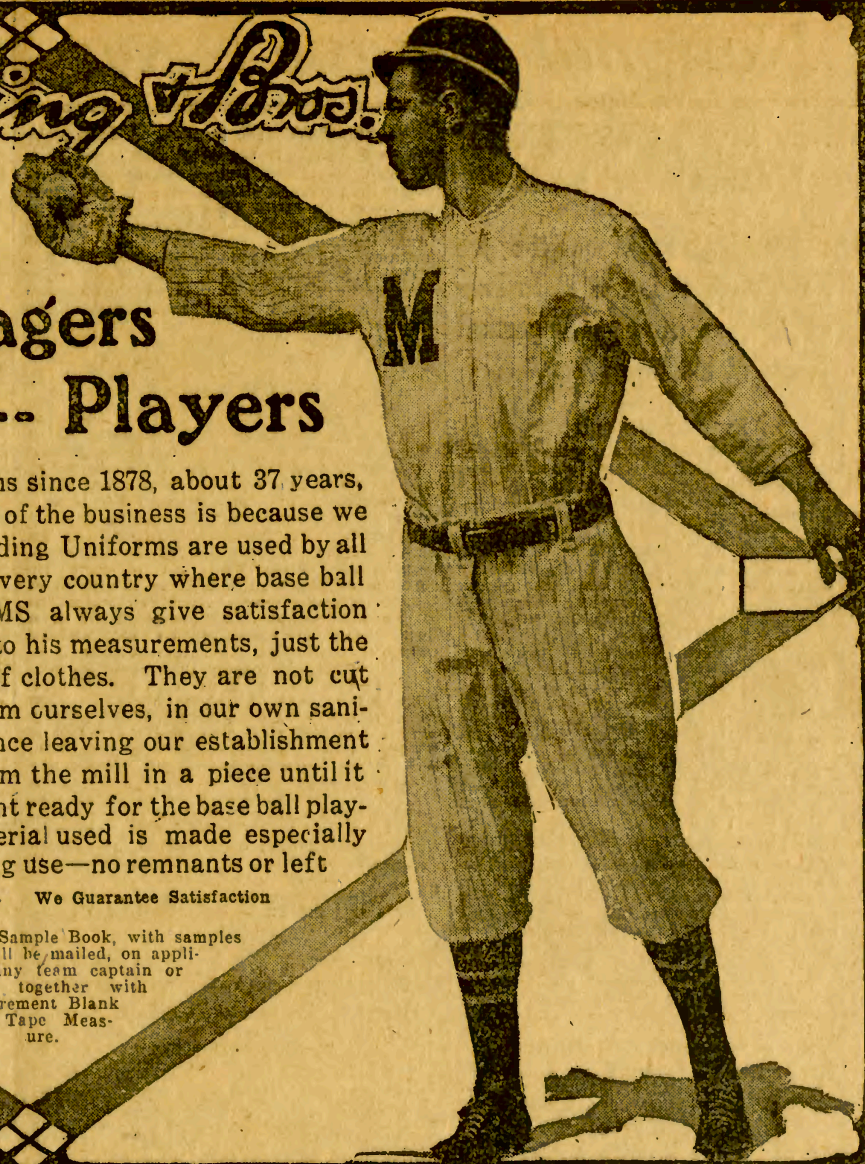
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BROOKLYN BITS

The Completed Program of Spring Training By the Superbas—The Unexpected Release of Ed Reulbach—No Mystery at All in Case—Other Matters of Comment

By Abe Yager

BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 1.—If C. Hercules Ebbets fails to make the coming Spring trip of the Superbas a profitable one from a financial point of view, said C. Hercules will be some disappointed magnate. He has arranged a schedule of 28 exhibition games, all except a half-dozen or so of which will be played at Daytona. According to the present program, the Superbas will waste no time in starting the exhibition stunts, the first game being scheduled two days after their arrival in camp, when the first and second teams will clash in a real game of ball. Robby is of the opinion that the spangled heroes get more real exercising out of a regular battle than in the ordinary batting out and running around the bases. For the first time in many years, admission will be charged to the games between the Regulars and Yanigans, the club having a real ball park at its disposal this year. After the players get acclimated and have gotten over their gun shyness, there will be

A SERIES OF GAMES

with semi-pro., minor and major league clubs up to the day of departure. The Cuban All-Stars, Havana Reds, Birmingham, two college teams and the Athletics are on the schedule, and possibly the New York Americans, if they decide on Ocala or some nearby camp. The Superbas will not play the Athletics at Jacksonville, but will be opposed by the South Atlantic League team there, jumping immediately to Richmond and Washington, and thence home, where the Athletics and no doubt the New Yorks will be met at Ebbets Field. Boss Ebbets conferred with the new owners of the New Yorks the other day and was told nothing detrimental to the five-year agreement entered into with Frank Farrell a couple of seasons ago. In fact, the Squire of Flatbush is planning a new holiday to be known as Bill Donovan Day for the opening game with the New Yorks at Ebbets Field.

REPORTS FROM DAYTONA

are to the effect that the ball park is progressing famously and will be in readiness for the Superab invasion on time. The lockers, showers, ticket offices and such are already in place, the fences in course of construction, and other details properly attended to. What is bothering the president and manager most is how to satisfactorily distribute the 42 odd tourists in the three hotels at their disposal, for base ball men are peculiar animals and will make a holler over any little advantage somebody else might have. That applies as well to the war correspondents, though they

are supposed to adapt themselves easily to conditions. The

RELEASE OF ED REULBACH

caused some commotion hereabouts, but the move was not entirely unexpected following the signing of Jack Coombs. The process of reduction entailed the disposal of one of the vets, and as Ed's record in 1914 was not a thriller, his selection was almost a matter of course. Besides, he had served ten years in fast company and could be spared somewhat better than one of the new recruits, who look mighty promising. Reulbach has been a mighty busy man since he took the secretaryship of the Players' Fraternity and this it was thought affected his work last season and would continue so in 1915. An observant local scribe tried to develop a mystery in the release of Reulbach, alleging that only a month or so ago Ebbets had offered him a four-year contract and considered it odd that he should be

RELEASED SO SOON AFTER.

Ebbets pointed out that he had asked for waivers on Reulbach last November and it wasn't likely he would offer a long-term contract so soon after. Reulbach had served ten years in the National League and it wasn't within the ethics of the game to take a chance on carrying him four years longer, although he wouldn't be surprised if Ed would pitch good ball that much longer and he wished him luck. Reulbach could not be sent to a minor league under the ten-year limit rule, so he was made a free agent. Ed ought to catch on with some major league club that hasn't a dozen and a half pitchers on its list, or he would make a great coach for some college.

THE ACQUISITION OF COOMBS

What influenced Robby in releasing Reulbach to some extent was a letter from Coombs in which the latter said that he was in excellent shape and thought he had some pitching left in him. According to Ebbets, he took Coombs on the recommendation of Connie Mack, who declared he didn't release Jack because he considered him all in, but for reasons he did not care to disclose. Coombs is a hard and willing worker and it is thought will be a big help in coaching the young pitchers. He has expressed the wish that he be released the moment it is found that he cannot make good. The annual bill at Albany to

TAX BASE BALL RECEIPTS

has made its appearance in the legislature, and it certainly hasn't made a hit. According to the Brooklyn Club owners, they are already plastered with so much taxation that there isn't room enough left for any more. They are paying an income tax, a real estate tax, a corporation tax, and any number of war taxes, beside which some of the players are also taxed on their incomes. Ebbets is of the opinion that according to the wording of the bill, which refers to Organized Ball as the object of taxation, the Feds might not be included as base ball people construe Organized Ball, which would make it class legislation and therefore unconstitutional. He is afraid if the

minor league clubs are included, the additional hardship will put a few of them out of business.

THE CASE OF STENDEL

A nice little tempest raged over Casey Stengel for a couple of days until the facts leaked out. Dispatches from the West announced that Casey was about to jump to the Feds, and then came the news that he had signed a Brooklyn contract. Throughout these conflicting statements, the officers at Ebbets Field maintained that Stengel's contract reposed snugly in the club's safe. Then returned Boss Ebbets from the great trial at Chicago, with the announcement that he had signed Casey to a new contract. It all came about through a mix-up between the original contract in the club's possession and the duplicate which Stengel held. The original had the ten days' clause stricken out, the duplicate did not. The Fed agents made much of the ten days' clause in Stengel's home contract and had Casey worried a bit. Ebbets had Dahlen visit the player at Kansas City, but Bill could do nothing. Then Ebbets met Stengel at St. Louis and signed him to a new contract—at a nice increase. Lucky Stengel.

MURPHY'S EXPLANATION

The Former Chicago President Replies to Hugh Fullerton's Charges of Murphy's "Abuse of Power."

CHICAGO, Ill., January 29.—Editor of "Sporting Life."—Under the caption, "Abuses of Power," there is an article in this week's "Sporting Life" by Mr. Fullerton, from which the following is an excerpt: "One Spring Overall, Brown and Pfeister, of the Cubs, agreed to hold out for more salary. They agreed to stick together. Finally Murphy gave them a compromise increase and they signed. . . . The only time I had definite knowledge that players had banded themselves together to get more money was doubtless the Spring Fullerton speaks of. I joined the team at Memphis on its way back North, and Overall tackled me in the lobby of the Peabody Hotel, and said that he and Brown wanted to talk with me. "I can't monkey with you fellows who are under contract," I laughingly told Orrie, "because I have enough trouble with the unsigned ones." "But we want more money, too," replied Overall, "or we will quit the team and go home." "Well, you know where the depot is," I replied, "and the clerk over there will give you a time-table." "Brownie and I feel that we will have to do most of the work during the coming season and we won't play unless we get more money," insisted Overall. "I object to your coming to me to tell me what Brown wants." I told Overall. "Let Brown speak for himself. How can I tell now how much pitching either, or both, of you will do during the season which has not yet opened? At any rate, I positively decline to negotiate

with players who are already under contract."

My recollection is that I heard no more of that incident. I wish to state, however, in justice to Pfeister, that I never had heard until I read Mr. Fullerton's story that "Jack" had entered a conspiracy to extort money from the Chicago Club after he was already under contract. Jim Hart had told me that some players on the team would not "stay put"—that they would demand more money even after they had signed their contracts. I found what Hart said to be true. I may as well say that I stood for several "hold-ups" of this character, but I guess that is all in the game. Most players never mention salary to an owner after they sign their contracts. They naturally try to get all they can before they sign, and you and I would do the same thing.

I don't know anything about Mike Griffin, Mike Kelly, Walter Thornton and Bob Spade being driven out of base ball, as Fullerton states, and think it is the policy of all owners to keep men as long as they can deliver major league base ball. We wanted to keep Brown at \$3500 a year for one year, or ten years, to coach young pitchers and make himself generally useful, but he wanted as big a salary as Mathewson, whether he could take his turn in the pitching box or not. We never wanted to deal strictly on a business basis with Brown on account of all he had done for the Cubs, but he would not allow any attempt on the part of the management at sentiment. Harper, Overall and Pfeister retired because they could no longer win ball games in a major league.

In the cases of this trio we did not feel the same obligation as we did regarding Brown. I still have a kindly feeling for Brown and shall never forget his lion-hearted work for the Cubs. Sincerely yours,

CHARLES W. MURPHY

SIDE WITH M'GRAW

Cleveland Scribes Deny That He Is Imitating Rickey's Methods.

CLEVELAND, O., January 28.—Out in St. Louis they are raising a cry that "John J. McGraw is stealing Branch Rickey's stuff." St. Louis experts charge that the New York manager is copying Rickey's training ideas. McGraw is said to have taken from Rickey the various stunts that are to be included in the Giants' camp at Marlin Springs, Tex., next season. Probably no one would more quickly deny this than Rickey himself. Once let a man get a reputation for being a good humorist and every new joke with a flavor of originality and cleverness will be tacked onto him. Let a manager get a reputation for springing new stunts and he will be credited with the majority of ideas used. Rickey has a lot of new scientific arguments pertaining to training and managing a ball club. He filled the columns of the daily press with them last year. It made good reading matter. And now Rickey gets credit for a whole lot of stuff.

RED STOCKING TALES

Cincinnati Enthusiasts Get a Little of the Real Dope—Doooin's Mission as a Trainer of Star Twirlers—Some Old Time Redbug Memories—One on "Ping" Bodie—Is the A. A. Coming to Town?

By Ben Mulford, Jr.

CINCINNATI, O., January 31.—Redbugs have happily gotten away from the shadow of court discussions. When the mercury hit Zero on one of the coldest days of the Winter, during the past week, the enthusiasts were basking in the sunshine of real team talk. With so much uncertainty in the air and not a chance to forecast the make-up of the Red team, it is pretty hard to put real playing life into sessions of the Redbug Club. These suits in equity are great space-fillers, but they make the sporting pages of the metropolitan journals of civilization look like sections from the Court Index. Although Manager Herzog remains in domestic retreat in his happy Maryland home, the story filtered through from the Quaker City that the last chapter in the Red-Quaker deal had been written. Charley Doooin has signed. Centuries ago it was said and truly said: "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country." Looking back through the vistas of the years, it is pretty hard to discover any of the brilliant who shone on local fields who were lassoed and branded in the Red pastureland. Some famed native sons—just like Doooin—have heard the call of the Red Club after they had won honors and fortunes elsewhere. Back in the '80s, Cincinnati gave to professional teams a larger percentage of stellar graduates from the famed old Millcreek Bottoms School of Play than are turned out now, although the number of amateurs playing ball exceed the old total at a ratio of at least 10 to 1.

AN IMPORTANT ROLE

Doooin is not the first of players to hear the strains of the Bug Band in "Home, Sweet Home," an age after his place in stellar baseball has been firmly fixed. Garry Herrmann rather scouts the intimation that Doooin may be used in a trade. Cincinnati needs a backstop with the sort of gray matter needed to coach young pitchers. It is a matter of pretty general fan-belief that the Reds have been rather shy in that particular since Heinie Peitz passed on out of the big game. The Quakers, with both Doooin and Pat Moran on the job, have turned out some of the sweetest pitching surprises of the past decade. Maybe Doooin can make consistent winners out of some of the Red half-baked delegates at the firing line. If he can do this he will prove an invaluable addition to the team. Manager Herzog has an idea that in Schneider and Pitzery he has a pair who can be coached into stars. It was with this task in mind that he plunged into that Quaker deal, putting it through in the face of all sorts of veiled difficulties and finally winning the consent of Doooin himself. If good wishes count for anything, the "Redhead" has a ready-made foundation upon which to build success.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Among the "Old Guard" memories that are sport-news to the more recent additions to the followers of the Reds, have been at play this week. "Charley Doooin's case," said a fan of the crop of the '80s, "recalls some past history that has special significance just now. You might call these old-time incidents 'hinges,' because they fit so nicely into the events of today." Cincinnati once had their playing hooks on Jack Boyle and Jess Tannehill, but they were turned adrift as youngsters and became great in their day and generation in other uniforms. Boyle never returned to wear the red, but Tannehill heard a late recall and his failure at the slab is still a tragic memory of a drab opening day in which the old Pirate-Champ was hammered from Western avenue to Tipperary. Then there was Buck Ewing. He, too, came back to his own late in his playing career. And so the Doooin deal has given the old-timers the chance to dig back and recall similar cases.

THE "PINCH-HITTERS" HARD JOB

"Doc" Miller takes his place, dearly beloved, among those Reds who "have went." "Doc" was one of the 1914 contingent who held his place in the ranks because of a believed ability to emulate the example of good old "Col. Pinch," who, called cold from the bench, could deliver. As a regular "Doc's" feet were a bit too heavy. In navigating in the outer garden, "Doc's" movements were as majestically graceful as a freighter loaded to the water-line compared to a fast flying torpedo-boat destroyer. To put "Doc" into the garden as a fixture meant to slow up your defense. When the official "Heydler's" came out and "Doc" was seen just a few points above the .250 mark, that average sealed his doom as a "heavy artillery." And so he goes to make room for someone fletcher of foot. The job of pinch-hitter is a mighty hard one to fill. Harry McCormick, of the Giants, held on to the prize about as long as any major leaguer in history. Last time I ran across Mike Kahoe, ex-Red, backstop, and the Washington scout, he declared: "Did you ever figure up the general average of the players who are called to bat for someone else in a game? Oh, there are times when they deliver, but I'll wager that the season average wouldn't be much over .125." The fact that both "Doc" and Mike Mullaney have passed on brought out the fact this week that of the players who trained at Alexandria last Spring with Manager Herzog, no less than 16 are off the roll. Four of them took French leave, jumped their contracts and joined the Feds, viz.: Marsans, Long Dave Davenport, Big Chief Johnson and Marty Berghammer. The other 12 figured in trades or outright releases.

TWO CLUBS IN REDLAND!

Once more the old yarn that Cincinnati would put a club in the Federal League broke into print during the week. Just about as much chance for that at this time as there is for President Wilson to change front and jump into the scrap in Mexico. A hint that did cause a lot of talk put Cincinnati into the A. A. family. The plan outlined would mean continuous ball at Redland Field. Only once—during the regime of A. S. Stern, back

in the late '80s—did Cincinnati try two teams under the protecting wing of O. B. The experiment was not successful and the No. 2 Reds did not finish the season. This is a bit of history that is news to the late crop of Redbugs. As a storm centre during past wars Cincinnati has been a mighty poor battle ground. In every conflict, even '84 and '91, both sides lost heavily of the ammunition that counts—the coin of the realm—and both clubs were badly wounded in the region of the pocketbook. Of course, the late clashes of the U. S. League and Federal League, in '12 and '13, were jokes—just like a bunch of mosquitoes tackling a rhinoceros. The American Association story does not look so unlikely, but in times like these it does not seem to be propitious to make any such experiment. Redbugs, however, are listening for more music on the subject.

A "PING" BODIE STORY

So good old "Ping" Bodie has gone West—no longer an idol of the White Sox. "Ping" must have been a fellow in whom good nature bubbled and overflowed. If he wasn't I think he'd been tempted to murder some joker among his old "side kicks." Unwittingly and unwillingly I was made to figure in the "sell" that was set up on "Ping." It was at the close of the season of '12—the year that Tris Speaker was awarded the Chalmers trophy by the Chalmers Commission. The White Sox were playing the Browns at St. Louis and some one—I never learned who—"faked" a telegram which was delivered to Bodie as apparently coming from me. "You have been awarded the Chalmers Trophy." This was the substance of the message. "Ping" accepted the news in good faith and was in the midst of a perfectly natural jubilee when somebody broke the news gently that he was the victim of a hoax. It was a mean trick at that, and the fact that "Ping" didn't send some joker to the morgue has always been to his credit, as the possession of more than the usual allotment of human forbearance.

MULFORDISMS

Garry Herrmann has his trunk packed and it's "Off to New York" for him. When the schedules appear next week it will seem more like Springtime, gentle Annie. Cliff Blankenship wants to make a Mormon out of Earl Yingling and take him to Salt Lake City. The decision rests wholly with Manager Herzog. Miller Huggins is back from that dear Cuba and is about as loquacious as a Quaker in meeting. Here's one January promissory note: There will be something doing when the two H's get to New York—meaning Herzog and Huggins. "Harp" McGrory, the new youngster wind-paddist picked up by Manager Herzog has a fine musical handle, all right.

CARDINAL CHAT

Huggins Abandons Hope of Landing Marsans as Bait in a Player Deal—The Status of Catcher-Wingo Still Unsettled.

By Marlon F. Parker

ST. LOUIS, Mo., January 31.—Manager Miller Huggins has virtually abandoned all hope of getting the players he wants from the Cincinnati Club in trade for Ivy Wingo, and is now offering Wingo as bait for offers from other National League clubs, according to persons intimately acquainted with President Schuyler P. Britton. Huggins is willing to exchange for Joe Connolly or Sherwood Magee. The diminutive pilot would also send Wingo to the Pittsburgh Pirates if he can obtain outfielder Max Carey from the Buccos, but Barney Dreyfuss seems to have determined to retain Carey, and there is very little chance of Huggins effecting a deal for his services.

CHICAGO MAY MAKE DEAL

Roger Bresnahan is eager to land Wingo for the Chicago Cubs and has offered the Cardinal club a whole wagonload of athletes for the sorrel-topped backstop, but the material Bresnahan is willing to ship to St. Louis is of a negligible or unknown quantity, and the Duke will have to come through with a more substantial offer if he expects to secure the Norcross hurdler.

MARSANS NOT AVAILABLE

Secretary Miles E. Johnson, of the local Federal League Club, announced on Wednesday that there was no chance for McGraw or any other ambassador from Organized Ball to win back Armando Marsans from the Stouffeds. Hearing that McGraw had gone after Marsans, the St. Louis Club cabled Marsans how he stood, and he replied: "Loyal to the Federal League." As a result of Marsans' intention to stick with the Feds the trade by which Ivy Wingo was to go to Cincinnati has been called off. Manager Herzog snared Wingo back, but he was to deliver Marsans in payment for the catcher. Now that Herzog has Doooin, he is not so anxious for Wingo's services, and is willing to permit the player to revert to St. Louis.

THE NEEDS OF HUGGINS

Huggins wants a good shortstop, a slugging outfielder and another catcher to round out his team for the 1915 championship race, and he is determined to get capable players for the aforementioned positions just as quickly as deals can be perfected. A shortstop who can fill the position as well as poor Arnold Hauser did three years ago should make the Robison Field aggregation a formidable pennant contender this year, and no one realizes that fact better than Manager Huggins. The Cardinal pilot will not hesitate one moment about trading half a dozen players for a shortstop of Hauser's former caliber.

HUGGINS WANTS PIRTZ

If Pat O'Connor remains with the Feds, Manager Huggins, of the Cardinals, will try to get Heinie Peitz, the veteran backstop, to accompany the Robison Field outfit during the Spring training trip. Huggins needs a capable coach for his young pitchers and having previously obtained very good results by employing Peitz in that capacity, the Cardinal pilot will not hesitate about offering the veteran maskman the job should O'Connor refuse to leave the Pittsburgh Rebels.

released by the Cardinals at the conclusion of the 1913 season, so that he could accept a position as coach and scout for the Kansas City Club, of the American Association.

THE BOSTON BRAVES

Lose Infielder Deal to the Federal League and May Also Lose Mann—The Boston Club Not at Fault or Offended—The Day of Retrenchment at Hand.

By A. H. C. Mitchell

BOSTON, Mass., February 1.—It is announced that Charley Deal has signed a contract with the Federal League. Deal came to the Braves from the Providence team in the Fall of 1913. He played a few games under Stallings and looked good. Last Spring he reported at Macon, but before the training season ended he sprung a charleyhorse and from that time until near the close of the season he was not in condition to play his best game. He was forced to cover third, however, until Stallings made a deal for Red Smith, of the Brooklyn. Smith played the bag from that time on until the last day of the season, when he broke his leg sliding to second. This forced Deal into the White Sox Series. Deal fielded splendidly, but hit into successive double plays until the close of the second game, when he knocked a two-bagger over Strunk's head. He was caught off second and made a successful dash for third and a moment later scored the run that won the game for the Braves. So much for what he did for Boston last season. A short time ago President Gaffney

OFFERED DEAL A CONTRACT

for next season, calling for the same figure he received last season. Deal called on Mr. Gaffney early last week and had a pleasant talk with the boss. Mr. Gaffney told Deal that the offer was the best the club could make, that it was all that Stallings said he was worth to the club, and it was up to Deal to take it or leave it. He told Deal he would like to have him remain with the club, but that if he wanted to make a change he would do all he could to get him transferred to some other club where, perhaps, he would be offered more salary. Deal promised to think it over, and decided to see what the Feds would do. He got into communication with President Gilmore, made an appointment with him and went over to New York last Friday. There he signed with the St. Louis Federal League team. When Mr. Gaffney heard about it he said Deal was a fine fellow, that he was sorry to have him leave the Boston Club, and that he had his best wishes for a successful career. The whole matter was conducted

WITHOUT ANY HARD FEELINGS.

No one blames Deal for making the change. His is one of the cases where the outlook on his own club didn't look any too bright. He realized he would have to play second fiddle to Red Smith. He couldn't get an increase in salary because the club had third base covered. So he did the next best thing. Deal is a very likeable fellow, quiet and unassuming, and on top of it all, he is a good, earnest ball player. Leslie Mann, the Braves' outfielder, at this writing, is expected to follow in Deal's footsteps. He was offered a contract which was not satisfactory to him. From his home at Springfield, Mass., he called up President Gaffney and had a talk with him. Mr. Gaffney told him exactly the same thing as he told Deal. The signing of Sherwood Magee, a fine outfielder and a right-handed batter, made Mann's berth on the team insecure. In these days ball clubs cannot carry any waste timber and Mann was classed in that category. If he jumps to the Feds the management of the Braves will not be surprised, and as in the Deal case, there will be no hard feelings. Under ordinary conditions, it is possible that both Deal and Mann would have been offered more money, but on account of the unsettled conditions, the club did not see its way clear to increase their pay-roll. The

CASES OF MANN AND DEAL

will, I believe, be the usual order of things when the base ball war is settled one way or the other. Players will be offered a salary and when they come to talk it over with the club owners or managers, they will be told they "can take it or leave it." I believe there will be mighty little haggling in the days to come over base ball contracts. The magnates feel that in the past they have treated their players right, paid them salaries as large as the game could stand, and that because of the Federal League they have been forced in many cases to pay players a great deal more than they were worth. The day of retrenchment is coming. Salaries will go back to what they were before the American League came into existence. They will be paid about what Jimmy Collins was paid when he was at the zenith of his career as a player on the old Boston Nationals—\$2400 a year. The stars will be lucky to get as much as \$4000. That is my dope. "Take it or leave it" will be the slogan. Josh Devore has been given his unconditional release by President Gaffney.

NEWS OF THE RED SOX

The signed contract of catcher Chester Thomas has been received at the Red Sox office. This about completes the list of signed players. Most of the men were signed last Fall. Manager Carrigan is well fortified for the coming season in every department except behind the bat. He needs a first class catcher to handle the right-handed pitchers. Carrigan himself catches Collins and Leonard. President Lannin has returned to New York in answer to a summons by President Ban Johnson. Before leaving, Mr. Lannin said he thought there was some misunderstanding on the part of the American Association and the International League in regard to being made major leagues. He said such an attempt was made at the last meeting of the American League, but that it was voted down. Manager Carrigan has returned with his bride to Lewiston, Me., but will soon go to Garden City, L. I., to be the guests of M. Lannin, at his hotel there. It is expected that there will be little of importance in the next few weeks as far as the Red Sox affairs are concerned. Everything is serene and players and fans alike are awaiting the opening of the Spring

THE CHICAGO CUBS

Manager Bresnahan Weeding Out Overgrown Roster—Derrick Exchanged for McLarry—Training Plans Completed.

By I. E. Sanborn

CHICAGO, Ills., January 31.—Manager Bresnahan has been gradually cutting down the roster of the Cubs by letting out an occasional player. The latest at this writing to receive the blue envelope is Claude Derrick, who was among the many tried out at short by Hank O'Day last season. Derrick goes to the Louisville Club of the American Association, and has agreed to the transfer without any threat about jumping to the Feds. Derrick goes to Louisville as part payment for "Polly" McLarry, the infielder who was obtained from the Colonels a week ago. McLarry originally broke into the limelight as a White Sox recruit, coming raw as could be from the Texas League a couple of Summers ago. He was a first baseman then and that was before the White Sox had any chance of getting Hal Chase. McLarry looked like a ball player in spite of his awkwardness and lack of experience, but Manager Callahan did not have time to teach the youngster at that time and sent him to the Western League to get experience. He seems to have found second base more suited to his talents, however, and returns to the big company as a candidate for Bill Sweeney's place at second.

THE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

President Thomas has added one game to the Cubs' Spring training trip by filling in the only open date, April 7, with a game at Nashville. He also received word from the Midwinter Base Ball Association, of Tampa, that games have been booked for the Cubs and Athletics in March, as was done last Spring. Six games are booked between the Mackmen and the Bresnahan's. Three of them will be played in Tampa on March 9, 10 and 11, and the other three in Jacksonville on March 17, 18 and 19. The Cubs can be reduced to a sane basis of 30 players or less for the Spring training trip because they do their Spring training on a sane basis. The whole squad is kept together, barring a possible game or two near the opening of the season, when a Yannigan bunch sometimes is sent off for a Sunday exhibition in the bushes to pick up a little extra coin.

A CATCHER SIGNED

Bresnahan has picked up a young catcher named Alec Kluth, who played in the local semi-professional field last season and made quite a reputation for himself. Kluth is a six-footer and looks to have all the qualities of a backstop according to reports that have been handed Bresnahan by men who ought to know. He will be taken to Tampa and given a chance to show if his press agents were wise or foolish.

MINOR LEAGUE VISITORS

President McGill and Manager Hendricks, of the Indianapolis A. A. team, have been quite frequent visitors at the Cub offices of late and it is expected the Hoosiers will get some of the Cub discards later on. No definite reports of progress in the matter have been forthcoming, however.

PITCHER PIERCE ON DECK

George Pierce, the Cub southpaw spitter, was among the early birds to report for Spring training. He dropped into Cub headquarters last week and announced that he was ready to go to Florida. He left with his wife for Ormond, where already there is quite a camp of Cubs, and will remain there until time to cross the Everglades to begin work at Tampa.

NATIONAL LEAGUE NOTES

The Chicago Club has sold outfielder "Ping" Bodie to the San Francisco Club, of the Pacific Coast League.

The Boston Braves will go South earlier than ever this season so as to get in shape for their annual sprint in July and August.

Miss Genevieve Ebbets, daughter of President Ebbets, of the Brooklyn Club, was married in Brooklyn, on January 27, to Alfred Gillesau.

Still a bit weak from his attack of typhoid fever, Joe Benz, White Sox pitcher, will be the first Sox to arrive at the California training camp.

Manager Stallings, of the Boston Braves, was the principal speaker at a dinner tendered him night of January 28, at Columbus, Ga., by 300 prominent business men.

An Aberdeen, Wash., dispatch states that outfielder Ham Hyatt, recently transferred by Pittsburgh to the Cardinals, waits his release in order to go into business at Aberdeen.

John J. McGraw, Christy Mathewson and Hans Lohbert are the lions of Havana society these days. The Cuban dailies are devoting about half their space to eulogies of the three.

The Boston Club received word last Friday that Walter Traverser, a catcher who was with Birmingham Southern League team last year, has signed a contract with the Braves.

Says the New York "Tribune": "Billy Sunday says he will come to New York to 'strike out booze.' If Larry McLean does the catching, he will probably call for a high one on the inside."

Pitcher Edward M. Ruebach was unconditionally released last week by the Brooklyn National League Club. Ruebach came from the Chicago Club to Brooklyn during the season of 1913.

The New York "American" rises to remark: "Charley Murphy is a versatile athlete. He once ran a shoeshine into a million, but when he met the tax assessor he ran a million into \$600."

Charles S. Doooin, former manager of the Philadelphia National League team, last week signed a two years' contract to catch for the Cincinnati Club. The salary is said to be \$8000 a year.

President Karahaugh, of the Southern League, is authority for the statement that Umpire Billy Hart has given such satisfaction to President Tener that he has been given a salary raise for next season.

Joe Conzelman, the promising young pitcher of the Pirates, may be lost to Fred Clarke. The young man, who is a graduate of Brown, is thinking seriously of forsaking the game to engage in civil engineering.

Heinie Grob, the Cincinnati second baseman, who was angled for by every National League manager this Winter, is under a surgeon's treatment for an old ailment in his leg. He hopes to be better than ever.

Citizens of Fitchburg, Mass., presented Pat Morris

Continued on eighteenth page

American League News

FORMAL TRANSFER OF THE NEW YORK CLUB

Col. Ruppert and Captain Huston Now Sole Owners of the New Yorks—The Deal Topped Off With a Banquet to Local Scribes.

BY W. J. M'BETH

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 1.—The New York American League Club—franchise and entire stock—Saturday was put officially into the possession of Col. Jacob Ruppert, Jr., and Captain T. L. Huston in the offices of Elkus, Gleason & Proskauer, the law firm, of 170 Broadway.



Col. Ruppert

Every share of stock and every commodity of the club was turned over to the new partners by Frank J. Farrell, William S. Devery and the minority stockholders of the old regime. In turn for this the two new equal partners deposited with the legal representatives of the former owners certified checks for payment in full of the balance due upon the property. The final transaction was completed in the presence of Messrs. Johnson, Ruppert and Huston and the legal advisers of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Elkus and Gleason represented the interests of Farrell and Devery. Attorneys Grant and Fitch seconded Ruppert and Huston. Farrell, Devery, Tom Foley and others interested in the former ownership remained in an adjoining room throughout the two-hours' discussion. President Ban Johnson, of the American League, who came here to superintend the official transfer of interests, was congratulated by all concerned. He proved himself a most patient and competent executive throughout the tedious negotiations. He was confronted from the start by difficulties which he overcame so successfully as to merit the appreciation of his new associates and the thanks to the retiring owners.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON QUITE HAPPY

President Johnson expressed keen delight at the conclusion of the positively last meeting. "I am satisfied," said the American League chief, "that we have in Messrs. Ruppert and Huston two staunch supporters who will stand with our league till the crack of doom." They have impressed me most favorably. Never once throughout the long drawn negotiations have they wavered a quarter inch from their original stand. The fact that they were most deliberate and conservative throughout their calculations proves to me that they are men who may be depended upon, once they have put their shoulder to the wheel. I believe I may say that certain circumstances conspired to delay a more speedy solution of the transaction. Premature publicity hindered progress at the start. Afterward outsiders who were anxious for the embarrassment of Organized Base Ball took a hand. I do not care to specify individuals when I say that nothing was left undone by the enemies of Organized Base Ball to discourage Messrs. Ruppert and Huston in their base ball investment. The American League will appreciate, I am sure, as sincerely as I do, the triumph of winning the co-operation of such fine fellows."

THE NEW OWNERS SPEAK

Col. Ruppert, who strikes one as being all business all of the time, no sooner had subscribed to the final documents than he boldly braced Ban Johnson for his aid in landing a couple of high-class players. Needless to say, the big boss will co-operate as far as lies in his power. Capt. Huston, who has postponed his visit to Cuba in order to attend the schedule meeting of the American League here Wednesday, has wired Bill Donovan to hasten back from the South in time to advise him on prospective trades when the clans assemble. Capt. Huston, who perhaps will take the most active part in the club's administration, expressed the belief that hustling should make the investment a most profitable one. Said he: "We will have a good team if it can be had in any way. Certainly Mr. Donovan will receive every encouragement. He will be the manager in deed as well as in name. He will be in absolute charge of the playing end of the game. In that department his word will be law. Manager Donovan already has outlined his ideas as to the best way to proceed immediately to improve the strength of the club and these suggestions will be carried out to the letter."

FRANK FARRELL'S FAREWELL

Frank J. Farrell, the retiring club president, was profuse in his best wishes for the welfare of his successor. "I have nothing of which to complain," said he. "I was not anxious to sell at any price, but I could not resist the fine offer made me, especially in these unsettled times. My only regret is that I have quit base ball before I realized the ambition to provide New York with an American League champion. I sincerely hope that Messrs. Ruppert and Huston do not experience such hard luck and disappointments as I have suffered while the executive."

Getting Acquainted With the Scribes

President Jacob Ruppert, Jr., his brother George, and Ban Johnson were guests of honor or night of January 30 at the dinner given by Capt. Huston at the New York Athletic Club. The motive of the banquet was properly to introduce the new executive of the club to the base ball writers and sporting editors of the New York papers. The Captain installed a novelty in a relay course. Refresh-

ments were served in due course irrespective of the time of the arrival of the guests. The dinner began at 8.30 o'clock and in conjunction with the speeches lasted until 3.00 A. M. All of the sporting editors and

BASE BALL WRITERS

were present with two notable exceptions. The dinner was of the finest, the wine was abundant, the table was beautifully decorated and throughout the evening music was interspersed between the courses and the speeches. The utmost harmony and good feeling prevailed, and throughout the long session there was not one discordant note. Bozeman Bulger, the law firm, of 170 Broadway, the first speaker, expressed his satisfaction with the deal, and highly commended the new owners for their courtesy, enterprise and liberality, and their manifest love of the game which prompted them to make so great an investment at this parlous time. Col. Ruppert, in his maiden

BASE BALL SPEECH

made a fine address in which he spoke of his love of base ball from boyhood, his now gratified ambition to be a local club owner, of his hopes and plans for his new acquisition. He also commended Ban Johnson for his patient, fair, and honorable conduct of the long negotiations. In conclusion he made an eloquent plea for the good will and support of the local press. Capt. Huston spoke of the inception and completion of the deal, of the policy of the new owners, and announced that Manager Donovan would have

COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE TEAM.

Lawyer Grant, Mr. Ruppert's counsel, gave some additional facts about the deal and he, too, made an appeal for press support. Business Manager Harry Sparrow, Mr. W. Fleischmann, Paul Armstrong, and Irving Cobb also made excellent speeches in either serious or humorous vein; William Connolly entertained with a monologue; and responses for the press were made by Sam Crane, of the "Journal"; Sid Mercer, of the "Globe"; and Editor Richter, of "Sporting Life."

JOHN MCGRAW LAUDED

During the evening both Col. Ruppert and Capt. Huston referred to the part that John McGraw played in the negotiations. They said McGraw had never offered his advice, but that they sought it frequently, and he gladly obliged. A toast was drunk to McGraw, who is now in Cuba, and another to Frank Farrell. It was also agreed that the "Sale of the New Yorks" would be duly celebrated in the future, the anniversary of each step in the deal to be properly observed by a dinner. The vote of the Base Ball Writers' Association on this proposition was unanimous.

BIG DEAL COMPLETED

The New York American Club Now in the Possession of Messrs. Ruppert and Huston—The Prospects of the New Manager, Bill Donovan.

By Harry Dix Cole

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 1.—At last it has really happened! On the thirtieth day of January, in the year 1915, between the hours of 2 and 10 P. M., the New York Base Ball Club passed from the hands of Messrs. Farrell and Devery into the hands of Messrs. Ruppert and Huston. After nearly three months of negotiations, in which President Johnson, of the American League, played a most prominent part, the club, and not the public, was sold after all. And to make the change complete all of the old regime go out with the former owners. Tom Davis, secretary; Michael Bergen, who guarded the keys to the castle; Arthur Irwin, "Bwana Tombo" of the ivory hunters, and Edward Fink and Harold Irwin, general utility man, all

SENT IN THEIR RESIGNATIONS

to be handed to the new owners along with the stock. Harry Sparrow, B. M., (Business Manager and not Bum Musician) will select his partners in crime just as soon as the club gets settled in the Forty-second street building offices. One of the first statements Capt. Huston made after formally taking over the club with Col. Ruppert was that he wished to start and build a ball park as soon as possible. He added that they had been looking over various sites which would be accessible to the New York fans. All those people who are so kindly sympathizing with "Wild Bill" Donovan over

THE HOPELESS LOT

of athletes he has inherited will undoubtedly derive a great deal of comfort from the figures brought to light in the 1914 official averages. Luther Boone, who seems slated to take care of the second sack for the locals, led all the second basemen in the American League in fielding; Charley Mullen, who will continue to be traded every week throughout the season, was among the first three first basemen of the league in fielding; Captain Peckinpaugh played in 157 games and was among the first three shortstops of the Johnson organization; Fritz Maisel stole a greater number of bases than any player in either league, and this with a batting average of something like .220. Luther Cook, going through his

FIRST FULL SEASON

as a regular major leaguer, compiled the modest batting average of .290. And yet the Anvil Chorus persistently declares Bill's is a hopeless task with the material now on hand. The explanation of the rumors that Charley Mullen would be shortly sold to the Indianapolis A. A. Club is that Farrell shifted the ex-Nebraskan to Hendricks' team some six weeks before the New Yorks changed hands, but there was some hitch in the proceedings, so Mullen will go South with Donovan after all.

MAKE GOOD IMPRESSION

Col. Jacob Ruppert, Jr., the new

of the New Yorks, made a very favorable impression on every one who attended Capt. Huston's dinner in his honor at the New York A. C. Saturday night. The Colonel assured the guests that he and the Captain were prepared to install the most liberal system of developing a first-rate team. Bill Donovan will get every encouragement so far as finances go and will be permitted to run the playing end of the game to suit himself. "Manager Donovan will be judged by results," said Col. Ruppert, "and I am sure he will have nothing of which to complain in our treatment of him. Naturally, we hope to see an improvement this very year. But I am sure myself and the Captain will be patient, too. We realize that a pennant winner cannot be made to order."

PITCHER FISHER SIGNS

Pitcher Ray Fisher, of the New Yorks, announced on Saturday that he has signed a three-years' contract. It is understood that his contract calls for a salary of \$19,500 for the three years. He will leave some time in February to join his team for Spring practice. Fisher has resigned his position as physical director at Middlebury, which he has held for several years. With the signing of Ray Fisher the corps of New York hold-outs has been reduced to four, with an additional unsigned player who may not be offered a contract. The quintet includes Marty McHale, pitcher; "King" Cole, also of the hurling department; Pete Daley, outfielder; Angele Argon, outfielder, and Kingman, infielder.

AT THE CAPITAL

Griffith's Housecleaning—He Makes a Good Trade, Sells Mike Mitchell, and Decides the Fate of Six Other Players—Foster to Wed and Ainsmith a Father.

By Paul W. Eaton

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1.—This week was a busy one for Manager Griffith, who made a trade with the St. Louis Cardinals, swung his axe vigorously, and cut down his forces to about 29 men. His deal with the St. Louis Nationals was an exchange of outfielder Tom Long for pitcher Booth Hopper. As Griffith could not have used Long, the trade cannot prove a losing one, and as Hopper looks pretty good it may prove a big gain. Griffith got Hopper in last year's draft, on a tip from Joe Cantillon, but allowed his rights to lapse. When Joe was here recently, he continued to boost Hopper, declared he was the best twirler in the American Association last year, and said he would take him off Griffith's hands if he failed to make good in Washington. Hopper has a good record. The Cardinals originally got hold of him in 1912, but let him go to New Haven, where he won 12 games and lost seven, for an average of .632, and was one of the most successful pitchers in the Eastern Association.

HOPPER A BEAR-CAT

In 1913 he continued to pitch for New Haven, and led the twirlers of the Eastern Association. He won 19 games and lost nine, for an average of .679; and pitched two no-hit games against Pittsfield. In 1914 he was recalled by the Cardinals and pitched some unusually good games, but was sold to St. Paul, where he won nine and lost 16 games for a team which finished a bad last. Critics pronounced his work as good as ever, but nobody could win often for St. Paul. St. Louis regained him after Griffith's draft rights expired, and traded him back to Washington as stated. Mike Mitchell has been disposed of at last, having been sold outright to Jack Dunn's Richmond team, of the International League. Despite the yarn in which a Federal League press agent, whose zeal and activity are greater than his knowledge of base ball, has killed the International—easily recognized as a fairy tale—Mike should make this year the most exciting one seen in Richmond since the Civil War.

WALLY SMITH TO MINNEAPOLIS

is another of the week's shifts. Reports in certain local papers that Smith would go to Indianapolis were mistakes. It was stated in this correspondence months ago that six or seven players—probably the latter number—would be sent to Washington's new farm at Minneapolis. Smith is the seventh. Pitchers Hedgepeth and Barton have been let go to Bill Coughlin's Scranton team, of the New York State League. Barron, of the University of West Virginia southpaw, and Stevens, obtained from Martinsburg, of the Tri-City League, have been released unconditionally, and pitcher Johnny Mumford will be let go in the same way.

SECRETARY JOHN HEYDLER

of the National League, stopped over here in his home city, en route from the base ball trial in Chicago to resume his duties in New York. He said that the impressions he got from the proceedings were satisfactory and his greatest fear was that the court would disclaim jurisdiction. In that case, probably each dispute over a player's contract would have to be passed upon by a State court, as formerly, though it is to be hoped that the new form of contract is one as to which the decisions of such courts will be more uniform than has been the case in the past, when the old contract was used. New exhibition games arranged for the Washingtons indicate that they will leave Charlottesville a little earlier than was at first intended. They now plan to play the Richmonds at Richmond, Saturday, March 27, and perhaps another game on the following Monday. The Colts will play at Alexandria, Va., on March 27, against the team of the Cardinal Athletic Club, of that city. Besides, there will be the usual six or more games with the University of Virginia's team at Charlottesville. The dates already named are Saturday, March 13; Wednesday, March 17; Saturday, March 20, and Wednesday, March 24.

EDDIE FOSTER HERE

Eddie Foster arrived here Thursday night, from Calexico, Cal., where he and Alva Williams have been playing twice a week with a local team. He is looking well and husky, and is the same live wire. His first visit to club headquarters resulted in a kidding match owing to a report that he had returned in matrimony, and the session wound

up with congratulations when the story was officially confirmed. Foster will be married on Wednesday afternoon to Miss Nan Crismond, who was a nurse in Georgetown University Hospital when he was a typhoid fever patient there in 1913. The bride and groom will then leave for the latter's home in Chicago, to return when reporting time comes. Alva Williams did not return East with Foster, but his signed contract for 1915 preceded Eddie by a day or two. Foster says Williams' throwing in Calexico, which town, as its name indicates, is on the border between California and Mexico, was his best since he became a Senator. It appears that Williams' batting broke up the league and wrecked the parks in the Calexico circuit. He predicts a big year for "Rippy."

EDDIE AINSMITH A FATHER

Catcher Eddie Ainsmith is the first of last year's crop of bridegrooms on the local team to make good. Mrs. Ainsmith presented the big backdrop with a seven and one-half pound daughter last Wednesday. This was just what he wanted, and he is the happiest member of the community. All who have seen the baby say she is a beauty and looks like her father. Both mother and child are doing well.

OUTFIELDER LETTERS

The youngster Manager Griffith picked up at Atlantic City, is among the players he expects to take to Charlottesville for a try-out. The full number who may report there is 29, but the list may undergo a further alum bath. They are: Catchers, Henry, Ainsmith and Williams; infielders, McBride, Gandil, Morgan, Foster, Neff and Pick; outfielders, Milan, Moeller, Shanks, Acosta, Rondeau, Brown, Massey, Lamar and Letters; pitchers, Johnson, Boehling, Shaw, Bentley, Engel, Ayers, Gallia, Harper, Hopper, Thormahlen, and possibly Howard Ehmke. The latter still refuses to sign the contract offered by Washington. His brother, a lawyer in New York State, where both live, seems to be encouraging him in the belief that he is

A SECOND WALTER JOHNSON.

If he is really Walter's alter ego he ought to be content with a salary like Johnson's when he first broke in. However, his brother is asking a \$5000 stipend for him, though the youngster's record last year does not seem likely to make Johnson envious. Alva Williams will take a look at the Panama-Pacific Exposition before leaving California for Washington, and he will then try to pick up Ehmke, who, it seems, is still on the Coast, and bring him here. If, as some good judges claim, the boy really is a wonder, he will get his reward as soon as he proves it; but this is the time of year when second Walter Johnsons are numerous. The chances are that just now Mr. Griffith would rather lose Ehmke than any of the pitchers listed above, except Thormahlen, but still he is more than hopeful that Ehmke will prove valuable.

ST. LOUIS SIFTINGS

Manager Rickey Has High Opinion of Shotten—The Wichita Club of the Western League to Secure Brown Discards

By Clarence F. Lloyd

ST. LOUIS, Mo., January 31.—Manager Branch Rickey, of the Browns, is back at home after an absence of two months. He came here from Chicago, where he attended the preliminary hearing of the Federal League's trust-busting suit against Organized Base Ball. According to Rickey, he has no deals pending now whereby the Browns will obtain any player. He added that the report out of Chicago that the White Sox would get Bert Shotten and one of the Browns' left-handed pitchers was nothing but a wild-eyed rumor that had never been discussed. "I wouldn't take half the players of the White Sox in exchange for Shotten," said Rickey to the writer. Rickey said he would remain here several days and then return to Houston, Tex., where he would await the coming of the Browns, March 1.

RICKEY TO HELP WICHITA

Manager Clyde Wares, of the Wichita Western League team, a former Brown, probably will get three of Branch Rickey's discards. Manager Rickey so stated on his arrival to prepare for the getaway to camp. Manager Huggins, of the Cardinals, also arrived from Havana and began distributing contracts to athletes who are not signed. Huggins said he chatted with Armando Marsans in Cuba, but he received no promise from the Cuban. Rickey did not announce who would go to Wichita. Manager Cliff Blankenship, of the Salt Lake City team, of the Pacific Coast League, was looking for castoff big league talent, but he probably will leave St. Louis empty-handed. Rickey will take 30 players South. Huggins plans to take 25.

RICKEY ON AUSTIN'S CASE

"There's absolutely no chance whatever for Jimmy Austin to be with the Browns this season," said Manager Branch Rickey yesterday. "Our dealings with Austin have ended, despite the fact that Jim may have told newspaper men that we are trying to win him back." According to Rickey, Austin demanded a three-years' contract at \$5000 a season. The club originally offered him a one-year contract at that figure, which was a boost of \$1000 over his 1914 salary. When he held out, Rickey says he offered Austin a two-years' contract, calling for \$10,000. Austin stood firm, demanded a three-years' contract, and, when it was not forthcoming, flopped to the Pittsburgh Federals.

NEUTRALITY.

By George Shaw

"I'm neutral," said the Yankee fan
As he read about the war.
"I do not even try to learn
What they are fighting for."

"The Giants will beat the Yanks next Fall."
An East Side person said.
The Yank fan lightly raised a chair
And hit him on the head.

"Although I do not care a whoop
For France or Germany,
Between the Yanks and Giants," he said,
"There's no neutrality."

JOHNSON JOTTINGS

The Head of the American League Denies Some Gilmore Statements and Briefly Comments Upon the Issues of the Hour.

By W. J. McBeth

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 2.—President Johnson, who came here to close the New York deal on Saturday, remained in town for Wednesday's meeting of the American League. The closure of the New York deal put him in the humor to discuss base ball affairs more freely than usual. He had a great deal to say in comment upon recent remarks of President Gilmore, of the Federal League, but he refused to comment on the Federal League suit, which was tried in Chicago, remarking that it would not be in good taste to anticipate any decision that the United States Court might make in the matter. "I regard," said Mr. Johnson, "the present time during which the decision is pending as

A PERIOD OF TRUCE

when both plaintiff and defendants should be inactive until Judge Landis hands down his decision. While Organized Ball regards this as a period of truce and observes it as such, this is not the case with the Federal League. Before they even know how the case is coming out they have gone right ahead and signed player Deal, of the Boston Braves. And yet they came to court praying that Organized Ball should let them strictly alone in their base ball business. And in practically the same breath they turn about and take whatever players of ours they can lay their hands on. Doesn't this seem a little bit inconsistent? Organized Ball is perfectly satisfied to wait upon the decision of the court before taking any more steps.

DENIES SOME GILMORE CHARGES

Mr. Johnson also had something to say about his interview with James A. Gilmore, the Federal League leader, in Chicago, last February. Mr. Johnson explained that Gilmore's brother, Charles Gilmore, had been a friend of his for several years and brother Charles asked Johnson if he would not meet his brother, Jim. Mr. Johnson said that as their interests were so wide apart it would probably be advisable not to meet him. Brother Charles insisted, so the meeting was arranged at the Automobile Club, in Chicago. Mr. Johnson stated that he and Gilmore talked for about an hour and a half in a confidential way. Gilmore told Johnson that if Organized Ball would recognize Federal League contracts, the Federal League would be willing to recognize their contracts. Johnson explained that

HE HAD NO AUTHORITY

In the matter, but would ask the members of the National Commission what they thought about Gilmore's overtures. Gilmore objected to having August Herrmann taking any part in the conference, so President Johnson told Mr. Gilmore that he would consult President John K. Tener, of the National League, and if he was willing, a meeting would be arranged. Johnson was to notify Gilmore the following day if Tener was willing. If Mr. Gilmore did not hear from Johnson then it was to be understood that the conference was off. Johnson did not call up Gilmore the next day, as he wanted him to understand that Organized Ball did not want to negotiate with the Federals in that way. "That was the end of it for me," said Johnson, "our meeting was not desired by me, but was arranged by his brother, Charles."

BREACH OF CONFIDENCE

In conclusion, Mr. Johnson said: "A short time later, while the Chicago Federal League Club was traveling South somebody in the party told a Chicago writer of the conference I had had with Jim Gilmore. His brother Charley was deeply mortified that the confidence had been betrayed. I have nothing to fear from Jim Gilmore. I quite agree with his apparent latest tack that it is best for all concerned to have the question settled as speedily as possible by a court of law. Organized Ball has nothing to fear from such a result. Organized Ball ever has been willing to settle the issue in any way. I think the public will realize who scored most heavily in a fair field last season."

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION CASE

Ban Johnson was somewhat evasive when asked about the prospect of the two major leagues waiving draft privileges upon Class AA clubs, particularly the American Association. He admitted that a lift of the draft would not imply a rating equivalent to that of the American and National circuits. "However," said Ban, "it would give such leagues as much, if not more, pretention to major class than that of the Federal League." The possible effect upon the players in those leagues relieved of the draft was brought out, but Ban had nothing to say. It was argued that such players might consider themselves entitled to a scale of salary such as is now maintained in the established majors. Also it was pointed out to Mr. Johnson that President David L. Fultz, of the Base Ball Players' Fraternity, had come out flat-footed in opposition to the project unless such a new salary scale were adopted.

THE FRATERNITY VIEW

Evidently Fultz and the Fraternity do not appear to Ban in the light of obstacles. It was the American League head who refused to allow the nine new demands of the Fraternity to have a reading at a National Commission meeting. Fultz argues that elimination of draft without corresponding increase of pay would mean the greater subjugation of ability on the part of many deserving players. Under existing conditions Class AA clubs, through fear of losing by draft, are excused in the minds of their supporters for disposing of their best players each season. With the draft gone they would have to carry the stars from year to year or sacrifice patronage. That the elimination of the draft upon Class AA clubs has developed no further than a state of conjecture was brought out quite clearly. The National Commission has not considered such a movement officially. Like the annual meeting of the Triumvirate, it is a matter that can wait for the time. It is barely possible that Judge Landis' decision,

so eagerly awaited by all, may influence the future course of events.

THE COMMISSION CHAIRMANSHIP

When questioned about the report published some time ago that Garry Herrmann was to be ousted as Chairman of the National Commission, he said that the President of the Cincinnati Club would undoubtedly be re-elected to the place, and that it would be hard to find a man capable of filling his shoes. "Herrmann has been fair and just to club owners and players as well in all his decisions," said Johnson.

CLEVELAND'S TEAM

Manager Birmingham Submits the List of Players Who Will Be Taken on the Training Trip—Some Young Players to Be Held for Possible Development.

By Ed Bang

CLEVELAND, O., February 1.—Manager Joe Birmingham, of the Indians, has made his final selection of players for the trip to the San Antonio, Texas, Spring training camp and with whom he hopes to elevate Cleveland in the forthcoming American League pennant race. The Indians who will make the trip to the Lone State will number only 27, and will be divided as follows: Catchers, O'Neill, Egan, Devogt, Billings and Fohl; pitchers, Mitchell, Steen, Blanding, Morton, Jones, Coumbe, Walker, Bowman and Harstad; infielders, Wood, Shields, Wambegans, Rodgers, Chapman, Thomas, Turner and Barbara; outfielders, Jackson, Leibold, Graney, Smith and Birmingham. Quite a number of players on the Indians' reserve list will be turned over to Manager Jack Knight, of the Spiders, of the American Association, before the two clubs start South and some whom the Spiders will be unable to use will either be sent to other clubs or given their outright release. In addition to those mentioned Manager Birmingham may have one or two young players with the squad at San Antonio. He has been negotiating with several

LIKELY YOUNG PROSPECTS

during the Winter months and it is possible that one or two of them may decide to take advantage of his offer to give them a trial with the Indians this year. "Birmy" will have one young player with the Indians at the training camp who is under contract with the Association club. This player's name is Murdock Brown, whose home is at Aransas Pass, Texas. Brown is a former University of Texas man, who negotiated the hundred in 10 1-5 seconds at the university. Last Summer a representative of the Cleveland American League Club discovered Brown playing with an independent team at Palestine, Texas. He looked so promising that Somers' agent tried to induce him to report to the New Orleans Club for an immediate trial, figuring that a couple of months' experience with the Pelicans might fit him for a trial in the majors. Brown was not under contract with the Palestine Club, but he had passed his word to the promoters that he would play with them throughout the season and his word proved as good as a \$100,000 bond. He put his word above the opportunity that was offered him and insisted that he would have to remain with the Palestine Club, as he had agreed to do. He was perfectly

WILLING TO TRY HIS HAND

at professional ball as soon as he had discharged his obligations to the Palestine promoter and readily signed a contract with the Cleveland A. A. Club for 1915. Owing to the fact that Brown's home is within 150 miles of San Antonio it was decided to have him report and work out with the Indians instead of sending him to Thomasville, Ga., where the Spiders will do their Spring conditioning. Brown is 21 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall, and bats and throws right-handed. He was playing second base when discovered by the Cleveland Club representative and it is not known whether he is adapted to any other position.

THE ASSOCIATION CLAIM

The announcement that the American Association had been granted major league ranking, which came from Indianapolis last Thursday, proved a big surprise to C. W. Somers, owner of the two local clubs. Somers had heard some talk of eliminating the draft from not only the Association, but the Pacific Coast and International, the two other Class AA leagues, as well, but the fact that they were to be given real major league rating was real news to him. Clevelanders had a chance to see American Association ball last season and notwithstanding that the American League had a tail-end team here you can't find very many fans who will put themselves on record as saying that the A. A. brand of ball compared with that of the American League. If the Association is elevated to majordom there will have to be a general distribution of players between the American and National Leagues on the one side and the Association on the other to bring Tom Chivington's organization up on an equal footing with those bossed by Ban Johnson and Tener.

THE SCHEME NOT PRACTICAL

Of course, if the National Commission decrees that the only way to battle the Federals is to raise the standard of the American Association, International and Pacific Coast Leagues so as to make five major leagues in Organized Ball as against one in outlawdom, and distribute the National and American stars about promiscuously, that's their business, but it's a 10 to 1 shot that they'll not take such drastic action. If they do it will be the beginning of the end of base ball, for if the big cities can't boast of ball teams of better quality than the smaller towns the present major league magnates might just as well close up shop. But, come what may, Cleveland will have two ball teams next season, namely, the Indians, of the American League, and the Spiders, of the American Association, unless Toledo business men get a hustle on themselves and purchase the latter team.

There can be no question but that Walter Johnson has lost popularity in Washington. Woodrow Wilson's grandson is to be christened Francis.

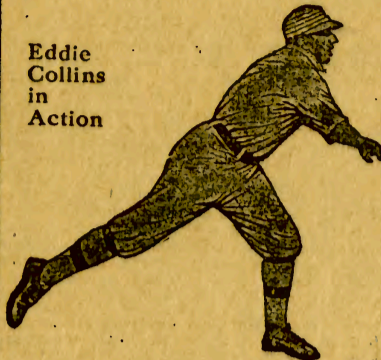
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WHITE SOX NEWS

The Release of "Ping" Bodie Recalls His Singular Popularity With Local Fans—More Roster Reductions on the Way.

By I. E. Sanborn

CHICAGO, Ills., January 31.—In spite of the great interest among base ball promoters and players in the Federal League's attempt to pull down the edifice of Organized Ball, the fans of Chicago were more deeply interested in the news of the release of "Ping" Bodie, the White Sox alleged fence-buster, to the San Francisco Club. Secretary Grabiner threw a bomb into the stockyards by announcing the end of "Ping's" South Side career last week. It is doubtful if any player in the business ever equaled Bodie's record. So far as I can recall I never saw, or even heard of, a player who delivered as much poor base ball and yet enjoyed a wider reputation or

STOOD IN HIGHER FAVOR

with the bleachers. "Ping" came to Chicago with a press agent label of fence-buster, because he had been able to whale the ball up against the extremely short fences at the Seals' park in Frisco. He certainly could hit the ball, but the major league fielders soon discovered his range and laid for his long drives in just the right spots to gather them in. The fences were too far away for him to bust them with any degree of regularity, particularly at White Sox Park, consequently "Ping's" batting average never mounted nearly as high as the speed with which he could hit the ball. Bodie never seemed to learn that there was anything to the game except to whale that pill and go after fly balls. Duffy and Callahan and Gleason in turn did their best to impress on the Californian some of

THE SIMPLER AXIOMS

of the inside game, but he never really understood why it was right to return the ball to a certain base in one situation and all wrong to throw to that same base under other circumstances. And as for base running, he was out of it completely. We are not rehearsing Bodie's weakness in any knocking spirit, but just to prove that he deserves a lot of credit for having made as big a reputation and having lasted as long as he did in the big league with so little real ability. More people will be sorry and miss "Ping" next season than there were fans who were sorry to see Harry Lord quit, and yet there is no comparison between Bodie and Lord as ball players, because the former third baseman had everything Bodie lacked. It proves that the ordinary run of base ball patrons care little for the inside ball player who really wins games, unless he also is a star batsman or fielder. They like the guy who can whale that pill, no matter if he can do nothing else and no matter how seldom his long drives go safe. The slugger always will

HAVE THE ROOTERS WITH HIM.

No consideration except cash figured in the Bodie transaction, according to Secretary Grabiner. Bodie is glad to get back to Frisco, where he lives and spends his Winters, and where the fences are close in, so that he can resume busting them. It was thought "Ping" was destined for the Milwaukee Club to help pay for Felch, in which case it is probable he would have jumped to the Federal League. He may yet, just to demonstrate to the knockers that he is a real major league ball player, under the impression that the Federal is a major. Still farther

REDUCTION OF THE SOX ROSTER

is promised by Manager Rowland, after a while and before the training trip starts. The getaway has been definitely fixed for February 18, and the Sox will go first to Paso Robles, as usual, for 10 days of conditioning. Then they will start on March 4, playing the usual double-decked schedule of exhibition games. The team will be split into two squads as heretofore, but we can tell right now that Manager Rowland will wish he had

more than 30 players before the exhibition series is far along, because he will have to pick up players out on the coast to keep the ranks of two teams filled with players who have enough well arms and legs to perform.

GAME WILL ENDURE

No Matter What the Issue of the Trust Suit Base Ball Will Not Die, as the Game Made Organized Ball, and Not the Reverse, as Often Claimed.

By Fred G. Lieb

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—As level-headed a man as John Heydler says such persons who are treating the Fed suit as a joke are grievously in error, and that the very foundations of professional base ball are in danger. Though Ban Johnson termed the Fed suit a publicity campaign, and absurd, I hear from persons close to Ban that he accepted from the first the seriousness of the situation. However, the writer refuses to believe that the very life of professional base ball is in danger; in fact, he believes that no matter in which way Judge Landis will decide this momentous base ball question, base ball will benefit from it, and will eventually come out of its present escapade thoroughly scrubbed and polished.

BASE BALL WILL ENDURE

Base ball—even the professional end of the big national sport—is bigger than Organized Base Ball or the Federal League. Base ball, on its professional side, does not exist because of the National Commission or the National Association, but these bodies exist because the public wants professional base ball as its Summer recreation. Admitting that the reserve rule was a big help to the progress of base ball, in equalizing strength, yet can Organized Base Ball take the credit for the game's great prosperity in recent years? However, on the other hand, the great prosperity of base ball

MADE ORGANIZED BASE BALL.

This argument is not advanced for the merits of the Fed suits or the counter claims by Organized Base Ball, but the writer is trying to point out that base ball will continue, no matter what decision Judge Landis will make. If Judge Landis decides that the reserve clause is illegal, all hands will get together and devise a contract which will be legal. The league race will go on just the same, and so will the World's Series next Fall. However, a decision attacking the validity of the reserve clause is bound to mean that the Federals will be taken into the fold. The Federals have not the slightest idea of breaking up professional base ball, as the writer wrote a week ago. They don't want the game to go to smash, but they want to get in. The real reason the Federal League is in existence today is the financial statement of the 1912 World's Series, showing the jackpot for the eight days was \$490,833.

FEDS WANT RECOGNITION

They are fighting, planning and scheming for one purpose, recognition of Organized Base Ball as a major league, with all major rights and eligibility to the World's Series, and the other side is fighting and planning just as hard to keep them from coming in. There you have the whole thing in a nutshell. Judge Landis will not decide next week whether professional base ball will endure, but he likely will decide whether the Federals will come in from under the wet.

OUR OWN MOTHER GOOSE

Sing a song of columns
Full of Winter dope;
Four and twenty sport scribes
Swinging at the rope,
Every one is hunting
Something new to pan;
Isn't this a pretty dish
To set before a fan?

DETROIT DOINGS

Tigers Are Being Shaped Up for Opening of Campaign Already, the Squad Having Been Cut to Reasonable Proportions.

By Joe S. Jackson

DETROIT, Mich., February 1.—Finally we know just what players—having more particular reference to the identity of recruits—the Detroit Club possesses, and also are assured that, instead of the oversized squad, that once was threatened, less than 30 ball tossers will go through paces for the benefit of Mr. Jennings at Gulpfort. There are now 31 men on the roster, but only 28 or 29 will be in on the final summing up. President Navin has announced the complete list of local talent, and the main reason for

PREDICTING A FURTHER CUT-DOWN

lies in the fact that the names of High and Pipp are included. They are the men Detroit offered to New York, and that Bill Donovan accepted; but the money has not passed yet, so they still belong here. This delay, however, was due to the fact that the New York Club's stock was not really transferred until Saturday. So the new owners did not hurry, knowing that Mr. Navin would protect their interests in the men.

LIST OF NEW MEN

As announced by the club the list of men now eligible to the Southern saunter includes: Pitchers, right-hand—Dubuc, Dauss, Reynolds, Boehler, Cunningham, Boland, Karr, Ledbetter. Pitchers, left-hand—Coveleskie, Cavet, Kavanah, Smithson. Infielders—Burns, Pipp, Odanah, Young, Bush, Fuller, Moriarty Vitt. Outfielders—Crawford, Cobb, High, Veach, Jacobson, Nicholson. Catchers—Stange, McKee, Baker, Peters, Yelle.

NO STARTLING CHANGES LIKELY

From a perusal of this list it will be apparent that the Tiger management does not expect to rip up its team. Young, a candidate for second base, is the only infielder looked on as having a chance to break in. Fuller is a shortstop, but so, also, some people claim, is Bush. The only probable infield change is at second. Vitt may step in if Young fails. Otherwise Oscar will be the utility man. Jacobson must fall away sadly from his Southern League form to fall of retention, especially as he is a right-hand hitter. So, also, is Nicholson, the Texas gardener. Peters and Yelle, the

NEW CATCHERS, WERE PICKED UP

more for future reference than for any present need. The entire 1914 catching staff, which was a good one, is back. Where Detroit is called on principally to brace is in its pitching. The club has an even dozen slab candidates, eight right-handers and four left-handers, and each of these two divisions is evenly divided between veterans and recruits. From this array Jennings should get

AT LEAST SIX PITCHERS

who are up to the speed of aiding a team that is a pennant contender. Just prior to announcing his 1915 Spring roster, President Navin had lessened the list by releasing Harry Heilmann, first base and outfield player, and Jack Reising, right-hand pitcher, to San Francisco. As has been told before, Detroit has a working agreement with San Francisco, just as it had with Sacramento when Harry Wolverton, now leading the Seals, managed the club named. Heilmann may come back to the Tigers, if he is a good boy, and

IMPROVES HIS BASE BALL MANNERS

The San Francisco Club has a big Detroit colony now, with Heilmann, O'Leary, Downs, Schaller, Pernoll and Reising all on its reserve list. Jennings may not visit Detroit before going South. There is no special call for his appearance here, as the club president has made all arrangements and all Hughie has to do is to get to Gulpfort to greet his charges. It's pretty soft for Hughie.

MR. NAVIN PLANS THE TRIP

Mr. Tuthill fakes the boys down and Mr. Heisman has the park ready. None of these, of course has a big winter social campaign to distract his attention from base ball. Jennings will have a few giants to consider at the spring camp. Dope from the West has it that Peters, a recruit catcher, is 6 feet 3 inches tall, weighs 205 pounds and is but 22 years old. As New Orleans, center of the fight game is only 70 miles from Gulpfort, Trainer Tuthill contemplates taking some gloves south, to develop Peters into a white hope, for a crescent city try-out. Peters is not the only big man among the new talent. Ledbetter, a North Carolina pitcher, is 6 feet 4 inches tall. Seven of the slingers exceed six feet in height.

TIME'S HEALING EFFECT

The Engagement of Joe Kelley, as Scout of the New York Club, Recalls the Traitorous Baltimore Coup of the National-American War.

By Sid Mercury

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 31.—The appointment of Joe Kelley as a scout for the New Yorks emphasizes the fact that time has entirely healed the wounds inflicted in the war for prestige between the American and National Leagues. Who would have thought 12 years ago that Ban Johnson would ever sit down for a pleasant chat with John McGraw or welcome Joe Kelley into his organization? Ban used to talk about those two chaps something "scandalous," this same as he talks about Jim Gilmore and other Federal League head-liners now. When McGraw quit Baltimore to become a National League manager, Kelley, Mike Donlin and Cy Seymour became members of the Cincinnati team, and afterward Kelley managed the Reds. Naturally Ban's affection for Joe did not increase on this account, nor did he become chummy with any of his old Baltimore friends until years after peace was declared.

M'GRAW AND JOHNSON

buried the hatchet during the World's Series of 1912 and Kelley evidently has been rein-

stated, else he would not now be a sleuth for one of Ban's clubs. Kelley's appointment is another illustration of how the old "Baltimore gang" has stuck together. It has been 20 years now since those associations were formed and the men who made the Orioles famous have stood by each other as no other champions have stood. They have boosted each other through all the years since they went their various ways. McGraw, Jennings, Keeler, Kelley, Gleason, Robinson, and the rest have never overlooked an opportunity to help each other. McGraw's strong indorsement of Kelley to Captain Huston is just another instance of that.

OLD BALTIMORE LOYALTY.

Joe Kelley learned base ball as a member of the smartest team in the history of the game, and he has a long record of successful team management. A great outfielder himself, he is a good judge of talent and his gifts in that direction enabled him to develop many good men when he was an International League manager. Kelley has the spirit and the magnetism that are usually found in successful base ball men. He never avoided a tilt with umpires or his natural opponents and his sense of humor has never been exhausted. Back in 1905, when the late Harry Pulliam was president of the National League, Kelley, then manager of the Reds, got into trouble with various umpires and expressed his opinion of them

RATHER TOO FREELY.

Pulliam finally leaped on "Kel" and bore him to earth with a stiff fine, at the same time dealing out a lengthy statement as a warning against loose speech. Among other things, Pulliam declared that Kelley must cease the employment of airy persiflage in his encounters with the umpires. In reply to this Joe issued a formal statement denying that he ever had employed "Ary Percy Flage, wouldn't know the 'guy' if he met him in the street, and didn't need anybody's help when he talked to an umpire. "Ary Percy Flage became famous that season and columns of interviews with him were printed, much to Pulliam's disgust.

AMERICAN LEAGUE NOTES

Captain Huston is making many new friends in New York, and is the recipient of many social courtesies.

Wallie Smith, the Senators' utility infielder, has been sold to the Indianapolis American Association Club.

Joe Kelley is an old-fashioned ball player. He does not know the difference between a creak and a mental hazard.

Walter Johnson may be no golfer, but there is little doubt that his return to the Senators was due to a rub of the green.

The Washington Club has turned the veteran outfielder, Mike Mitchell, over to Manager Dunn, of the new Richmond International League Club.

The Detroit Club has released outfielder Harry Hellman to the San Francisco Club, of the Pacific Coast League. This makes 16 players let out by the Detroit Club in one year.

"I want to see every player on the Cleveland team a hard loser," says Joe Birmingham. If Joe gets his wish he'll have a fearfully unpleasant lot of traveling companions this season.

Catcher Chet Thomas was the last Boston Red Sox player to sign his contract. He had balked and Manager Carrigan adopted a waiting policy. The result was that Thomas got uneasy and sent in his contract with his name on it.

Mike Finn is now a full-fledged scout for the Detroit Club. The Tigers have released their entire 1914 scouting staff with the exception of Jim McGuire, and have added Finn. Among those to go were Bobby Lowe and Tom Kennedy.

Says the New York "Sun": "The Feds tried to make much capital because Roger Bresnahan traded a player for a dog. Clark Griffith beat that record in 1908. He traded Jake Stahl for a bone. Ask anyone who ever saw Harry Niles."

Scout Thomas McCarthy, of the Red Sox, has turned down the offer from the University of Vermont to coach its ball team this year, as it would demand his services until June, and he will have considerable scouting to do for the Red Sox in April and May.

Says the New York "Globe": "According to Captain Til Huston, Harry Sparrow is in Chicago familiarizing himself with Comiskey's system for running a ball club. We do not know exactly what Commy's system is, but whatever it is it's a bear. He became wealthy at it."

President Hedges of the Browns, declares he does not intend to part with outfielder Bert Shotten. In spite of this the writers of St. Louis and Chicago insist that a deal between St. Louis and Chicago is in the wind, and that Shotten is one of the central figures.

The cadets of the West Point class of 1915, who were members of last year's Army football squad, have sent to Harry Tuthill, trainer of the Detroit American League base ball team, and also of the Army football team, a valuable ring engraved with the class insignia, as a New Year gift.

Heinie Wagner, who lives at New Rochelle, has notified President Lannin, of the Red Sox, that he will be out strong next Spring for the regular short-field position with the Red Sox. Heinie claims his throwing arm has recovered fully from its case of water on the elbow, as the result of a long rest.

President Comiskey, of the White Sox, has decided to cut out the scout business this season, as suggested at the last meeting of the league; but with Jimmy Callahan and "Tip" O'Neill in the office with Charley Comiskey, he will be able to keep well posted on the base ball dope without any regular scout.

The Boston Club has transferred to the Providence Club, a pair of colts who won their spurs with the Lewiston Club, of the little old New England League last season, the same being Joe Judge, a first baseman, who hammered the pill at a .273 clip, and Jack Radloff, a left-handed pitcher, who won 19 and lost 15 games. According to the Lewiston scribes, both players are ready for trials in the double A circuit.

Manager Carrigan, of the Red Sox, has signed Ralph D. Masterman, of Weld, Me. Masterman, who has just turned 20 years, is reckoned the best schoolboy catcher in Maine. He has been reported as reserved by both the Lewiston and Portland Clubs, of the New England League. Neither has any claim on his services, he says. He is a student at Kenis Hill Seminary. Masterman is about six feet tall and weighs 180 pounds.

Charles A. Comiskey has decided upon a later start for Paso Robles, Cal., than usual. Originally he had planned to leave Chicago on February 12, but the date has been set back to February 18. The hitch was due to lack of schedule protection on the part of Comiskey's California representatives. The Old Roman has arranged a layover of a day at San Francisco on Washington's Birthday, so that the sights may witness the auto race for the Vanderbilt Cup. Ed Walsh, who has been appointed manager of the second team, has assured Comiskey he is sure he can deliver in a comeback attempt.

Federal League News

JOHN M. WARD A MAN OF BROAD VISION

Flatly Endorses "Sporting Life's" Fourth Major League Suggestion; Explains Federal League's Suit Motive; Gives Press Credit.

BY W. J. M'BETH

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 31.—Four major leagues in the near future, is a prophecy made on Saturday afternoon by John M. Ward.

This prophecy was smoked out of the retired business manager of the Brooklyn Federals by a bevy of sport writers at the Hotel Imperial, who trapped the former independent chief into a debate with Billy Fleischmann and John B. Foster. The prediction was hurled as a rebuttal to the charge that there was no room for three major leagues. "The promoters of independent base ball," said John M. Ward, "are prepared to launch another circuit of major pretension, and within the next season or two you will find the Federal champion pitted against this new rival in World's Series competition. I do not mean necessarily that the men who have invested their money in James A. Gilmore's enterprise



John M. Ward

will back a fourth circuit. but they have influence and friends of means ready to furnish the wherewithal at a word's notice. There is no doubt in my mind that there is plenty of room for a fourth major league and that in time the public will have its eyes opened to the fact. The success of the National and American Leagues following their war proved conclusively that continuous base ball has been a blessing to every city which attempted it. Enough cities of major league calibre are still open to continuous promotion to assure the success of a fourth league." Mr. Ward was asked to name the possible make-up of a fourth circuit. "That is the easiest thing in the world," he replied. "Detroit, Cleveland and Cincinnati are three recognized major league cities in the West. It would not be difficult to find a fourth, with which to

COMPLETE THE WESTERN WING. Louisville always has been a pretty fair sort of town. Then there is Toledo, which is a hustling city and which never has had an opportunity to enthuse over a class of base ball that its population merited. Now as to the East. Washington has only one major league representative. The International League has evacuated Baltimore, where the Federal League gained such a stronghold last season. The big Maryland city would welcome a second major league promotion. New York, of course, will not be overlooked. The West side of Philadelphia is a most fertile field. There you have a strong Eastern circuit, have you not? And there are other fine cities in the East, such as Newark, Providence and Rochester, which would assure a most enthusiastic and compact Eastern wing."

PLENTY OF GOOD PLAYERS John M. Ward was asked where the promoters would find enough good talent to maintain the established major league reputation in four circuits. "The country is swarming with good players," replied John M. "This fact was proved to my satisfaction by the Federal League last year. Take the case of Benny Kauff. The major leagues couldn't see him, yet there are not more than two outfielders in the National and American Leagues more valuable than he. Cobb and Speaker, perhaps, shade him a trifle. But it is no certainty that Kauff will not excel both in a short time, for he is young and ambitious. The Brooklyn team picked up a Class B player last year in Anderson. Within a season he became one of the greatest outfielders in base ball. He hit something like .312 for us. Today he would have no difficulty earning a regular berth with any of the 16 so-called major clubs.

KAUFF AND ANDERSON are not the only crackerjacks unearthed by the independents. I could name half a dozen others. But these two illustrate the point I make. I say that for years in the minor leagues the most brilliant talent has been going to seed because of lack of opportunity for promotion. The National and American Leagues could not begin to harvest the minor crop. Four major leagues will be seen in the near future, and it will be a big blessing to all who have the interest of the game at heart. For the player it will broaden the scope of his opportunities. For the promoters it will stimulate interest through continuous base ball in all of the major league cities. For the fan it will mean a higher type of play and renewed interest. The fourth league is coming surely, for conditions demand it. Certainly the Federal League would welcome the move, as an annual classic for its champion would place the independent circuit on an even footing with the National and American rivals."

THE FEDERAL LEAGUE'S SUIT According to Mr. Ward, who is a rather keen partisan still in spite of the fact that he no longer is associated with the Federal League, the Gilmore organization has been somewhat unjustly maligned as the result of false impressions about the suit against the National Commission and the National and American Leagues. "The Federal League," Mr. Ward declared, "does not seek to disrupt Organized Ball or its principles. Such a

movement on its part would be the height of absurdity. These men have several millions invested in the game. Is it likely that they would care to tear down and ruin a sport whose life is the only assurance of a realization on investment? It seems to me that altogether too much attention has been paid to the anti-trust phase of the Federal position. Writers have overlooked the fact that this is only one of some nine petitions for relief. The remonstrance against the power of the National Commission is not the most important of these. "I, of course, am speaking as an outsider. But I believe that the Federal League seeks nothing more than

THE PROTECTION BY INJUNCTION of its player rights. It wishes to make impossible on the part of National and American League club owners the wearing away of players signed to its contracts. The disaffection of Walter Johnson will illustrate.

"In other words," cut in Billy Fleischmann, "the Federal League seeks legal protection against the majors who wish to recover property stolen from them?"

"That is a most unjust remark," countered John M. Ward. "The Federal League did not steal any players. It always has stood within the jurisdiction of Judge Bissell's court ruling that the 10-days' option of release clause nullified a base ball contract. The Federal League considered as free agents those athletes whose documents embraced the 10-days' clauses."

THE MARQUARD CASE "But how about Rube Marquard?" some one asked John M. "Did Robert B. Ward make any effort to find out this southpaw's status before he was signed?"

"I had nothing to do with signing Marquard," Mr. Ward replied, "and all I know is what I have read about it. But there is no doubt that Marquard made affidavit that he was not under binding contract to the Giants. Marquard was the man who was guilty of the injustice in this case and I think he should be called to account."

John M. exonerated Robert B. Ward from all blame in view of the fact that the president of the Brooklyn Federals had agreed to return the player to New York provided the officials of the club would present a binding contract with the erratic southpaw.

PRESS, NOT OWNERS, DID IT "The howl which Organized Ball has set up about the Federals wishing to tear down a work to which the major magnates had devoted their lives gives me a big laugh," said Ward. "With one or two exceptions, the club owners have had absolutely nothing to do with the uplift of the game. About 25 per cent. of the credit belongs to the players and 75 per cent. to the New York newspapers. I know, for I was through the mill. Base ball didn't amount to a hill of beans till 1883, when the New York papers first took to the game seriously. From that moment its future was established as a signal success. And that is the reason," concluded John M., "that the Federal League is going to have an independent rival with a stronghold in this good old town."

THAT MINOR ALLY Initial Conference Between Federal League Leaders and Would-Be Organizers of an Affiliated All-New England League.

Special to "Sporting Life" NEW HAVEN, Conn., February 1.—President James A. Gilmore, of the Federal League, made the announcement here, on Saturday, at the close of a conference of base ball men that the Federals would have a minor league in New England. He declined to indicate definitely the cities which would be selected for teams, but said it was planned to put teams in places where Organized Ball is now played. He said he had received already a dozen inquiries in regard to the proposed league and found conditions in New England

MUCH MORE FAVORABLE for such an organization than he had supposed. Briefly, outlining the plans for the league, President Gilmore said it will be made up of eight clubs, each club to be financed locally, and the Federal League to furnish the players. Between 30 and 40 players, he said, are now available. Each club is to be furnished with six players, as a nucleus for building up a team. The clubs will pay to the Federal League \$200 a month for each player, the parent league paying the difference when the player's salary is in excess of that amount.

THE PROPOSED CIRCUIT Those at the conference were President Gilmore; Robert B. Ward, one of the owners of the Brooklyn Federals; W. Park, of Providence, R. I.; W. G. McKay, of Manchester, N. H.; J. D. Baxter, of Springfield, Mass.; E. C. Landgraf, of Danbury, Conn., and James E. Canavan, of this city. Another meeting is to be held here in about a month. After the meeting reports were current that New Haven, Worcester, Hartford, Springfield, Providence and Manchester, N. H., may be included in the league. This could not be confirmed, however. President Gilmore stating that the circuit would not be definitely made up until after March.

AN ANTAGONISTIC CAPITALIST It is reported here in Eastern Association circles, that a new difficulty confronts Mr. Gilmore's scheme to put an independent force in the New England field. Morton F. Plant, the multi-millionaire who owns the New London Club, of the Eastern Association, has become ruffled at Gilmore's proposed invasion of that territory. This kind of finance declares that if any such attempt is made he will parallel a circuit to match and fight the revolutionists with conflicting dates.

CHICAGO CHAT

March 6 Decided Upon as the Date for Start of the Spring Training Trip—Infielder Fritz, Just Married, Transferred to St. Louis—Kind Word From Zeider.

By H. D. Johnson

CHICAGO, Ills., January 30.—The members of the Chifed team will leave for Spring training at Shreveport, La., on March 6, it was announced today. Eight or ten of last season's players will either be traded or released, Manager Tinker said. None of them, however, was taken from the ranks of Organized Ball. Bert Baumgartner, a semi-professional player, of Cincinnati, has been added to the outfield squad of the Chicago Federals. Johnny Farrell, second sacker for the Chifeds, is in Hot Springs, and has written to Manager Tinker to the effect that the weather is great and that he has been climbing the hills and is fast running into form for the Spring grind.

HARRY FRITZ FOR ST. LOUIS

Harry Fritz, the clever young infielder, who subbed on the Chifeds last season, was sold during the week to the St. Louis Terriers. Fritz is a pretty good man, and no doubt will play third or short regularly for the Terriers. Pete Cassidy had Fritz in Wilmington, Del., season before last and thinks he is a wonder. Connie Mack drafted the player, but Harry suddenly took a liking to Tinker and the money held out. Word has been received here that Fritz was married in Philadelphia night of January 27, to Miss Edna L. McMunn, at the Hotel Roosevelt. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Forrest E. Dager, rector of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church. Paul Ray, also a well-known Philadelphia Central High athlete, was best man. Fritz and his bride are making a honeymoon tour to Bermuda.

ZEIDER HEARD FROM

Rollie Zeider, third baseman of the Chifeds, has written Manager Tinker a letter, in which he says he has undergone an operation for his trouble with his back and says he will be ready to resume his old place at the third sack next season. Zeider's back kept him out of the game a large part of the last half of the season of 1914, and it is believed his ailment alone had more to do with the loss of the pennant by the Chifeds than anything else. Zeider says he has taken on a lot of weight since the operation and that his trouble appears to have disappeared. Rollie announces that he will be ready for the Spring training trip when the club departs for Shreveport, La.

"BEWARE OF BARBARE"

President Weeghman, of the Chifeds, is not going to break into any more lawsuits if he can possibly avoid it. Manager Tinker has been dickered with third baseman Barbare, a crack recruit belonging to the Cleveland Americans. Owner Somers, of the Indians, heard of the matter and last Tuesday he wired Weeghman, warning him that Barbare had been signed to an iron-clad contract with the ten days' clause removed. Somers added there would be trouble if the Chifeds tried to sign the player. Weeghman immediately answered that under the conditions he would call off negotiations with Barbare.

AWAITING LANDIS' DECISION

Until Judge Landis hands down his decision in the trust suit both sides will rest content that his verdict will favor them. Organized Ball officials yesterday expressed the opinion that the case would be thrown out by the Federal judge. Weeghman and Gilmore, of the Feds, were just as confident that the decision will be in their favor. Mr. Weeghman was asked what the Independents would do should Judge Landis rule against them, and his reply explained the situation of the Federal League in the fewest possible words: "Why should we worry?" he said. "We have nothing to lose."

MINOR MENTION

William P. McGowan, a minor league player, whose home is in Houtzdale, Pa., signed a contract on Thursday to play with the Chicago Federals. McGowan is an infielder and has played with various Pennsylvania clubs.

President Weeghman isn't satisfied with Chifeds as a name for his team. He has offered a season's pass to the person suggesting the best moniker. Colts, Midgets, Stripes, Wigwags and Tinx are some already submitted.

President Gilmore left town on Thursday to attend a meeting of the promoters of the proposed new minor league in the East, which is to be affiliated with the Federal organization. "There are 15 cities in the East, which will be represented at the meeting," Gilmore said, "and all of them want a franchise in the eight-club league."

BILL BRADLEY SHIFTED

The Former Top Manager Transferred By the Brooklyn Club to the Kansas City Club—Had Two Years Yet to Serve.

By Walter Trumbull

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—In addition to being deposed as manager of the Brooklyn Federal League Club in favor of Lee Magee, Bill Bradley will no longer be with the Brookfeds. Robert B. Ward yesterday admitted that Bradley had been transferred to the Kansas City Club, and that he would go wherever that franchise was shifted. Bradley has been released outright to the Kawfeds, and his case presents a novel situation. It is not every day that a former manager is presented to another club without any consideration. The Kawfeds did not even give Ward a bird dog for Bill. There is another

STRANGE ANGLE TO THE AFFAIR.

A private communication from Kansas City had it that the Kawfed officials were not pleased over the belated Santa Claus act of Ward, and that they would refuse to become the beneficiaries of the Brooklyn Club's generosity. Bradley's transfer to Kansas City—and it is said that Kansas City will have to take him, whether it wants him or not—means one of several things. Either Bradley is to

take George Stovall's place as a leader of the club in its new home, which will no doubt be Newark—or he is to be a scout or coach, or he is to make a try to "come back" at third base.

IS WELL PROTECTED

No matter what happens, Bradley should worry. He has a three years' contract, and will be taken care of even if he has to spend the next two seasons at his villa in Cleveland. Rumor has it that Stovall is about through as manager of the Kansas City Club, although he made good as a first baseman. If Bill enforces a rule forbidding everybody to play poker, manager included, there is no reason why he should not make a success of the job. He did not do so badly at Brooklyn at that.

BALTIMORE BULLETIN

The American Association Move for Major League Status Not Taken Seriously in Federal League Circles in View of Present Conditions.

By Emanuel Daniel

BALTIMORE, Md., February 1.—Even in these stirring days of base ball war there are incidents that bring real laughs, and the announcement from the West during the past week about making a major organization out of the American Association was a real he-haw for the writer. It so happened that he was among those present last May, in New York, when the National Commission, through President Barrow, of the International League, as spokesman, announced its intention to remove the draft from the International League and the American Association and make a third major league by taking four cities out of each. At the time, it was thought that the all-powerful court of Organized Ball was sincere in its remarks. This promise had been brought about as a result of a demand made by Manager Dunn for action. The promise was made in May and that was the end of it. The Oriole leader, as is well remembered, held on for several months. Then, when he saw that the National Commission was

PUTTING OVER NOTHING

more than a mere bluff, he disposed of all of his stars. Had the Imperial Trio gone through with its promise, it might have been better off. If this most recent promise is really more than a mere something to quiet the disgruntled American Association magnates, it will be the beginning of more serious trouble, for the International and Pacific Coast Leagues will not sit idly by and see the other Class AA organizations elevated to a so-called major by the removal of the draft while no similar action is taken in their respective cases. This may be the starting of real trouble for the Organized Ball folks, for if the minors revolt the very fabric of their organization will be attacked. What's more, the activity of the Federals among the minors is another sign of the direction in which the winds are blowing and

THE GILMORE FORCES

are making strides in the proper direction. The leagues under its jurisdiction will have a faster article of ball than would ordinarily be the case, and it will not be nearly as expensive, for the Federal clubs will pay the difference in the contract as made by the minor and the original document of the player when he joined the Gilmore forces. We truly wonder what all of the Organized Ball moguls who predicted the blowing up of the Feds a million or more times are really thinking. It surely would make a great story if it could be told. We were greatly interested hereabouts in the announcement that there was a possibility that the International would cease operations for a year. President Barrow vehemently denied the report. If the International stopped for a season it might mean for all time, for the Feds would surely not leave such good minor territory unoccupied. It seems that it would not be very difficult to rent vacant grounds and to sign ball players without jobs, for it is not very likely if the International should suspend that the National Commission or National Association would stand for the

RENT AND PLAYERS' SALARIES

in order to hold them. After all those stories about fabulous sums contained in the war chests of Organized Ball, we are most skeptical about any such course being pursued. Manager Knabe went South during the past week and as a result of his trip, it was decided to give Southern Pines the go-by as a training camp. Fayetteville and Wilmington are both under consideration, with Fayetteville in the lead. The Orioles trained there last season and the one before that, and the conditions are fine. The grounds are particularly desirable with a half-mile running track surrounding them. The hotel accommodations are also good. The writer had personal letters from players Suggs, Conley, and McCandless, and Trainer John Rudderham during the past week. All are enjoying the best of health and are anxiously awaiting the call for the training season.

PITTSBURGH PITCHERS

The Rebel Team Vastly Strengthened By the Acquisition of Perritt.

By James Jerpe

PITTSBURGH, Pa., January 30.—Should Polly Perritt stick to his determination to follow Rebel Oakes as his standard-bearer, there is no need of local fans to worry about the Rebel pitching staff. True, the Expo Park staff had in numbers what it lacked in class, but with Perritt, the Gwinner outfit has one star pitcher, and Knetzer, Allen, Walker and one or two others will not serve poorly as regulars. Fred Walker, cured of the belief that the over-use of his uncontrollable spitter is essential, ought to make a great pitcher. The ex-Dodger can blame himself to a great extent that he is not in the class with Claude Hendrix. With a wonderful physique and great reserve powers, Walker an dhis speed ought to serve him a lot better than his constant and unlimited use of the spitter which often gets him into trouble. We make this "plaint on the authority of the great veterans"

Captain Anson, who declares that the one puzzle of his life is that Fred Walker is not up among the world's greatest pitchers.

INDIANAPOLIS ITEMS

Manager Phillips to Report for the Season on February 20—Falkenberg a Local Fixture—Watkins' View of the Latest Alleged "War Measure."

By Jack Veiock

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., February 1.—There has been but little of interest in the way of news emanating from local headquarters of the Hoosier Feds during the past few days with the exception that Manager Phillips writes that he will come to the Hoosier capital about the 20th of February to complete all arrangements for the Spring training trip to Valdosta, Ga., where the Hoosiers will take the kinks out of their joints. "Whoa Bill!" intends to send the battery men to Valdosta about a week ahead of the main squad. The pitchers and catchers will go South with Trainer Charley Huber, the smiling German from Cincinnati, whose work with the players helped them win the old rag last year—or at least, Huber takes credit for it. Those who will make the trip are Falkenberg, Mullin, Kaiserling, Billiard, Whitehouse, Padfield, Troutman and Moseley, pitchers; and Huhn, Rariden, Warren and Textor, catchers.

THE STATUS OF FALKENBERG

The report that Falkenberg was to become a member of the Brooklyn Federals was denied once and for all time by Hoosier officials here early in the week when the report came from Chicago that Magee had said that he would have Falkenberg. The writer received a signed statement from Hoosier officials and the following telegram from President James A. Gilmore, of the league: "Falkenberg is the undisputed property of the Indianapolis Club. He has a three years' contract with the Hoosiers. He will NOT become a member of the Brooklyn Federals."—James A. Gilmore.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION CLAIM

The sensational announcement regarding the elevation of the big minor leagues to major league caliber and the lifting of the draft rule, an announcement which was originally made here by President Jimmy McGill, of the local Association club, aroused General Manager Watkins, of the Hoosiers, and he makes the following talk regarding the latest war measure of Organized Ball: "Raising the status of the American Association, the Pacific Coast League and the International League is a war measure pure and simple. It isn't that the club owners in the American and National Leagues have condescended to lend a helping hand to the big minor leagues by lifting the draft and turning over players because of a wish to aid these leagues, but it is simply a move to hoodwink the public if possible. Naturally, if the public could be led to believe that the Association and her sister leagues were really to become major circuits in playing ability and privileges, the popularity of the clubs in these leagues would be increased, but the big minors would receive no more talent than they have received in the past, for the talent isn't available. Players who are sent back will be sent back under option. They will either be youngsters who show promise or players who have seen their best days. The big leagues will not permit the new 'majors' to enjoy the same privileges that they enjoy.

NOT FOR A MINUTE.

The three leagues in question will not lose players by the draft route henceforth, but they will continue the practice of selling players to the majors, just as they have done. The big leagues cannot afford to turn over talent that they can use themselves and furthermore they will not do so. And again—the clubs in cities of the size which make up the three big minors cannot afford to pay major league salaries, much less furnish the talent to give the public major league ball for the very simple reason that the talent is not available. The whole thing is

SIMPLY A WAR MEASURE,

and it is being done to mislead the public. The Federal League is a competitor, not a cohort, of Organized Ball. We have gone into the open market and taken those players not held by binding contracts who were willing to come over to us. Our circuit includes the paying base ball towns of the country and will some day be even stronger in population than it is now. That is why we can pay major league salaries and why we can afford to go to the expense of building up ball clubs which we know will not be torn down."

DEAL CAPTURED

One of the Heroes of the Last World's Series Leaves Boston for the St. Louis Club of the Federal League.

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—Charley Deal, the third baseman of the Boston Braves, who was one of the heroes of the World's Series last year, has jumped to the Federal League. President Gilmore showed a signed contract from the player yesterday. He has signed to play with the St. Louis Feds for two years. Gilmore would not say what money the independents were paying Deal. Deal got into the World's Series under peculiar circumstances. When "Red" Smith, the regular third baseman, broke his leg in Brooklyn in one of the last games of the season, Manager Stallings had no one to put in his place but Deal. The utility third baseman more than measured up to his job, and in the second game of the series he stole third at a critical moment, and his feat has become a classic of the game.

WON'T WEAKEN THE BRAVES

MACON, Ga., January 30.—The loss of Charles Deal, the Boston Braves' third baseman, reported to have signed with the Federal League, will not weaken the team, George T. Stallings, manager, said here tonight. "We offered Deal a new contract on the same terms under which he played last year," said Stallings. "It was optional with him whether he would continue with us or join the Federals."

Manager Stallings set the price he thought Deal was worth, naming a slight advance over his salary of last season and President Gaffney said he would not increase it. It is understood Deal was told every club in the National League had waived claim to his services. The case of Leslie Mann, outfielder, is similar to that of Deal. He is dissatisfied with a proposed increase in salary, and a few days ago told President Gaffney he would join the Federals.

FEDERALS FOR PEACE

President Gilmore Declares That He Realizes That Litigation Hurts the Game, But His League Was Forced Into It as a Matter of Self-Protection.

By Heywood Brown

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—"Fighting Jim" Gilmore is tired of warfare. The president of the Federal League arrived here yesterday, lost no time in declaring that he realized as well as anybody else that litigation had done much to hurt the national game. "Our position in bringing the Chicago suit has been misinterpreted by a portion of the public," said Mr. Gilmore. "We are not trying to increase legal proceedings in regard to base ball, but, on the contrary, we are trying to simplify and shorten the court end of the pastime by having a single judge pass upon all the points at issue instead of having each fought out separately in the various cities of our circuits. Why shouldn't Organized Ball be willing to settle all this litigation, once and for all time, unless it is to harass the Federal League in its efforts during the coming season?"

NO HATRED FOR O. B.

Even for Organized Base Ball itself Mr. Gilmore has no deep and abiding hatred. "We have no real desire to see Organized Base Ball dissolved," he declared. "We made our prayer for relief very broad, but, as a matter of fact, we simply want to be let alone. We want Organized Base Ball to quit taking our players. We want the status of players like Caldwell, Johnson and Wingo settled once and for all. That is why all these cases were included in the Chicago suit. We are willing to face the issue and abide by the decision of Judge Landis, and I don't see why Organized Base Ball should not be equally eager to meet the test. Not only have the National and American Leagues taken players from us, but their representatives have sought to injure our standing by circulating detrimental remarks about our financial standing. I have always said that there was plenty of room for three major leagues, and there isn't a reason in the world why we should not all live and prosper."

THE MINOR LEAGUE MOVE

Mr. Gilmore came to New York on his way to attend a meeting in New Haven today to discuss the formation of a Federal minor league. He declared that applications for teams had been received from 15 cities, but he refused to name them. "I am not absolutely certain that we need a minor league," declared the head of the Feds, "and if we do embark in the venture we shall have not more than two subsidiary organizations this season. Territory in the South and Middle West is open to us, as well as in New England. The report that we are to finance the proposed league in New England is untrue. If such a league is established each club must stand upon its own resources. The only way in which the Federal League would lend any aid would be to turn over a few players bound by major league contracts and pay the difference between the major league salary and the minor league limit. That is, of course, the club which turned the player over would pay the difference, not the league as a whole, and, by the way, I want to deny right now that the Federal League has as much as a nickel in the Colonial League which operated last season."

THE FEDERAL LEAGUE CIRCUIT

In reply to a question, Mr. Gilmore said: "I don't think our circuit will be changed this year." And when the query was framed, "Will you say definitely that your schedule will not be changed?" the executive of the Feds, after some little hesitation, answered, "Our schedule will not be changed." As a matter of fact, there seemed to be a lack of definiteness in Mr. Gilmore's answer, for earlier he had said that if his organization decided to come to New York March 1 would be time enough to begin the construction of a park. "Of course, we are coming to New York eventually," he added later, "but not now."

NO CHANCE FOR NEWARK

For Newark, which has lately been much agitated by the report that it was to get a Federal League team, Mr. Gilmore had only the promise of possible attention at some distant time. "Newark is a major league city all right," he said, "and deserves consideration from one of the big leagues, but just now we are quite satisfied with our circuit." Mr. Gilmore also admitted that The Bronx would "be a pretty good spot for a major league team."

STILL BLAMING JOHNSON

One of the most interesting features of President Gilmore's interview today was the admission that last Friday he had a four-hour talk with President Ban Johnson, of the American League. He stated that voluntarily he went to Johnson and put the proposition up to him that if the major leagues would recognize the Federal League contracts with players the Federal League would do likewise. In other words, the proposition was: "You recognize us as a major league and we will recognize you." Mr. Gilmore says that Johnson took to the suggestion kindly, but that within two days he went ahead and signed both Kahler and Blanding of Cleveland, back from the Federal League. Mr. Gilmore termed this a violation by B. B. Johnson, and said this action started the fight that is not yet ended. Gilmore states that Johnson made the suggestion that Gilmore meet the National Commission in New York to talk over the matter, but Gilmore was willing to meet Johnson and Tener, but he did not want Garry Herrmann at the conference, because the Federal League believes that he had no business in the negotiations.

PITTSBURGH PICKINGS

How the Proposed American Association Move Is Regarded in Local Federal Circles—The Matter of Schedule Conflicts in Pittsburgh—Latest Club News.

By William A. White

PITTSBURGH, Pa., February 1.—Barrow and Chivington have declared against the declaration of John K. Tener, president of the National League. Tener, while still Governor of Pennsylvania, was quoted by the local marriage license clerk as having said the Federals had every right to live; that there was room for a third league, and that he hoped the Federals would prosper. Tener lost no time and made great bones about denying the story as utterly absurd, declaring that he never made such a declaration, and that there was not one inch of room for a third league. Now it is announced that the American Association and the International League hereafter will be rated as major leagues and that they will be given the right to enter the big cities. President Tener is thus overruled. Does he still think there isn't room for a third league? The way things stand now, with the International League and American Association crowds rated as majors, and the Federal League certainly one, there would be

FIVE IN THE RING.

When Barrow and Chivington cast their hats into the ring and declared they were major organizations they also cast a bomb into the ranks of those who, relying on past statements of Organized Base Ball magnates, thought there was no room for a third league. Why, with O. B. major magnates declaring since the birth of the Federals that there was no room for a third league, do the heads of the two Class AA minors come out and declare they are majors? Have they the sanction of the National Commission? If they haven't got the latter then they are "outlaws"—at least Organized Ball should think so considering their actions in regards to the Federals. If they have got it then there is but one explanation. The National Commission was afraid that sooner or later these two powerful minor organizations would realize the strides of the Federals and cast their lot with the independents. The move seems to be one of the many war moves, but it has not alarmed the fighting Federals in any way. Sooner or later there will be an agreement and things will settle down to normal. Then where will the International and American Association "major leagues" be. According to Organized Base Ball, the Federals are not of major class. Does Organized Ball believe the International and American Association crowds are of major league caliber? Do they think the public will believe the new leagues are of major league class? That is to be seen.

QUESTION OF SCHEDULE CONFLICTS

It has been reported that Forbes Field here, where the Pirates gambol during the playing season, will be the scene of continuous base ball and that one of the clubs from the new "majors" will be the other attraction. That report doesn't worry the local Federals. In fact, President Gwinner has been quoted as saying that he would welcome conflicts this season despite the fact that the league, in general, will avoid as many conflicts as possible. Continuous ball at Forbes Field will mean the Rebels will have conflicts every day they play at home, but whether it will pay the other team at Forbes Field is a matter to follow. The fact is that the lifting of the draft system from two minor leagues does not convince the public, which is the real high court of base ball, that the teams playing there are of major calibre. And it will take the public a long time to become reconciled to the fact that

THE TWO NEW "MAJORS"

are anything but minor leagues. In the end, it seems, the declaration of Organized Ball that the International and American Association are to become majors is a decisive victory for the Federals. In the first place it proves the contention of the Federals—that there is room for a third league. It also shows that the Federals have been recognized as really dangerous. O. B. has given these two points, not to say a word about the fact that they have won a great victory for the Class AA organizations in the way of having the draft rule eliminated. The move may be a new way to fight the Federals, but the indications are that it will not be a paying venture in the end. No city, where big league ball has been played for years, is going to have a Class AA club thrown into its midst with the understanding that it is to be recognized as a major league. Base ball fans are too wise. They have the last say and whether or not the O. B. moves turn out O. K. is yet to be seen. The Federals will not be without

THEIR OWN MINOR FARMS

this season, according to R. B. Ward, who dropped into the city Thursday. Probably when this issue of "Sporting Life" reaches the readers the deal which will send three Organized Ball leagues into the Federal fold will have been completed. According to Mr. Ward everything was about fixed and the meeting at which the final arrangement would be made was to take place last Saturday. The leagues involved are the New England, Eastern Association and Atlantic, according to Ward, who waxed enthusiastic over the prospects of the Federals for the coming season. Five weeks from today every ball club in the Federal League will either be en route to their Southern camps or else about to start. Whether there will be any court fight before that time is not known, but the decision of the Federal Court in Chicago in the Fed suit against Organized Ball, will not affect the Federals in the least.

THE TRAINING TRIPS

will be carried out as per schedule, and unless all signs fail the Federal League season will open about April 14. The Rebels will probably open at home, the same as they did last year, and then jump over to Brooklyn to take part in the opening game there. Final arrangements have been made for the training camp, in Augusta, Ga., and the Rebels will depart some time during the first week in March. Manager E. T. Oakes has written several letters to headquarters lately and is en-

thusiastic over the prospects of the Rebels. Oakes still figures that the Rebs have something on any team in the country as far as infielders go, although he is still trying to build up the outfield.

VOLLEYS

Pat O'Connor has again declared his intention of sticking to the Rebels, despite the efforts made by the St. Louis Club to coax him back into the fold of O. B. Perritt is a Federal Leaguer for good and there never was any danger of Konetchy jumping back, so everything looks rosy.

Marty Berghammer has become a devoted basket ball fan. He attends every game the Lafayette team plays.

Ink, pens, paper and stamps having added considerably to the high cost of living, Herrmann has quit writing to Marty Berghammer. He tried for a long time to induce the West End boy to jump back to the Reds, but Marty is a true Fed.

Very little is heard of Elmer Knetzer during the Winter months. Occasionally he bobs up and wants to sell an automobile.

Charles ("Skipper") Roberts, a catcher for the Rebels last year, will not play ball again. He has gone into business with his father at Spokane, Wash.

Claude Berry writes to headquarters every once in a while. Claude is busy grinding grain at Lynn, Ind.

BROOKLYN BUDGET

Manager Magee Seeking to Strengthen His Team By Way of Trades—Club Plans Discussed By Team Manager and Business Manager Dick Carroll.

By Wm. J. Granger

BROOKLYN, N. Y., February 1.—Both Business Manager Richard Carroll and team Manager Lee Magee returned to Brooklyn two days ago, and both were loaded down with news. Magee especially had some interesting things to say. Lee said that he had been busy trying to bolster up his team and announced that three of the players he was after were Claude Hendrix, star pitcher of the Chifeds; Cy Falkenberg, star pitcher of the Indianapolis team, and shortstop Mickey Doolan, of Baltimore. The new manager admitted that he would find it difficult to land this trio of birds, but expressed himself as confident of being able to make offers to Managers Tinker, Phillips and Knabe that would induce them to.

PART WITH THE PLAYERS.

Magee claims the stories sent out about a week ago to the effect that he had said that Brooklyn already had Falkenberg were erroneous. "I never said any such thing," Lee stated, "and stories like those hurt a lot. It would lead any one to believe that the other clubs had to give up any players we wanted, whether they wished to or not. That isn't so. If we are to get any players we have got to offer trades that will appeal to the managers and club owners with whom we hope to pull off swaps. I would like to get Falkenberg, and admit that I am after him, but to say that he has already been turned over to us is wrong. The Falkenberg matter is the same as the Hendrix or the Doolan cases. I am trying to arrange trades for all three, but none of the trio have yet landed. Doolan would make a cracking good man for my infield. Also, there is another player I would like to get; that player is George Whitted, who played with me in St. Louis, and did such fine work for the Braves last season. I see where George is objecting to being sent away from the World's Champions to the Phillies. I would like to get him for my ball club. Also, I am after a first-class catcher. Being manager of a ball club like the Brooklyn Federals has one big advantage over many other managerial jobs I could mention. That is,

MONEY IS NO OBJECT

with the owners if the players you want can be got for money. I am in Brooklyn now to stay until the time arrives when we are to start for the training grounds. I will be on the hustle every day trying to get my forces in shape so that when we go South I will know that we have the material for the making of a first-class team. I want a winner. That first-base job is up to Hofman and Hap Meyers. You know I have a hunch that Hap will play fine ball under me. A few years ago he played first base and I played second on the Louisville team, and Hap hit fine that season. They say he did not hit last year. Well, I am confident that the coming season it will be different." The Brooklyn National League Club handed pitcher Ed Reulbach his unconditional release the day before Lee got into town and it was said that the big twirler might land with the Tip Tops. When Magee was asked about it he said: "Reulbach is a good pitcher, but I cannot use him. I am loaded up with pitchers now. What I need are some infielders and outfielders. However, I would not hesitate to recommend Ed to any manager in our league as a good prospect in the pitching line."

BUSINESS MANAGER CARROLL

who has been touring the South looking over training camp sites, is strong for Brown's Wells, in Mississippi. Dick says it is the ideal place for a ball team to train and if the folks in Browns' Wells agree to do some things he suggested should be done then it is a certainty that the Tip Tops will train there. Brown's Wells was started as a rich man's resort. As its name would imply there are a number of wells in the town that have health-giving properties. On all sides of it are forests of pine trees. Dick also looked over Columbia, S. C., and Brunswick, Ga. The Tip Tops trained at Columbia last Spring, but the ground they trained on has been torn up, but the folks of the capital of South Carolina have assured Dick that if he will consent to send the squad to their town again this year they will fix things up. Brunswick also made a good impression on the manager, but Brown's Wells has the call.

CARROLL AND MAGEE

are now making their home at the St. George Hotel, in this borough. From now on they say they will always be at the call of the newspaper boys and both promise that there

will be enough interesting news to give out about the Tip Tops so that the scribes can give the fans a little rest on that terrible legal stuff. One of the first things that Manager Carroll did was to donate a season pass to be raffled off at the big fair of the Brooklyn Lodge of Elks, which started last night and runs a week.

BUFFALO BRIEF

The Buffeds' Training Grounds Now Settled Upon—About 25 Players to Go on the Trip—Still Hoping for Wingo.

By Edward Tranter

BUFFALO, N. Y., February 1.—Official announcement that the Buffalo Federal League team will do its Spring training at Athens, Ga., has been made by Secretary John L. Kelly. Manager Larry Schlafly last week returned from a Southern trip of inspection. He looked over several promising cities of the South for the Spring work of the Buffeds and finally chose the Georgia town. The Buffalo manager is enthusiastic over the camp. He thinks it is an ideal place for Spring training and is confident his aggregation of ball tossers will be in supreme condition after a month's work at Athens. Schlafly says the playing field of Athens, where there is a large university, is practically as spacious as the local Federal park. The diamond is in excellent condition and the

GROUND IS JUST SUITED

to fast base ball. The grounds belong to the University of Georgia and are beautifully laid out. There will be opportunity to vary the monotony of single-handed practice by work with the candidates of the University. Manager Schlafly says the team will make its headquarters at the Georgia Hotel, which is only 45 minutes from the playing grounds. Athens is near the home of George Stallings, manager of the Boston Braves. While down South, the Buffeds expect to visit Stallings' plantation and have a chat with the former manager of the International Bisows, although it is not expected that there will be anything in the way of advice coming from the leader of the Braves.

MANAGER SCHLAFLY SAYS

he will take about 25 men. The first batch, with Secretary Kelly and Trainer Reese, will leave Buffalo on March 6. It is the intention of sending catchers and pitchers about one week in advance of the outfield and utility players. The balance of the team will leave about March 12. According to Secretary Kelly, the Buffeds will play their first game with the University of Georgia on March 21. Manager Schlafly expects to pick up a couple of fast semi-pro. players that he has heard of. They likely will be taken South for the Spring training trip and be given an opportunity to show their worth. "I believe the Buffeds will have the fastest team in the Federal League," says Manager Schlafly. "The boys are anxious to get down to their Spring work. We have some of the fastest players in the game today, and when we get away with the rough edges we shall have nothing to fear from any team in the league."

THE CASE OF CALDWELL

The manager said he did not believe the management should worry over the return jump of Ray Caldwell to the New Yorks, but he was of the opinion that catcher Ivy Wingo, of St. Louis, who had returned to the fold of Organized Ball, would be back again with the Buffeds after the catcher had had the situation explained to him. The schedule committee of the Federal League will hold a meeting in this city early this month, although the definite date has not been announced. President Gilmore and all the high moguls of the independent organization will attend, as well as nearly every manager and umpire of this league.

DOWN TO PETTINESS

Organized Ball Writers Accusing So Big a Man as Robert B. Ward, of the Brooklyn Club, of Peddling Small Talk.

By C. Starr Mathews

BALTIMORE, Md., January 29.—Organized Ball and its friends are doing the cry-baby stunt again. This time Captain Huston, of the New York Americans, intimated that Robert B. Ward, vice-president of the Federal League, is partly responsible for the circulation of the story that he and Colonel Ruppert only have an option on the New Yorks. Ward denies that he started the rumor, and without wasting words, made it known that such a report would not help the Federals. Poor old Arthur Irwin, who has been called the "worst scout in base ball," is now coming in for his

SHARE OF THE LACING

that is being handed out in return for the New York option story. Captain Huston saw Irwin talking to Ward and later the story that Huston and Ruppert had handed over only \$50,000 to Bill Devery and Frank Farrell leaked. Now Irwin and Ward are blamed. The base ball war has reached such a stage that anyone in Organized Ball who is seen talking to a Fed is under suspicion. Mr. Ward is

TOO BIG A MAN

to be wasting time spreading rumors about Huston and Ruppert, despite the fact that the Captain and Colonel have been forced to admit that they have only paid Devery and company \$50,000. Huston claims the \$50,000 was only the first payment, which seems very reasonable and not unusual. The whole thing is a tempest in a teapot, and it is hard to understand why anyone should get excited over it.

FEDERAL LEAGUE FACTS

According to the Federal League chief, Walter Johnson is to get \$22,500 a year from Washington under his new contract.

It is possible that the Chicago Federal Club may



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sign outfielder Ping Bodie, of the White Sox, just sold by Comiskey to the San Francisco Club.

Umpire Bill Brennan, chief of staff in the Federal League, is said to be after Hank O'Day, former boss of the Cubs, to join the arbiters in the new league.

President Ward, in Pittsburgh, last week stated that the Eastern Association, New England League and Atlantic League would flip over to the Federal League within a short time.

The Federal League is learning a few new wrinkles of the game. Le Clair, the crack young pitcher of the Rebels, refused to sign for 1915 unless the Pittsburgh management "comes across."

The St. Louis Federals are keeping a close watch on Art Kores, a Giant recruit. If McGraw attempts to send that young man back to the stacks the Mound City rebels will try to interest him.

Manager Jones, of St. Louis, is in Cuba, where he is making preparations for the coming training trip of the Stoufeds, the Fed rear guard having decided to pitch its tent in Havana next March.

Manager Bill Phillips, of the Hoofeds, has written Business Manager Watkins that he expects to reach Indianapolis about February 20, and that he then will send out his notices to the players to report for the Spring training trip.

George Stovall was asked, out in California, what would happen if the Independents should emerge triumphant in their suit. "I don't care to answer that question," he replied. "Possibly he doesn't know. Probably few people do."

Says the New York "Tribune": "We'll say this for the Federals—they picked a grand little business and financial epoch to start a new league and hoist salaries. One of the grandest since the Egyptian famine some 4200 seasons ago."

The Buffalo team, of the Federal League, will train at Athens, Ga., this Spring. Manager Larry Schlafly returned to Buffalo last week from the South and said he expected Ivy Wingo, backstop for the St. Louis Nationals, to report to him.

The Federal League intends to have the last guess this year, and will not arrange its schedule until the National and American Leagues have made public their lists of games. Insofar as is possible, the Federals will endeavor to avoid conflicts.

The Brooklyn Federals offered pitcher Ryan \$5000 a year. He is willing to stay at Los Angeles, Cal., for \$3000, which is a \$600 increase over last year. Just how President D'Armedy can meet this with a club salary limit of \$5000 in force is not entirely clear.

The highest office within the gift of the Federal League has been conferred on Hiram T. Brewer, assistant to Vice-President R. B. Ward. It is located on the twentieth floor of the skyscraper at 130 West 40th street, New York City. That's why they call him Hy Brewer.

According to a Los Angeles dispatch, "George Stovall will place no obstacles in the path of Roy Corhan if he wishes to remain with the Pacific Coast League. The Federal scout declared that while the know Corhan had signed a contract with the Independents, that it was not the policy of the Feds to hold fast to disaffected men."

Regarding the Chicago story that the American Association would soon be made a major league by the two old major leagues. President Ward, of Brooklyn, said: "Don't believe the story at all. If true, how about the claim that there was no room for three major leagues? How can they reconcile that with this new arrangement?"

Baltimore "Sun": "Charles H. Ebbels, of the Brooklyn Superbas, has decided to rush into the courts and fight for Jack Dalton, who recently jumped to the Buffeds. Ebbels says much, but there is very little punch to his words. He let Joe Tinker get away from him and that action alone helped the Federal League materially in getting its start."

The New York "Press" is responsible for the following: "The nearest thing to a riot during last week's trial in Chicago, came when Garry Hermann left Organized Ball's bench to partake of a drink from the opposition cooler. His feat was not remarkable, but daring in view of the fact that he was taking water. As one Federal Leaguer remarked, 'Wonder if he is throwing insinuations?'"

A Sioux City dispatch, under date of January 29, says: "Asserting that he is a victim of the covering-up process made possible through the present drafting system in Organized Ball, Larry Leicune, who led the Western League in batting last season and was drafted by the Pittsburgh Nationals, has opened negotiations with the Federal League. Leicune declares that Pittsburgh proposes sending him back to this city, and Larry doesn't like the outlook."

Shortstop Ernest Johnson, of the Los Angeles team, last season, has signed a three years' contract with the Federals. He is to play with either the Chicago or St. Louis Clubs—Stovall does not know which. In Johnson Stovall gets a great ball player. He is young—just hitting his stride. He has the natural ability and is always playing the game. He is always out there trying—full of pep and enthusiasm, giving the best he has to his ball club. He is of major league caliber.

Business Manager Dick Carroll has been South, looking over available training places. He is undecided over three places, Brunswick, Ga.; Columbia, S. C., where the team trained last year; and Brown Wells, Miss. The last-named place is an unadvised resort eight miles from the railroad and 16 miles from Hazlett, Miss., the only town of any size near it. Mr. Carroll said he preferred Brown Wells to any of the places he saw, because there was every physical advantage there. The only drawback is that there is no base ball grounds as yet, but the management of the place has agreed to build a park immediately if the Brooklyn manager agrees to come.

News of the Fraternity

IMPORTANT CONTRACT DECLARATION BY FULTZ

The Latest Reserve Clause a Boomerang to Organized Ball—Base Ball in Line for Reformation on Legal Lines in Fultz's Opinion.

BY FREDERICK G. LIEB

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 28.—President Fultz, of the Players' Fraternity, the other day desired to discuss with the writer an interview with John B. Foster, printed in last Sunday's "Press," in which the secretary of the Giants said the reserve clause was in reality a gentleman's agreement between the various clubs in Organized Ball not to touch a player to which another club had any claim, even though that player was in legal sense a free agent. Foster's definition of a free agent is a player no longer bound by reserve to a club, but whose club still is desirous of his services.



Dave Fultz

"Such a player," said Foster, "is free to sign with any semi-professional, or independent league team, but no club in Organized Ball could hire him unless the club which had employed him gave its permission."

POINT MISSED BY PEPPER

There is one important phase of the Organized Base Ball player's contract which Attorney Pepper, defending O. B. in the Fed anti-trust suit in Chicago, failed to make," said Fultz. "Mr. Pepper made a very important admission when he said a ball player under an optional contract might become a free agent in two years. Mr. Pepper said if a player under an optional agreement for 1915 failed to come to terms with his club next Winter, his present contract would hold over for the 1916 season, and at the end of 1916 the player would become a free agent. But what Mr. Pepper failed to state was that under a rule of the National Agreement no club is permitted to use an unsigned player in more than 10 league games. Another law of Organized Base Ball says that no club can give a player a contract without the reserve clause, except by permission of the National Commission."

FULTZ'S VIEW OF CLAUSE

Reviewing Mr. Foster's view of the reservation of "gentleman's agreement," President Fultz said: "If a ball player is legally a free agent, and has sufficient ability to help a major league club, yet is not offered employment by clubs in Organized Ball because of a gentleman's agreement between the various clubs not to do business with a player because of an alleged claim to that player by one of its clubs, it is criminal conspiracy, punishable under the laws of the land. I cannot believe that Mr. Foster's view is the opinion held by the high officials of Organized Ball on the reserve clause and the status of a free agent when he no longer is legally held by that club," continued Fultz. "I believe that Attorney Pepper, who represented Organized Ball at the recent Fed anti-trust suit, stated the case correctly, and in my opinion, he made an important admission. He argued that if a player under an option agreement does not come to terms at the end of a year with his club, that contract runs on for another year, and at the end of that time that player is a free agent. I agree with Pepper, but he is a free agent in

EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD.

I understand Mr. Foster said such a player would be a free agent, merely to deal with any club outside of the jurisdiction of Organized Ball. If such is the case, and such a player could not find employment in the major league, I would call it a clear case of conspiracy, which is one of the worst offenses before the law. Do you know that under the present remodeled reserve contract, any player can become an absolute free agent in two year's time, no matter how valuable he is to his club? The latest reserve clause is a mistake, and I do not like it because it has no legal hold on a ball player for more than two years. I believe a limited reserve is necessary to the success of base ball—I should say four or five years, which would be fair to both players and club owners.

STRENGTHENS PLAYER'S POSITION

"Clause 10 of the remodeled player's contract reads as follows:

"The player will, at the option of the club, enter into a contract for the succeeding season upon all the terms and conditions of this contract, save as to clauses 1 and 10, and the salary to be paid the player in the event of such renewal shall be the same as the total compensation provided for the player in clause 1 hereof, unless it be increased or decreased by mutual agreement."

"Clause 10 is the very clause which deals with the reservation and the contract reads his next contract shall be the same, save clauses 1 and 10. Any player who cares to stand up for his rights, can, at the expiration of a year, demand a contract without the reserve clause in it, and at the end of that year, he is an absolute free agent, who can do business with any club who cares to bid for his services, and I do not bar any. Under this new contract, due to Federal activities and last year court cases, Organized Ball gets away from the charge which their opponents might bring that a player when signing an Organized Ball contract, is signed for life. It was on this latter account that the Buffalo judge upheld Chase when he severed his relations with the White Sox. But by getting away from this charge, and admitting that the player is not

signed for life, they defend my argument that this contract can make any player an absolute free agent in two years' time, as the contract makes absolutely no stipulation that his next year's contract shall contain another reserve clause."

BASE BALL CAN BE LEGAL

President Fultz then renewed a recent declaration that base ball needed reformation along legal lines. Said he: "I have heard a good bit about base ball being a business which requires legislation of its own, entirely separate from other lines of legitimate business. I cannot agree with that. I believe base ball requires special legislation for its own needs—every business requires that, but I am confident that base ball can be made a thoroughly legal business in which all relations between leagues, clubs and player are according to law. Furthermore, I am firmly convinced that making base ball entirely lawful would be a great boom for the game, and make it stronger than ever before. I would

FAVOR A COMMISSION

to make a thorough study of base ball, examine gate receipts in minor and major leagues, and fix a scale of minor league salaries, prices for releases, options, etc., such as a commission fixes railroad rates. I do not want to be unfair to the club owners. I believe base ball is a very big business, and it is big enough for club owners to make profits and to pay players' salaries commensurate with their respective abilities. Just at present I think the minors are the biggest task before Organized Ball, and they surely need help for some time."

FRATERNITY AND THE MINORS

In conclusion President Fultz defined the attitude of the Player's Fraternity toward the minor leagues as one of sympathy and helpfulness instead of the selfish indifference toward the lesser leagues it has been credited with. On this point he said: "I wish to say that the Fraternity does not aim to heap new burdens on the minor leagues, as has been reported. All of our new requests, which, by the way, have never been turned down by the Commission, as has been printed, deal with getting more justice for young players to whom major league clubs hold title. When a club signs a young player for \$3000 and lets him out on an option to a minor league club which can only afford to pay him \$2000, the major league club should make up the remainder as long as that player is its property, according to base ball law. That player's work might be so impressive in the minors that another major league club

WOULD DESIRE HIS SERVICES,

but cannot offer him a position, as he belongs to the major league club which let him out on option. An injustice, therefore, is done that player, as it deprives him of playing for a major league salary. Also, when a club buys a young player, why should he not report to the purchasing club at the end of his minor league season and draw salary, as he is the property of that club and cannot play elsewhere? Another reform we want to put through is to prevent a club from telling young player Smith, 'We have released you to Kalamazoo, but they will pay you the same money,' only to have Smith find out when he gets to Kalamazoo that he must work for half."

THE PLAYERS' SIDE

Employment of Federal League as Weapon to Obtain Increase in Salary Seems Justifiable, as Life of Stars in Major Circles Is Short.

By Frederick G. Lieb

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 31.—The ball player has been panned a great deal this Winter because of his greed, disloyalty and his disregard of contracts, club affiliations and moral obligations. Perhaps the player has frequently deserved it. Contract breaking is an evil, which cannot be condoned, even if a player does slip through the loophole of a 10-days' release clause which has been declared illegal. Yet can you always blame a player for being out for all he can get or even using the Federal League as a club over the heads of O. B. to get a boost in salary? Take any business, if a young, ambitious man is offered a job by a rival firm for calling for \$1000 more a season, how many men would refuse it? At least, he would first give his present employer a chance to meet the offer, if he was not under contract, and if the employer refused the young man naturally would go over to the other concern. You can hardly blame a player for acting the same way under similar circumstances.

SEEK ALL THEY CAN GET

Two of the cleanest men in base ball that the writer knows of, and two of the most respected, are "Wild Bill" Donovan, the new manager of the New Yorks, and Hans Lobert, the new Giant third baseman. Both men are a credit to base ball, yet they could not afford to throw aside their chance for big duets when it came. Donovan recently told of how he came to jump Brooklyn for Detroit. He said he waited three months before jumping, and that he even informed Ebbers he would sign with him for \$1000 less than the American League offered him. Yet he said when he did go to Detroit, Charley offered him \$1000 more to jump back, but Bill said he made his agreement and intended to stick to it. We next have the case of Lobert. He is accused of using the Feds as a club over Baker's head to get what he wanted, and he did. Lobert is now 33 years old, but still at the height of his career as a player. In fact, Lobert did not hit his high notch until he was 29, when he first went to Philadelphia.

LOBERT UNJUSTLY CRITICISED

However, he realized that very soon he must start on the down grade, and frequently when players start to slip they

he decided to get all he could for the next three years, while he still is good. Lobert was thoroughly honest all the time. He had informed Baker what the Feds had offered him, and asked him to match the stipend, and, if failing to do that, trade him to a club that could afford it. Hans held off for a long time, but in the end Baker agreed to trade him, and McGraw was very willing to pay him the salary he asked for. Lobert has been severely criticised for his action, and he has been accused of forcing Baker, already hard hit by the Fed war, into a deal which was distasteful to him, and which was only made to save Lobert for Organized Ball. Evidently John McGraw, who has no love for the Feds, does not consider Hans' action as unjustifiable, as the pair are now roaming together under Cuban skies.

BRESNAHAN IN SAME CLASS

Is Roger Bresnahan, one of the star witnesses for O. B., any different from the men who jumped? Roger was offered a job with the Brooklyn Feds, and he held out for a very high figure. He agreed to accept if Robert Ward would personally guarantee his salary. Ward refused at the time, but later wired Bresnahan in Chicago that he would agree to his terms. By that time Roger had been offered the management of the Cubs, so he refused. But had Leach been given the job, as seemed the original dope, how long would Roger have remained in O. B.? There is another angle to this players' greed. They have such a short time to make their big money. The players who stick in the big leagues for 10 years can be counted on your two hands. Players who stick in the majors over 15 years, like Wagner, Lajoie and Wallace, are rarities.

PLAYER'S LIFE SHORT

A player's career is over when in any other business he is just entering his prime. When a man gets to be 35 or 40, after putting his best efforts for 20 years into a business he should be ready for one of the best jobs his firm has to offer. But not so with the ball player. A few become McGraws and Macks, but not many. If the player is not wise, and unfortunately a good many are not, he is frequently thrown into the world at 35 without profession or trade and very little money. Perhaps there are few of the higher-priced players who are actually in want. Ten thousand dollars will go a good way in a small town, and if a player saves a little he generally can start

SOME SMALL BUSINESS

in his home town, where his previous reputation will help him. But when he visits the big cities he generally does not stop at the three-dollar-a-day hotels, nor is he so particular about his lower berth or the ventilation of his hotel room. And when he has his meals he usually does not go through the course from soup to nuts. Those are past reminiscences, brought up when he meets a crony, or discussed around the country bar. I speak not of the star, but of the "just average player," the man whose high-water average is .280 and who is constantly on the alert that somebody will crowd him out of a regular job. They're plenty of them; they are the rank and file. They stick in the big leagues three, four or five years. And they go—where?

HERRMANN FAVORED

The Players Fraternity Not in Favor of His Deposition From the National Commission Chairmanship—Consider Him "Fair and Just."

By Heywood Brown

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 29.—The suggestion that the National Commission drop August Herrmann at its next election will receive no support from the Players' Fraternity. "I would a thousand times rather do business with Mr. Herrmann than with Ban Johnson," declared Dave Fultz, head of the players' organization, yesterday, in discussing the new demands which the Fraternity has made upon the National Commission. "We have always found Herrmann fair and just in his decisions," added Fultz. In regard to the new demands of the Fraternity, Mr. Fultz said: "It is not true that the National Commission has turned us down. The requests which we made are still under the consideration of the ruling body of Organized Ball."

THE WALTER JOHNSON CASE

Mr. Fultz was asked whether Walter Johnson would be expelled from the Fraternity as a contract-jumper. "We are not prepared to take action on the case immediately," replied the representative of the players. "We intended at one time to expel all contract jumpers, but when the courts decided that the agreement between Hal Chase and the Chicago White Sox was not binding we decided that it would not be fair to take action against men who left their clubs after giving a ten days' notice, and we must wait now for further rulings."

OPPOSED TO FULTZ

Manager Griffith of the Senators Says Base Ball Players' Fraternity Head Lost the Chance of His Lifetime.

By J. Ed Grillo

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30.—Clark Griffith has taken a violent dislike to the Base Ball Players' Fraternity in general, and its president, Dave Fultz, in particular. The Old Fox since the time he graduated from the ranks to a full-fledged manager, has always had the best interests of the players at heart, but he says Dave Fultz in no uncertain terms. Says he: "When the Federals filed their suit to dissolve the National Commission, Dave Fultz, as president of the Players' Fraternity, should have come out with some such statement as this: 'The Players' Fraternity is satisfied with the contracts even if the court isn't; they were made in good faith and we will stand by them.'"

AS GRIFFITH SEES IT

This attitude argues Griffith, would have

made the ball players stand high in the esteem of the public, whereas at present the fans are not so very enthusiastic. "During the time I have been connected with base ball," says Griffith, "I have been a member of several players' fraternities, and they have all been governed by good officials. The present Players' Fraternity has only Dave Fultz at its head, and Fultz lost the chance of his life in not coming to the front for Organized Ball when the Feds started court proceedings." That Griffith has always been fair with the ball players is shown conclusively since he has been in Washington. The Old Fox

NEVER HAD A HOLD-OUT

on his team. It is true that he refused to give Bob Groom a big salary and lost him, but it was because he did not believe Groom was worth any such sum as the Feds were willing to pay. It is just because ball players throughout the country who know Griffith and his methods always give him a good name, that the Washington Club has been able to do business with minor league teams, and get men here for a trial.

FOSTER DIFFERS

The New York Club Secretary Declares That Fultz's "Criminal Conspiracy" Talk Amounts to Nothing and Gives His Reason.

By Frederick G. Lieb

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—John B. Foster, secretary of the New York National League Club, said yesterday that Dave Fultz did not pull anything new when he said the present contracts, containing the reserve clause, are only good for two years, at the end of which time the player is legally a free agent. "Everybody in base ball knew that," said Foster. "But I reiterate my recent statement that such a player could not force other clubs in Organized Ball to give him employment, so long as he was considered by the other clubs to be morally bound to the club with whom he had played. If Fultz said failure of other clubs to offer such a player employment is criminal conspiracy,

IT IS FOOLISH TALK.

If we don't want to hire a man, that is where it ends, and there is no room for argument. What if the player is a Mathewson or Cobb, and it is proved he has recognized ability, can he force other clubs to give him employment so long as they consider him under obligations to the Giants or Tigers? Suppose such a player did try to go to court on a conspiracy charge, would it not be easy for us to show that no other clubs could afford to pay him the value he puts on his services, or even do

NOT CARE TO PAY

him the high figure he demanded? Suppose I should go around to every paper in New York and ask for a position as sporting editor. I might tell them I was a sporting writer for a long term of years, and served many of them as sporting editor. If they all refused to hire me and I ran into court with a story that there was a conspiracy against me I would be laughed at and told to get out."

ANOTHER UNIQUE STATEMENT

by Foster was that there is no demand for base ball in New York. "There is no standing demand for base ball. We create our demand by trying to build up teams which are capable of winning pennants," says John. Building upon this assumption, Mr. Foster argued that a reserve clause was essential for the maintenance of the game. "I can't understand the position Dave Fultz has taken," he declared. "Everybody knows that it will be necessary to preserve the reserve clause as a gentleman's agreement even if it has no standing in the courts. Base ball needs legislation of its own. All the recent troubles of the game have arisen from the widespread notion that there were huge profits to be made in base ball. As a matter of fact, profits in base ball have never been large. It is a pursuit for sportsmen, not for money-makers."

CHIVINGTON PLAN OPPOSED

The Players' Fraternity Sees No Merit in a Plan Which Would Prevent Players Advancing in Their Profession.

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—Dave Fultz, president of the Base Ball Players' Fraternity, declared yesterday that his organization was decidedly opposed to the plan to make the American Association exempt from draft. Whether the Fraternity would take action in the matter or not Mr. Fultz did not care to say, but he declared that the change in the status of the American Association would work great hardship to the players. Fultz said: "If the National Commission decides to raise the classification of the American Association and abolish the draft rule insofar as that league is concerned, it will simply mean that a number of good players

WILL BE BOTTLED UP

and deprived of promotion which they ought to get. Many of the men in the American Association each year show themselves worthy of a trial in the National and American Leagues and under existing conditions, eight at least go up under the draft rule. As a matter of fact, even more than that gain promotion on account of the draft rule, for the owners are anxious to sell good players before the drafting season, as they can get higher prices then. Raising the classification of the American Association will not serve to raise salaries and if the league

IS EXEMPT FROM DRAFT

it will undoubtedly seek greater prestige by calling itself a major league. In order to live up to this standard the various clubs will refuse to sell their players to either the National or American Leagues and the men will be forced to remain and accept American Association salaries. If there was any possibility of the Association becoming a real major league and paying real major league salaries the ball players, of course, would be greatly benefited, but I don't think there is much chance of that."

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

DEVOTED TO BASE BALL MEN AND MEASURES "WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE AND CHARITY FOR ALL"—EDITOR FRANCIS C. RICHTER

Sporting Life

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE TWIN SPORTS—
BASE BALL AND TRAP SHOOTING.

THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND BEST BASE BALL JOURNAL.

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THOMAS S. DANDO.....President and Gun Editor
FRANCIS C. RICHTER.....Vice-President and Editor-in-Chief
J. CLIFFORD DANDO.....Secretary-Treasurer and Business Manager
THOMAS D. RICHTER.....Associate Editor
CHANDLER D. RICHTER.....Associate Editor
J. DOUGLASS DANDO.....Advertising Manager
A. S. PARRY.....Office Manager

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 6, 1915

AWAITING THE JUDICIAL VERDICT

AT THIS WRITING, when the inside section of "Sporting Life," of which the Editorial Page is a part, goes to press, there has been no decision rendered by Judge Landis, of the United States District Court, at Chicago, in the famous suit of the Federal League against the National Commission and the National Agreement under Trust charges. That there will be a decision upon the merits of the case is now well assured, as Judge Landis, who has had the case under advisement since January 23, would have ere this peremptorily disposed of the case had he convinced himself that his expressed doubt of his jurisdiction was well founded. There will, therefore, be a decision, but when it will be delivered, and to whom it will fall, remains to be told: It is possible that the decision may be handed down in time for publication in our news columns.

REAL BASE BALL LAWYERS

IMPORTANT TOPICS OF THE DAY are touched upon in interviews reprinted in this issue of "Sporting Life," by Messrs. John M. Ward and David L. Fultz—lawyers both, but each familiar and sympathetic with his subject, by reason of practical knowledge and experience, and that tenacious and enduring love for the game which is a characteristic of nearly all who have played the game in youth and early manhood. One deals with present and future effects of the war, and particularly with a deplorable condition growing out of a war grossly mismanaged by all participants; and the other treats of a legal phase that has created most of the mischief in base ball, the end of which is not yet. Discussing the chief commercial topic of the day, the player contract, Mr. Ward dwells specially upon the evil wrought by that needless war product, the long-term straight contract, which he holds chiefly responsible for the universally-lowered artistic standard of the game last season. His views, to which we heartily subscribe, are:

"Base ball is a very distinct calling; it is entirely different than anything else. Essentially, it is play for the participants, and for a player to do his best he must have inspiration. It is inspiration and unbounded enthusiasm which enable the player to make some phenomenal play. If it were not for inspiration, these star players would never become keyed up to unusual performances. Therefore, when a player gets a long-term contract, say for three years, as many men received in the big leagues last season, he loses that enthusiasm which has kept him up to playing his best. I do not mean to say that they quit, but with the future inspired and with no incentive to work up their enthusiasm, the long-term players have taken things easily and have not measured up to the standard they are capable of."

Mr. Fultz, in his capacity as President of the Players' Fraternity, put himself publicly on record concerning the reserve clause in the new long-term major league player contract. Mr. Fultz, as a lawyer, agrees with the rather too frank statement of Counsellor Pepper that under that form of contract the player is master of his future, inasmuch as he need but refuse to agree to renewal of the option clause and to serve another year under the existing contract to be an absolutely free agent. As to the club's recourse under the circumstances Mr. Pepper remained discreetly silent, but Mr. Fultz has no hesitancy about stating that magnate recourse to secret reservation, or abstention from proffers of engagement anywhere in Organized Ball through a "gentlemen's agreement," would put it within the power of the player to either make out a case of proscriptio or to charge criminal conspiracy—a very serious offense under present advanced status of law and public opinion. That Mr. Fultz intends this as friendly warning to the magnates, and not as incentive to future radical player action, is shown by the fact that he quite frankly disapproves of the new contract on the ground that it deprives the club of all control of the player, and destroys the reservation features necessary to team stability. To reinforce his regret, Mr. Fultz declares himself in favor of reservation limited to say five years—which is not so good as perpetual reservation, but far better than denial of all reservation. The sincerity of Mr. Fultz's declaration on this point cannot be doubted in view of the fact that he never warred on the form of the old contract, which included both reserve and ten days' clauses; and that even his most radical demands last year comprised only concessions to the players under the old contract without attack upon its vital clauses; and for attack upon both clauses, and the fatal change in one

clause, and the elimination of the other clause, the National Commission has only to thank its impracticable legal advisers, and to blame itself. Looking backward, it must be now a matter of keen regret that the Federal League paid little heed to the sage and practical counsel of John M. Ward; and that the National Commission failed to get into closer touch with David Fultz before committing itself so inextricably to the guidance of counsellors who, however great their legal ability, had not the technical experience, knowledge of the game, nor the ingrained love of it, so essential to reconciling sport, business, and law in Base Ball. We know that Mr. Ward, from the start, disapproved of the Federal League's initial resort to law, and we believe that Mr. Fultz did not approve of the National Commission's legal campaign; and we feel sure that had the practical counsel of the one been heeded and the sage advice of the other sought, the capitalists would have been spared much loss, the game saved from much demoralization in the camp and degradation in court, and the war would now be over, or at least in the way of being settled to mutual advantage and public satisfaction. However, even under present depressing conditions, there are almost daily indications of a gradual return of the warriors to sanity. The most pleasing thing about Mr. Fultz's statement is the indication that there is no real enmity between capitalists and players, that the Players' Fraternity is not at heart antagonistic to the exceptional fundamental principles of organization, and that when the time for recasting of the system comes the players and their leader will be co-laborers and not antagonists or obstructionists.

AN IMPRACTICAL PROPOSAL

THE SENSATION OF THE PAST WEEK was the announcement of President Chivington, of the American Association, that the National Commission had virtually agreed to assist the American Association to major league status—as a war measure—by exempting it from the player draft and sanctioning important circuit changes, meaning probably the cession of certain major league territory. Mr. Chivington's announcement appears to have been both premature and embarrassing. The National Commission members concede nothing more than that they have under consideration another request for draft exemption after one refusal—and that they have as yet reached no decision on an issue they have been considering for nearly a year. This matter was discussed at length recently by Mr. Woodruff, our able Chicago contributor, and the insuperable objections to draft exemption were briefly and gently cited at that time by the Editor. Major league status cannot be obtained by any organization without inter-sectional circuit, absolute title to players, and no limit on player salaries. Perpetual reservation of players, under a salary limit, without the draft rule, which necessarily entails player sales, is not tolerable in law or morals, and it is inconceivable how any minor league can seriously advance a proposition which is so utterly indefensible. Without the compulsory draft, as a means of enabling young and able players to rise to the major leagues where they can realize the highest possible reward for their services, all players in a salary-limit minor league would be continuously sequestered against their will and in contravention of their rights, and constrained to perpetual service in such league at maximum salary which they would have no voice whatever in fixing. What a door this injustice would open to new legal assault upon such a system can be imagined. Apart from that, however, draft exemption for any minor league is contrary to the letter and spirit of the National Agreement, which specifically designs the draft rule as a measure—indeed the only measure—of enabling a player to "advance in his profession;" it would be a grievous wrong to the player whose ability warrants the opportunity to make the most of his services; and it would be a handicap to the major leagues whose source of player supply would be materially and arbitrarily curtailed. Under the conditions it is not conceivable that the National Commission would ever exempt any minor leagues from the draft, even if it had the power to do so, which it has not, as the National Agreement is not subject to amendment in its fundamental parts, except by unanimous consent of all parties thereto. It is not likely either, that the National Association would sanction such exemption for a member which would still enjoy joint privilege with the major leagues of drafting from lower classes. If, however, such a wrong to Class AA players should be permitted by the powers of Organized Ball the Players' Fraternity would be amply justified in resisting it to the utmost. The only solution of the problem, as pointed out in these columns long ago, is to combine the best cities of the American Association and International League on real major league basis; and that would involve abandonment of the National Commission's only tenable reason for combating the Federal League, namely, that there is "not room or public demand for a third major league."

THE CHANGE IN NEW YORK

THE arduous winter-long circuit-strengthening labors of President Johnson, of the American League, are now crowned with final brilliant success by reason of the consummation of the New York Club deal, by means of which the New York Club has passed into the hands of new owners of character, ability, and wealth. This undoubtedly indicates a new era for the American League in New York, hitherto the weakest link in a strong chain; as there is now a possibility of raising the New York American Club to local parity with the New York Giants, the "bread-winner" of the National League, thus making New York as much of an American League stronghold as is Chicago in the West. That consummation will make the American League impregnable, assure its retention of front-rank dignity and power, and make it reasonably secure against whatever mutations may result from the base ball war. For these reasons Organized Ball in general, and the American League in particular, are to be congratulated upon, and President Johnson commended for, the installation, in the greatest base ball community in the land, of such new magnates as Messrs. Ruppert and Huston, who, in point of character, wealth, and popularity, measure up to the most exacting standards of the game. In turn, Messrs. Ruppert and Huston are to be congratulated upon courageous entrance upon a field which

has its trials and tribulations, but also has its compensations—indeed, very great compensations, in view of the fact that base ball is a clean, honest game, typical of the American race, entrenched in the affections of all classes of our people, and a great national institution, of which the leaders and representatives are public characters of nation-wide importance and dignity. In conclusion, it only remains to pay President Johnson a deserved tribute as a league leader of unsurpassed resourcefulness and ability.

HARBINGER OF COMING SPRING

THE AMERICAN LEAGUE'S Spring meeting has been advanced to Wednesday, February 3, in New York City, which is a week before the National League schedule meeting in the same city. At this meeting the 1915 schedule prepared by President Johnson will be adopted. The New York Club deal will also be ratified and the new owners formally received in the family bosom. It is not likely that there will be any changes in the Playing Rules, as no amendments were advanced or discussed during the long winter, which has been mainly given up to war moves and litigation, to the exclusion of legitimate base ball matters aside from the big New York deal. The meeting will be in session as "Sporting Life" goes to press, and publication of the schedule must be deferred until next issue. Next week the National League's schedule meeting will be held in New York. After that the Federal League will meet and shape up a schedule to dovetail as best it may between the other major league schedules. Then everything will be ready for the training season, which will start at the usual time, regardless of law and lawyers.

AMERICAN IN ALL WAYS

A PARAGRAPH is going the rounds of the press crediting Curtis Gould, former ambassador to Russia, with the statement that "the Czar of Russia is the real boss of base ball, for the reason that all of the leather used in manufacturing base balls comes from Siberia (the Siberian ponies furnishing the hide) and is the only leather found anywhere that will not stretch under sudden pressure." This is arant nonsense. American horsehide only is used for the covers of the cork-centre Reach and Spalding and the Victor balls, respectively, the official balls used by the American League, National League and Federal League; which three major leagues set the ball standard for the entire world of base ball. There is nothing about our National Game that is not absolutely American; as a matter of fact, American sporting goods manufacturers are not dependent upon foreign countries for anything used in their business.

CROWDING THE MOURNERS

ANOTHER SIGN OF THE TIMES was manifested last week. A tax on Organized Ball games, amounting to five per cent of the gross receipts, was proposed in the New York Legislature. Thanks to the steady exploitation of the commercial side of base ball everybody wants to take a dip into that suppositious gold mine. Well, the State might as well have some of it before the lawyers absorb it all. The worst part of this tax proposition is that it hits hardest the minor league clubs within the State embracing the New York State League, the International League and the Atlantic League. These clubs in turn will have to assume a burden that the other league members, located in contiguous States will escape.

GOOD RESULTS CERTAIN

New York "Journal"

The efforts of the Federal League promoters to break into Organized Ball, whether they may prove futile or not, will, however, have served to correct such evils and faults that may have clogged Organized Ball, and I grant there were such. But after the smoke of battle blows away I believe that the game will be purified and be placed on a more solid foundation than it has ever been in the past. We may take our hat off to President Fultz, of the Players' Fraternity, for his reply to Secretary John B. Foster's statement that there was a "gentleman's agreement" in Organized Ball that virtually disbarred those free agent players (so-called) from securing engagements with Organized Ball clubs. That "gentleman's agreement" is one of the evils I have mentioned above that must and will be corrected as one of the beneficial results of the Fed's invasion and it cannot come quick enough. Fultz made a masterly statement in his answer to Foster's acknowledgment that such an "agreement" exists.

FRATERNITY REPRESENTATION

New York "Evening Sun"

Persons who appear to be unfamiliar with base ball government have suggested that a player should be made a member of the National Commission. It is argued that the players should be allowed to have a say in the management of the game. It would be just as sensible to advocate the appointment of a fighter to the State Boxing Commission, or the admission of a leading horse trainer to the councils of the Jockey Club. Furthermore, it would be equally wise to ask several athletes to serve as members of the A. A. U.'s registration committee. Base ball players must be controlled by rules and regulations enforced by their employers. During the Brotherhood year, 1890, players served as directors of the various clubs, thereby putting into effect a plan to rescue them from "slavery." But they mismanaged the affairs of their league in such a manner that soon they found themselves on the rocks of disaster.

CHILLING THE FANS

New York "World"

President Gilmore, of the Federal League, has been quoted as saying that he hopes the legal tangles brought about by the base ball war all will be straightened out by the time the season opens. He doesn't hope so any more than the fans hope so. We can give him this tip. He doesn't have to have the National Commission and the major leagues dissolved under the anti-trust law to break up base ball. All Gilmore, or Organized Ball either, will have to do to abolish the game is just to keep on fighting the thing out in the courts instead of on the playing field after the season opens, and furnish a record of legal expenses instead of a record of battling averages for publication. If this policy is steadfastly pursued, we can guarantee there will not be any Base Ball Trust, or any Base Ball, because there will be no fans.

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

A WEEKLY DIGEST OF POLICIES, EVENTS AND AFFAIRS IN THE MINOR LEAGUE WORLD

The Minor Field

WEEKLY EDITORIAL DIGEST OF EVENTS AND POLICIES IN THE NATION-WIDE MINOR LEAGUE ARENA.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION WORLD IMPARTIALLY REVIEWED BY COMPETENT CRITICS.

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PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 6, 1915

NOT ANTAGONISTIC TO MINORS

IN OUR NEWS COLUMNS will be found an interview with President Fultz, of the Players' Fraternity which is of peculiar interest to the National Association—nearly all of whose Class AA and Class A players are members of Mr. Fultz's organization—by reason of the fact that for the first time, Mr. Fultz clearly defines the attitude of the Fraternity toward the minors, and seeks to dispel a long-existing impression that the Fraternity is only concerned with the welfare of the high-class players; and so little interested in the smaller leagues as to make the latter regard the players' combine as more or less of a menace. Mr. Fultz declares in effect that the Fraternity has consideration for all minor leagues; that it is not seeking to impose new burdens upon the struggling minors; and that in seeking to protect its players against major league abuses or injustices it is at the same time striving to lighten the minor league load. He holds that the concessions wrung from the major leagues a year ago, and the additional concessions sought now, are for the purpose of securing square deals for young players to whom major league clubs hold title. On this he says:

"When a club signs a young player for \$3000 and lets him out on an option to a minor league club which can only afford to pay him \$2000, the major league club should make up the remainder as long as that player is its property, according to base ball law. That player's work might be so impressive in the minors that another major league club would desire his services, but cannot offer him a position, as he belongs to the major league club which let him out on option. An injustice, therefore, is done that player, as it deprives him of playing for a major league salary. Also, when a club buys a young player, why should he not report to the purchasing club at the end of his minor league season and draw salary as he is the property of that club and cannot play elsewhere? Another reform we want to put through is to prevent a club from telling young player Smith, 'We have released you to Kalamazoo, but they will pay you the same money,' only to have Smith find out when he gets to Kalamazoo that he must work for half."

In connection with the above President Fultz says that the stated, and other, concessions asked have not been rejected by the National Commission, as was reported in the newspapers recently; and are still subject to consideration when the National Commission holds its long-deferred annual meeting. However that may be, the value of President Fultz's present declaration lies in the fact that the danger menacing professional base ball is gradually developing a get-together spirit which in due time will make itself a potential force in settling the war, and all the big issues growing out of it, and placing it upon stronger basis, and higher plane, than ever before!

ONE EFFECT OF WAR

CHICAGO, Ills., February 1.—Major league club owners are experiencing considerable difficulty in disposing of waning stars whom they have signed to term contracts at wartime salaries. This is one of the prices they must pay because of war conditions. When the Federal League was making inroads into the playing ranks of Organized Ball last Summer, there apparently was a concerted movement to sign all the regulars for a term of years to prevent any further flops, by which the Feds were attracting public attention and gaining publicity. In most instances the new contracts were at a marked advance in salary and generally of the so-called iron-clad variety. That plan worked well and its effect has been seen during the Winter by the comparatively smaller number of real scintillating diamond stars whom the Feds have been able to corral. But it also proves to have its disadvantages. Some of the erstwhile regulars, in the opinion of their managers, are not deserving

of regular berths in 1915. In many instances their salaries are out of all proportion to their real worth. In years gone by the suppliant minor league was ready to jump at the chance of securing surplus major league talent. The minors had some little financial worries all their own during 1914. Minor league treasure chests are not bulging. So now, when a player is offered, the minor manager is apt to ask, "Pray, tell me, dear sir, what salary is he drawing?" Then he stands back aghast at the prospect of paying anywhere from \$3500 to \$5000 in real money to a player who is not good enough for the major leagues. What, then, is the result? Simply that the major club owners in order to dispose of players not wanted or to get down to the number required by the new rule, are in many cases compelled to dig into their jeans and produce a sum of money which jingles like the difference between the amount named in the war-time contract and the salary which the minor league club owners can afford to pay. The alternative is to accept greatly reduced purchase money from the minor leaguer. For once the small fry are enjoying a moderate laugh at the expense of the big fish. And the worst of it is that the major magnate cannot announce his benevolence and gain some perhaps desirable publicity as a friend of the player, for it is not good policy for obvious reasons to make public his dilemma.

INTERSTATE LEAGUE BRACED

OLEAN, N. Y., January 31.—Prospects for a most successful season in the Interstate Base Ball League are good, and every club in the circuit is making preparations to place in the field the strongest possible club. All of the towns are being strengthened by the signing of new players, and all of the men who made good last year will be back in uniform. The election of James A. Lindsey, of Bradford, as president of the wheel puts at the head of the organization not only a business man, but also one who understands base ball. Mr. Lindsey was interested in two base ball leagues of past years and at one time was a player. He was interested in the O. W. N. Y. & P. League in 1890, and in the Interstate League in 1900. He is at present a well-known business man of Bradford, and a member of the city commission. Practically all of the clubs are in good condition financially. The fans of Wellsville have just closed a most successful fair, clearing in the neighborhood of \$2000. Hornell has a fair booked for the second week in February, and all of the lovers of the game in that city are working hard for the enterprise. The fans in Bradford are also strong for base ball for the coming season, and the directors there are also planning on holding a bazaar of some sort. In Warren a fair was held some weeks ago and, according to reports that come from the Pennsylvania town, the club has a large amount of money back of it. At the meeting of league directors held in Jamestown arrangements were made for the sale of the stock of the Jamestown Club, and the purchase of the franchise of that city by John Mattison was practically assured. It is the idea of Mr. Mattison to sell stock in small blocks, and from the sentiment expressed there the stock will readily find a market. In Olean the outlook is bright; Practically all of last season's players are reserved, and it is thought that the directors will be able to secure Eddie Colligan as manager. Colligan is an Olean boy who has been playing second base with the San Francisco Club, of the Pacific Coast League, and he stands mighty well with the fans here. Practically no differences exist between the clubs of the Interstate League at the present time, all having been patched up at the Jamestown meeting, and the season will start off strong and continue so throughout the Summer.

WESTERN CANADA STATUS

REGINA, Sask., January 28.—The clubs of the suspended Western Canada League are experiencing no trouble placing their players. To date the Northwestern League has received the following players from this league: Spokane—Williams and Sutherland, of Edmonton. Aberdeen—Stis; of Regina; Concannon and Kurfuss, of Moose Jaw. Vancouver—Shortstop Augustus, of Moose Jaw. The National Association gave the Western Canada League magnates the privilege of making such deals for their men as they could up to a certain date, when, because the league would not operate again in 1915, they were to be declared free agents. Some objection was raised to this, but it seems to have been fairly proper, for the Twilight League owners never made a dollar out of the games in the six or seven years it flourished; and now face a peculiar situation in that—because of their English-bred and English-governed country—they could not expect to attract patrons while the great European war was on and interest deflected. No harm was done the players, as the choice ones were sure to be easily placed in better jobs and the rest would have done little better had they been declared free agents last Fall. Most of the Canadian clubs have deals similar to that by which Williams, of Edmonton, goes to Spokane; namely, that Edmonton shall share in any money accruing from the possible sale of Williams at the end of the 1915 season to a higher league.

NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE MENDED

SPOKANE, Wash., January 31.—The return of Aberdeen to the Northwestern League, and the elimination of Ballard has had an electrifying effect upon the fans all over the circuit. Not only will this change relieve the league of the burden of carrying the Portland franchise and team, which were temporarily located at Ballard, which is a mere suburb of Seattle and therefore not capable of sustaining a high-class club; but it has re-awakened the rivalry that existed formerly when Aberdeen was a league member. The name "Aberdeen" and the nickname "Black Cats" at least means a lot more than the name "Everett" or the "Smokestackers" to Northwestern League fans in general, and Spokane fans in particular. It was not without considerable difficulty that Aberdeen was secured, as memory of the "crime of 1910," when the Northwestern League magnates kicked out Aberdeen from their midst—Aberdeen, the city of only 25,000 that had for four years produced the most consistent winning club of any in the league and probably the best road attraction the league ever had. The return of the No. 1 team to the Northwestern League's door may

have savored some of humiliation, for—now that it is all over—it is not harmful to admit that some of the moguls were considerably worried over that sixth city problem. But all's well that ends well. Aberdeen, with the most willing sportsmen in the world back of her, is again with us. With the circuit problem settled President Blewett added to league satisfaction last week by promulgating the official news that the National Board had granted the league's plea for special exemption from the \$2000 Class B salary limit to the extent of permitting the Northwestern League to make its limit \$2500 per month.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNDAUNTED

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 30.—The unfortunate International League was doubly jarred during the week—first, by the announcement in a local evening paper that the league would probably be compelled to suspend operations for a year; second, by the action of the New York State League in postponing consideration of the Syracuse cession matter until February 25. To delay the settlement of the territorial question until that date would seriously hamper the International reorganization plans, assuming that the Syracuse territory can be secured, which is daily becoming more doubtful, as the New York State League has no suitable territory available for the replacement of Syracuse. Despite these troubles, the able president of the International League, Mr. Barrow, is preserving an undaunted front and declares that there is no thought of suspension for a season. He declares that rather than suspend, the league will proceed with six clubs. But that would be only a last resort, of which he has no apprehension. Regarding the circuit problem, President Barrow says: "The transfer of the Baltimore franchise to Richmond has already been completed, and if our plans to transfer the Jersey City Club to Syracuse should fall through we have other cities in view for the Jersey City franchise. Prominent people in Jersey City have offered to take that club over and continue it in the International League. It is understood that the International League magnates have given much consideration to purchasing a city from the New England League or the Eastern Association to take the place of Jersey City. Worcester, Springfield and Hartford, all members of the old Eastern League, are under consideration." Regarding the American Association's claims for draft-exemption, President Barrow says his league has taken no further steps in that matter since the refusal of the National Commission last year to accede to the joint request of the International League and American Association; and as matters stand now, President Barrow doubts that any of his club owners would favor exemption under present conditions, even if the National Commission was now disposed to grant such a request, which is just as doubtful as ever. In extremity the National Commission would doubtless now extend other, and more substantial, assistance to the distressed International League.

POINTING THE WAY

VANCOUVER, January 30.—President Bob Brown, of the Vancouver Club, of the Northwestern League, intends to return to an old policy which proved so successful for him at Aberdeen in 1907. Brown, who also manages his club with remarkable success, intends to carry but 13 players next season instead of the customary number ranking from 18 to 22. He will carry higher-salaried players, but will not have so many, and his expenses in every way will be cut down considerably. In 1907 Brown won a pennant with 13 men and believes he can repeat next Summer. He has four veteran pitchers, one veteran catcher, a recruit catcher, and his regular players. Brinker, an outfielder, can play in the infield in case of accident, while two of his pitchers are such strong hitters that they have been thinking seriously of giving up pitching to play in the outfield. Unless he has unusually hard luck with his men, Brown says he positively will not have more than 13 men under contract at any time next Summer. Last season, although he managed the club himself, he paid a manager's salary to another player, who acted as coach. Catcher Cheek will act in this capacity next season and thus do away with still another salary. Brown's progress will be watched with interest, as most minor league managers have the same idea, but have not had the courage to take the chance.

VIRGINIA LEAGUE'S NEW CIRCUIT

LYNCHBURG, Va., January 30.—That the old Virginia League is going to hit the high places and come down with many a reverberating bound next season, when the circuit, composed of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Petersburg, Newport News, Suffolk, and Rocky Mount, N. C., tries to weather the storms which inevitably will blow up, is the belief expressed by many fans who are intimately familiar with the conditions under which the organization will operate. The Portsmouth Club is in bad shape, it is reported, and something like \$5000 was cast to the four winds last season in a futile attempt to gather together a mediocre team of players. Suffolk, a new town, will go ahead finely for a while—the game is new there—and the same thing holds true of Rocky Mount. There's a chance of successful mastery of the situation, and if President Boatwright manages to steer the good old craft clear of the rocks he will have made a reputation for himself as a remarkable pilot. Elizabeth City, another "Tar-Heel" town, made a strong bid for the Richmond franchise, but the backers of Rocky Mount had an over-abundance of money, and the plum went where the orchard soil was most fertile. At the Norfolk meeting, it was patent that the directors expected to place the Portsmouth franchise in Lynchburg, and thereby strengthen the league. The magnates were disagreeably surprised when they learned that the Hill City would not consider representation in the circuit unless there were two teams in the Western section of the State, and also unless the league would undertake to clear the obligation held as a lien on the Lynchburg territory. Danville is not ripe for a revival of the game, and the sentiment in Lynchburg is such that it would be folly for anyone to even think that sufficient funds could be raised among the base ball people if getting a franchise was contingent upon the payment of a debt, amounting to about

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

A WEEKLY DIGEST OF POLICIES, EVENTS AND AFFAIRS IN THE MINOR LEAGUE WORLD

\$500, being held on this city as a lien. As the result of the recent meeting, one thing was clearly brought out, and that is that the directors can no longer suspend the Hill City over the fans in other towns as a lever to make them keep in the running teams that prove to be money-losers for those most deeply interested. For several seasons just such a stunt was successfully performed. Roanoke did it, and Portsmouth was guilty once. By losing Richmond, the Virginia League drops back from C to D class, and on account of this descension in rating it will be necessary for some of the clubs to make provisions for the sale of a number of high-priced players, who will have to go if the salary limit is observed.

THE NEW ENGLAND SITUATION

HARTFORD, Conn., January 30.—The agitation in New England and Connecticut base ball circles for an amalgamation into an ideal New England Class A circuit is gaining steady headway, thanks to weeks of magnate discussion and newspaper boosting. The leading papers of Hartford, Springfield, Worcester, Manchester and Lowell have warmly commended the project and the Boston "Herald" has unreservedly endorsed it. Of the magnates, Messrs. Clarkin, of Hartford; Carey, of Springfield; Roach, of Lowell; and Burckett, of Worcester, have put themselves on record in the papers of their respective cities. The Hartford "Courant" has taken a poll of the magnates of the two leagues it is proposed to amalgamate and finds this result: For amalgamation: Clarkin, Hartford; John J. O'Donnell, Worcester; Carey, Springfield; Roach, Lowell. Against amalgamation: Noonan, Haverhill; Pieper, Lynn; McCann, New London; Zeller, Pittsfield; Freeman, Bridgeport. Undecided: Duffy, Portland; Sullivan, Lawrence; Cameron, New Haven. President O'Rourke, of the Eastern Association, is unqualifiedly opposed to the proposed merger. President Murnane, of the New England League, doubts the practicability of the scheme, and makes no secret of his antagonistic views, but at last accounts he had professed himself as willing to go along with the procession if the majority should decide upon amalgamation. The strongest argument for the combination is that neither league can prosper separately under present conditions. A strong secondary argument is the probable appropriation of the scheme by the Federal League, which really intends to create an All-New England League of Class A caliber, necessitating invasion of the chief cities now included in the two hesitating Class B leagues. In a review of its poll as above noted, the Hartford "Courant" said: "While it can hardly be said from the following interviews that the sentiment is such that merger is assured immediately, nevertheless, the interviews show that there is not the opposition to the scheme which some would have the fans believe exists, and if these club owners could be brought together to talk things over, it is fair to presume that the opinion in favor of it would be strongly crystallized into a formidable advocacy of the plan."

THE EASTERN ASSOCIATION

WATERBURY, Conn., January 30.—The Eastern Association situation just at present is one worthy of consideration of even wiser and more far-sighted men than Eastern moguls. It would be folly to suspend for a year, as has been suggested, and President O'Rourke says a merger with the New England League would be impossible, if advisable. A six-club circuit has been tried and found undesirable, so apparently the only thing that remains is to struggle along another year with an eight-club circuit. Six of the eight clubs which finished the season of 1914 are fixtures for 1915. The other two are New Britain and Waterbury. New Britain is anything but an attractive proposition, but is considerably better than Northampton, which has been mentioned as a possible substitute. As far as this city is concerned, a local man came near hitting the nail on the head when he said a few days ago that Waterbury can get along without the league better than the league can get along without Waterbury. The Brass City, with Sunday ball assured, is an attractive base ball proposition, in spite of the miserable showing last year. If, as threatened, Waterbury is wiped off the base ball map, it is not likely that she would stay off throughout the season. The league tried it in 1912, and Jimmy Murphy shifted his New Britain Club over here before the Summer was half gone. No transfer in mid-season has been known to be a success. Therefore, if the league finally decides to once more give the six-club circuit a trial it behooves some far-sighted club owner—if there be such—who may feel somewhat shaky to shift to Waterbury before the season opens, if he is to shift at all. The solution of the local problem is local ownership. If some well-known Waterburian took over the franchise and furnished good ball, he could undoubtedly make money. But one might as well look for a needle in a haystack as to try to find such a man. There is every indication now that industrial conditions will be better this Summer than last and there is another point to be considered. If the Eastern Association launches eight clubs in the 1915 campaign it is not likely that the Federal League will attempt to go ahead with its advertised plans of operating a minor league in this section. If the Eastern decides on a six-club circuit, the Feds may grab the vacant towns and oppose the Eastern in the others. At any rate, with the opening of the season not much more than two months away, it would seem that it is pretty near time the Eastern magnates reached some definite plan of action and proceeded to carry it out.

NORTHERN LEAGUE STATUS

DULUTH, Minn., January 30.—Secretary Farrell, of the National Association, recently sent word to the owners of the Northern League clubs that the players under contract to the clubs in the old Northern League, which disbanded last Fall and was reorganized, must return to their original clubs. This announcement puts at rest all disputes between the various owners and players. Many of the players signed contracts to play elsewhere, declaring that they were free agents, but the National Association says they must return to their clubs provided the clubs are willing to pay them the extra salary in case the league is put in a lower class. The owners are now making arrangements for the playing season

and several changes are likely to be made in managers. Roy Patterson, the veteran pitcher, is slated to manage Winnipeg, if his release can be purchased from the Minneapolis Club, of the American Association; Bob Unglaub is to be switched from Fargo to Virginia, if the former city gets a suitable leader; and Denny Sullivan, a noted college coach, will handle the Fort William team.

NEW YORK LEAGUE ACTION

UTICA, N. Y., January 30.—There seems to be little doubt now but what Syracuse will remain in the New York State League and that the circuit of the Farrell organization will continue intact. The prospects of the Saline City breaking into the International League, if indeed, there really were any prospects—were sadly dimmed Thursday, when Referee in Bankruptcy Charles L. Stone postponed the sale of the Syracuse Club until February 25. The sale was to have taken place Thursday and the postponement came in compliance with a request for such action from President Farrell, of the State League. It was a shrewd move on the part of the State League head, and in his acquiescence the referee practically shut the door of Syracuse to the International League. Meanwhile President Farrell will have an opportunity to look around for a bidder with the view of retaining State League ball in that city. The Barrow organization can hardly afford to wait in uncertainty until February 25, before deciding upon its circuit for this year. If the International League is determined to transfer its Jersey City franchise it will have to get busy forthwith and consider some other city more available than Syracuse. The State League is unalterably opposed to the letting go of its Syracuse territory, and just why the International should desire that city is not easily comprehended. For several years prior to 1901, Syracuse was in the old Eastern League—now the International—and pretty much all of the time ever since it has been itching to get back into that company. It is the blessed privilege of that city, or for that matter any other city in the State League, to aspire to membership in a circuit of higher classification, but on the face of the returns from Syracuse for the last few years, there can be precious little reason for the acquirement of that territory by the International League. Uticans would, undoubtedly, like to see major league ball played in their town, but they recognize the fact that they have all they can do to sustain a State League club. During the last few seasons, Syracuse has found it rather difficult to keep its head above water in the State League, and there is plenty of evidence to justify that statement. No one will be disposed to deny that Syracuse is big enough to support a State League club, provided such club is capable of maintaining a position in the first division. If it is hard—and it seems to be—for that city to maintain a second division club in the State League, it is entirely reasonable to presume that a second division club in the International would find the going far from easy. And then, too, this year of our Lord is not likely to be the best ever for base ball in most localities, and on the theory that it is better to bear the ills one has than to fly to others that are known not of, it would seem to be the safer course for Syracuse to content itself with State League ball rather than to further impair its sporting standing by attempting to swing a franchise in the International League. The best way for that city to acquire membership in a larger organization is to show by its patronage of a State League club that it is deserving of something of higher caliber.

A NEW CALIFORNIA LEAGUE

RICHMOND, Cal., January 30.—The formation of the California State League for the season of 1915 has caused much speculation among base ball fans on the Pacific Coast. Instead of trying to play games every day, the new organization has decided to play only on Sundays and holidays. In the past this league, which has disbanded several times, tried playing every day, but found that its salary list and expenses were too great, as but few people attended the games, excepting on Sundays and holidays. Expenses will be cut down all around, and it is believed that the league will be a great success. The National Board has been asked to grant this league protection, and despite its population it is likely to be a Class D organization because of its small schedule which will not consist of more than 45 games. Six clubs will be considered in the make-up of the schedule, although it is likely that Sacramento will become a member if it can secure a suitable ground. If Sacramento is included then Alameda will also be taken in to make up an eight-club circuit. The clubs which are now members of the league are San Jose, Richmond, Stockton, Modesto, Phoenix and Oakland. The latter pair will be strictly traveling teams.

PACIFIC COAST OPTIMISTIC

LOS ANGELES, Cal., January 25.—Throughout the Pacific Coast League an optimistic spirit is plainly manifest. This is due to the magnates' belief, which is shared by the club owners, that the league is about to enter an era of renewed and continuous prosperity. The Pacific Coast League magnates now claim that 1915 will be just as good a year for them as 1914 was bad. What with the return of prosperity and the two expositions drawing people to California, these magnates look for banner crowds all year long. The league has survived three dangerous crises and emerged unshaken. The drastic circuit change necessitated when Fresno and Tacoma fell down on the job was threatening. The San Francisco fire in 1906 dealt the league a staggering blow. The reverses of last year were far from pleasing. Perhaps the "breaks" will be with the league this year.

SOUTH MICHIGAN SAFE

JACKSON, Mich., January 30.—The South Michigan League will probably continue with eight clubs instead of raising the number to 10 as has been suggested. The opening for the season will take place on April 28, according to the tentative schedule drawn up, and the season will be a longer one than 1914 if present plans materialize. President James Frank will again handle the affairs of the organization, but a board of appeal, consisting of Edward Smith, of South Bend;

W. C. Lovell, of Battle Creek, and E. C. Wheeler, of Flint, will decide protests of players and clubs, which will take much of the authority from President Frank. Instead of acting as one little happy family after their troubles had been straightened out the clubs are beginning to squabble among themselves and through newspapers, which will not do the organization any good. The league will have a double season, as in 1914, the two winners to meet at the close of the season to decide the championship of the year.

SOUTH ATLANTIC LINES

SAVANNAH, Ga., January 31.—Savannah's decision to stay in the South Atlantic League has completed the circuit and eliminates both Montgomery, formerly of the Southern League, and Weyeross. For a time it was thought that it would be impossible to raise enough money to finance the team but one hundred subscriptions of \$50 each were secured, and now the club will at once prepare for the 1915 pennant race. The schedule drawn up by George Stallings, manager of the Boston Braves, was adopted by the league and a vote of thanks tendered to the leader of the World's Champions, who is a popular idol with the fans in the Sally circuit. On the recommendation of Stallings, it is likely that Savannah will again secure Perry Lipe as manager. Lipe managed the pennant-winning teams in 1913 and 1914, but was about to sign elsewhere because it seemed as though Savannah would be unable to meet his salary demand. Stallings advised that he be secured at any cost, as his personal popularity means much to Savannah at this time.

MINOR MENTION

NEWS COMES from Muskegon, Mich., that the Muskegon Club, of the Michigan State League, has made overtures to the Federal League that may result in that little league becoming a feeder to the independent major league. Muskegon fans and magnates are sore on Organized Ball because they have to wait until five former Muskegon players, who will get a try-out with Kansas City next Spring, make good before the purchase money is paid over. Muskegon needs the money to pay last year's salaries. President E. W. Dickerson, of the league, admits that overtures have been made to the Federal League.

THE FACT THAT the Federal League is seeking to organize affiliated minor leagues is quite a tribute to the minors, inasmuch as it proves conclusively how necessary they are to the major leagues, both as recruiting and relieving stations. No wonder the National Commission made herculean efforts to keep the National Association in line for what is called "Organized Ball," but which in the last analysis in this particular matter means the two old major leagues.

THE TERRE HAUTE CLUB, of the Central League, last week made a surprising move by making formal application for admission to the I. I. I. League—of which Terre Haute was a member 12 years ago. The shift cannot be made, as the Central League, already short of clubs, will not relinquish the territory; and there is no vacancy in the I. I. I. League, unless a substitute for Rock Island be sought.

THE DAY OF SORROW for the minor league player is rapidly approaching, as by February 1 all players must have been tendered their contracts for the 1915 season. Thereafter we may expect a chorus of wails, protests and threats, as the case may be. With slashes in salary limits of all the way from \$300 to \$1200 in the minor leagues, the players who find they are not asked to stand a cut are pretty sure to be few and far between.

PRESIDENT COPPEN, of the Colonial League, says it is certain that his league—which was a newcomer last year—will do business this coming season. He isn't able to announce any plans at this moment, but declares that the league directors will be called within a few days and many questions cleared up and the future of the organization definitely determined.

THE DIRECTORS of the Georgia-Alabama League will meet in Anniston on February 6, to decide a number of important matters, and at that time the status of the league for next year will be settled. Montgomery, Pensacola, Fla., and Cedartown, Ga., are all applicants for the franchise forfeited by Gadsden, Ala., last year.

JOURNALISTIC NOTES

The Base Ball Writers' Association of the Central Association, at its recent annual meeting, elected these officers: President, Ralph Ross, of Burlington, Ia.; vice-president, W. D. Randall, Muscatine, Ia.; secretary, Victor Harris, Cedar Rapids, Ia. At the request of the writers, the Central Association has appointed Scribe A. E. Johnson, of Waterloo, Ia., as official league statistician.

At the request of the New York chapter of the National Base Ball Writers' Association, Secretary John B. Foster, of the New York National Club, is laboring over a scheme to move the press box of the Brush Stadium to the upper tier. This shift would necessitate the removal of concrete work from the private boxes of the upper row directly behind the plate. This is an improvement that has been long needed at the Polo Grounds, in all other respects up to date.

H. J. Riefler, formerly sporting editor of the Springfield, Ills., "Record," has joined the Springfield staff of the United Press, under the direction of James O. Monroe, Illinois manager.

William McKay, a prominent sporting and base ball writer of Cleveland, O., died in Cleveland, on January 23. The funeral took place under Masonic auspices on January 27, and the remains were interred in Lakewood Cemetery. The deceased was an able journalist, enjoyed a national reputation, and had a host of friends who mourn his untimely taking-off.

The sport writers on the New York daily newspapers are playing a championship pool match.

Base ball lovers in general and the scribes in particular will learn with regret that Charley Van Loan, the famous writer of base ball fiction, has been having a hard time, with more pain in store for him. It will be remembered that he sustained a broken arm in an automobile accident last Summer. It now appears that the limb was set improperly and Charley is now facing the disagreeable necessity of having the arm re-broken and re-set. He is living in Los Angeles, Cal.

Side-Lights on Base Ball

DEALING WITH THE PERSONALITIES OF THE SPORT

Stories, Both Humorous and Serious, Illustrating Thoughts, Habits and Characters of Ball Players, Managers and Magnates.

BY CHANDLER D. RICHTER

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., February 2.—Before another month has rolled around all of the major league clubs will be in their training camps and then in a few weeks we will be able to tell more about the strength of the various teams. Several managers appear to be very much up against it, but none more so than our old friend, Pat Moran. As the season approaches local fans and scribes are becoming optimistic and if this feeling continues it is going to make Moran's road even harder than it really is. The fans have apparently become reconciled to the loss of Magee, Lobert and Doinin,

Patrick Moran

while Knabe, Doolan, Seaton and Brennan are no longer thought of and the fans are foolishly trying to convince themselves that these men will not be missed. One local paper recently commented upon the excellent pitching staff of Moran. If what the Phillies possess is an excellent pitching staff we would hate to see a poor one. Moran has Alexander, the king of them all, and Erskine Mayer, a clever man who is going to be a great pitcher if a couple more reliable men can be developed, so that Moran will not be forced to work him to death as was the case last season. Doinin has been criticised for working Mayer so hard, but the criticism is unjust. He had no pitchers except Alexander and Mayer and was compelled to use Mayer, who was anxious to work, or toss away many games that were apparently won until a youngster blew up. It is all right to encourage and boost the youngsters, but to do so in this case is an injustice to manager Moran. Rixey, Baumgardner, Jacobs, Oeschger, Marshall, Mattison, Tincup, etc., are all being boosted as stars with the experience gained last season, but the writer's opinion is that none of them will ever be a high-class twirler with the exception of Baumgardner, and the latter knows so little about pitching that it will be a long time before he can be depended upon. Tincup has shown flashes of brilliancy, but our opinion is that Tincup's success is due almost entirely to his peculiar delivery, which will baffle batsmen for a time, just as "King" Cole and several other youngsters did for a season, but he has not enough natural stuff to ever develop into a real star of the Alexander and Mayer type. The latter is the real thing for possessing lots of shoots and it is a pity that he has not the physique. Manager Moran is responsible for Tincup showing as well as he did, and while Pat tried to be optimistic one can see that he really does not hope for much from any of his pitchers excepting, of course, "Alex" and Mayer. The remainder of the staff had plenty of opportunity last season to show something, but instead of improving the majority of them grew worse, especially Marshall, Oeschger, Rixey and Jacobs. Pat has an outfield that is fair, and not great, as some are anxious to believe. There is plenty of hitting strength in that outfield, but only fair fielding ability, poor base running and not much head work. The infield is really nothing at all. There is not a high-class third baseman in all the men mentioned for the post, while shortstop is again a problem. Bancroft, Cap. Neal's Coast League find, appears to be more than capable of holding up his end. He has the playing ability, but many a youngster has that until he comes to the majors. If he has the heart he will do, but that is all a chance. At second base we again find a vacancy. At first base we have Luderus, who, the writer believes, is a very much underrated man. "Ludy" is a by far better player than one generally thinks, but then his knee has been bothering him for two seasons and he may not be able to come through. Thus we find that Moran really possesses nothing but the good will of the fans, two great pitchers and one of the best catching staffs in the country. If any one can find a tougher proposition than Moran has he must look outside of major league ranks, and that includes Cincinnati. It is nice of the scribes to try to encourage Pat, but they are in reality doing him an injustice to get the fans all excited with first-division dreams when it will take some tall hustling and clever work by Pat to keep his club where it finished last season—in sixth place.

Other Managers Up Against It

"Buck" Herzog has a tough job at Cincinnati, but his path is really much smoother than Moran's, because what regulars he has are still coming, while most of the Phillies are past their hey-day. "Buck's" outfield looks just as bad as the Phillies' infield, but he has more speed in his club and more young and hustling fellows. While he has no pitchers who class with Alexander, he does have at least five men who should prove better than the average this season, with the possibility of Douglass and Schneider both developing into better men than Mayer. In catching they have the edge on the Phillies, ever since the acquisition of Doinin. Roger Bresnahan has a hard task before him at Chicago, and that the second base and shortstop positions are worrying him is shown by the fact that he has lost his head so far as to purchase a minor leaguer for second base who could not field well enough to hold down that position at

Louisville. This player is McLarry, who is a rattling good hitter and a fast man, but a poor fielder at every place he has been tried. He failed to cover enough ground at second, and Jack Hayden failed in his effort to make him a first baseman when Weinberg's hitting fell off. At Brooklyn Wilbert Robinson is faced by even a tougher proposition. Wilbert has got to find some new way to lose ball games. Last season his club outdid any in the league, scored the most runs, and looked like a speedy bunch on the paths; yet Robinson switched his pitchers about in such a manner that he had no staff after the season was half over and the team couldn't win on a half-dozen runs. In the American League Joe Birmingham is said to be up against it more than any of his colleagues in the American League, but our guess is that the Naps will finish ahead of at least three clubs in the American League. Birmingham has picked up three of the very best young ball players in the country in Barbare, Rogers and Smith, together with a couple fine young pitchers; and if New York, St. Louis and Washington can beat him out they will have to hustle and show more than they have in the past.

American League Team Defects

Bill Donovan is up against it at New York and will most likely steal that eighth position unless the other magnates decide not to "help" the new owners by turning over second-rate ball players with iron-clad contracts they wish to get rid of themselves. If they let Bill alone he might get a few good

Alexandria last Spring claims he knew the Reds would finish down in the race before the season started regardless of material. "I jes' knew all th' time that Mister Herzog's club wasn't goin' to win many games las' Summer," the Negro ejaculated the other day. "Those boys they jus' naturally eat too much. Ebery one of 'em took on weight, they stuffed themselves so much at the table."

Dunn's Stars are Going Back

Back in the latter stages of the 1914 campaign Jack Dunn proceeded to sell all of the stars of the Baltimore International League Club to major league clubs, and drew down a big price for every man sold. In commenting on Dunn as a developer of ball players we also remarked that he was quite a "bunker of magnates," and stated that he sold more "gold bricks" to the major leagues than any other three managers. We were taken to task for this by a few scribes who pointed out that every man sent up was a real star. Of all that bunch sold, and they brought \$65,000 in cold cash, which got Jack out of the hole handsomely, just two are now in the majors, and one of this pair will be back in Class AA before the season is long under way. The men who are still up are pitcher Shore, of the Red Sox, and Birdie Cree, of the New York Americans. The Red Sox appear to have corralled the real find of the season in Shore, who bids fair to be one of the very best in the land next Summer. Cree will probably go back again, unless Bill Donovan is unlucky with his young ball players. Derrick has just departed for Louisville, the home of high-priced minor leaguers, and Daniels was also ticketed to the same place. Twombly is still on the Reds' list, but is to be sent to Louisville along with Daniels if the latest reports are to be believed. At any rate he has not panned out as expected. Babe Ruth, touted as the coming "Rube" Waddell, is with Providence. Ball

"contract-jumper" who not only double-crossed his employer, but induced many others to do likewise. Nobody blames a manager in Organized Ball for doing everything possible for the good of O. B., and the same thing applies to the Feds, but to bring up arguments such as leaders of each side have brought up, is inconsistent. Organized Ball made a mistake in ever allowing the base ball battle to go into the courts, and they know it now but are too "bull-headed" to admit it, while the Feds are now making the mistake of throwing mud. As John Heydler said, it should be a battle of turnstiles, but both parties are apparently afraid of this battle. If one remembers rightly many prominent persons now connected with O. B. were considered jumpers and every other thing undesirable about 14 years ago, and they now believe that they have been purged and given the right to criticize others. Forget it and get together and make peace. The season can be made a profitable one for base ball with conditions throughout the country improving, but if both parties keep on monkeying with the law and lawyers they will find this and several coming seasons mighty lean ones for all parties concerned.

Coast League Likes American Leaguers

The Pacific Coast League is quite fond of American League players, judging by the number of men from Johnson's circuit who are now playing in Baum's flourishing league. For some reason or other the coast towns appear to steer clear of National League players. This may possibly be due to the fact that the Red and White Sox have trained in California, and the Mackmen played several exhibition strings out there. In this way the fans may have taken a liking to American Leaguers, and, being satisfied, the managers have seen no occasion to shift their affections. Three of the clubs have "working agreements" with American League clubs. Cleveland and Portland deal together exclusively; Los Angeles was hooked up with Washington, but if latest reports are true, the White Sox will use the "Angels" as a farm in the future, while Detroit has just closed up a deal with Henry Berry for San Francisco's best. Some of the American Leaguers now playing in the Pacific Coast League are Doc White, Joe Berger, Purtell, Johnson, Margert, Wolter, Hughes, Love, Calvo, Borton, Litschi, Klepfer, Abels, Killaly, Lindsay, Prough, Leiffield, Shallier, Pernoll, O'Leary, Downs, Evans, Krause and too many others to need mentioning.

Is Wagner Through?

Harold Lanigan is at Hot Springs, preparing for the invasion of the major league clubs who will do their training at the famous resort and, as usual, is syndicating base ball yarns. One that Lanigan tells is highly interesting, inasmuch as it bears out the contention of another well-known trainer who looked Hans Wagner over carefully last Summer, after not having seen the famous Teuton for years. Here is what Lanigan says: "There's a massive darkey at the Hotel Eastman bathhouse named Evans, who has been scrubbing and rubbing Hans Wagner for the past dozen years. We asked him the other day if the bandy-legged Dutchman was as good a man as formerly, and he replied: 'No, boss; not quite. Hans is still a whale of a fellow. But he ain't what he used to be. Why, in the old days I never could make him wince, no matter how hard I dug my fingers into his frame when rubbing him. We all had him figured just about the palest man what ever bathed at the Eastman. His muscles are tightening up on him. That is—they ain't so supple or as free as they used to be. But Hans is still some pumpkins. He sure is.'"

THE BASE BALL RECORD

Spalding's Official Publication for 1915
the Most Complete Work of the Kind
Yet Issued.

Nothing more surely points to the approach of Spring than the annual appearance of Spalding's Official Base Ball Record, which in its increased size—500 pages—is a formidable volume of the past year's performances in the major and minor league arenas. Besides the usual records of the players, combined with league statistics and the fascinating diagrams of the weekly race in each organization, the Record also contains the "Hall of Fame," as selected by the editor, a history of the year in base ball, special compilations of extra hits and other unusual events in the National and American Leagues, World's Series reviews, city series, important records of bygone years, lists of "300" and "400" hitters for over 30 years, and other interesting statistics.

THE MATTER OF RECORDS

for various events in connection with base ball has always received close attention, but this year the entire list was revised by Editor John B. Foster. There is probably no writer in the United States more familiar with base ball from every angle than Mr. Foster, who, in addition to his duties as editor of the Record and Guide, is also secretary of the New York National League Base Ball Club. Mr. Foster has been assisted in the compilation by Charles D. White, the first president of the Eastern—now International—League. Mr. White is known throughout the base ball world as one of the best informed men on the national game. These records are presented in a more attractive form typographically than previously and are sure to elicit much favorable comment. The pictorial section, printed on a much better grade of paper than formerly, is most attractive, while the actual size of the page is increased.

COLLEGE BASE BALL INCLUDED.

An important addition to the Record is the inclusion of college ball statistics, in the shape of records, notes, schedules, names of players and managers, and other information, while the list of pictures comprises nearly 100 institutions. Spalding's Official Base Ball Record is for sale by all newsdealers, or will be sent on receipt of price, 25 cents, by the publishers, the American Sports Publishing Company, 21 Warren Street, New York.

In the National Spot Light

J. C. Isaminger in the Philadelphia "North American"

AFTER carefully rereading the case, Judge Landis, with Solomon-like demeanor, reached his decision. He ruled that he would like to swap jobs with Walter Johnson, Walter will fight the case to the Supreme Court.

It is said that the American Kennel Club will blacklist that base ball man who traded a perfectly good dog for a ball player.

Umpire George Cockill should fill the bill. He is big enough to fill anything.

It was fitting that at the anti-trust trial a comparison between ball players and the Oscar Hammerstein grand opera suit was drawn, there being so many grand opera stars in base ball.

There is a deadly peril that while he has the chance, Judge Landis may grant the Cincinnati base hit a new trial.

Answer to query: There is no truth in the report that Governor Brumbaugh will prevent Lajolo from playing in Pennsylvania on the ground that the child labor act is violated.

It can be asserted without fear of contradiction that every old ball tosser who played prior to 1890 was once a teammate of Billy Sunday.

For the dignity of base ball, we are glad that so far Kollie Zelder's bunions have played no part in the court proceedings in Chicago.

It is said that the next move of the American League will be an aerial raid on Haddock, Ga., the home of George Stallings.

Although he is the best prepared man in base ball for doing it, Jim Thorpe has never jumped.

The Feds tried to make much capital because a base ball man traded a player for a dog, but it forgot to inform the court that the Cubs once traded Artie Hofman for a Leach.

Those Feds overlooked presenting the case of Buster Brown in their prayer to Judge Landis. Brown, while a member of the Phillies several years ago, went a full season without pitching an inning, yet he received full salary.

In going from the major leagues to the minors, Claude Derrick is a facile and consistent performer.

Judge Landis will never make an umpire. He reserves his decisions.

President Tener prides himself on his staff of lawyers. They are giving universal satisfaction, for not a bottle has been thrown at them since they started.

"Base ball is labor, and not an article of commerce," says Organized Ball's attorney, Tom Seaton, who pitched every other day for the Brookfords last year, has officially O. K.'d this utterance.

John K. Tener has quit the strife and the turmoil of politics for the serene career of the presidency of a base ball league involved in a war.

Rigler, Orth and Cockill, of the National League umpire staff, would make a formidable center trio for any football line.

It is ridiculous to credit the rumor that George Wharton Pepper is going to jump to the Feds. He is serving under a long-term, iron-clad contract which he drew up himself.

The population of America is estimated at 100,000,000 persons, of whom 90,990,990 want the base ball war settled speedily.

An open letter to the base ball warriors: "There are 5000 golf courses in the United States and Canada."

An easy way to gain fame is to bear the name of Cobb. Ty leads the American League and Irving the Lecture League.

young ball players, but if they are going to impose upon him five or six of the said second-raters with iron-clad contracts he will have no room for good youngsters under the new player-limit rule. At Washington Griffith is paying so much attention to that "celebrated grass-hopper," who will probably be idle all year anyway, that he is overlooking the fact that his ball club needs much strengthening. In fact, even with Johnson it does not look like a first-division club in the same race with Boston, Athletics, Chicago and Detroit. Griff's outfield consists of Milan and two good throwers and base runners. His infield needs strengthening in two places. One of these positions is at second base and the other is at a most important station where the veteran now holding down the position is probably "all in." Boehling is so anxious to jump contracts that he is probably overlooking the fact that several expert specialists believe that his knee will never be strong enough to stand the strain of pitching unless he is carefully nursed. Griffith fortunately has three rattling good young pitchers in Shaw, Bentley and Ayres. The latter did not go so well last season, but he has the stuff and plenty of nerve and is bound to be a star in time. In catching, with Ainsmith and Henry, to say nothing of Williams, Washington runs second to none; but the infield and outfield must be plugged up or many a game that should be easy with good pitching is going to be lost. In the Federal League all of the clubs need strengthening, but the league is wisely signing its players accordingly, and, aside from Kansas City, all of the teams appear much stronger, and they should make a great race. Pittsburgh has strengthened considerably and despite ridicule from our friend, Jimmy Jerpe, it is likely to show a much better brand of ball than the Pirates, unless that team learns that playing ball is a serious proposition, and that they are playing ball all month and not only on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Probably the Truth

A colored waiter who served the table of the ball players of the Cincinnati Club...

players who have been up in the majors a few years and who've got back to the minors are, as George Stallings says, "constant temptations." They always bring a big price, but seldom come through.

They Are Still Abusing McCloskey

The following appeared in Jimmy Jerpe's column in a recent issue of the Pittsburgh "Gazette-Times":

"One of Fred Clarke's best stories about his old boss and discoverer, John J. McCloskey, was told at the Colonial-Anner dinner. It tells of early troubles the old Louisville Club had with Cincinnati mobs. One day while the bus conveying the Colonels was passing through the Rhineland market district the players were bombarded by a shower of fruit and vegetables. Clarke and Wagner and others grabbed bats and were about to alight from the bus and give chase when McCloskey, who was on the box with the driver, yelled: 'Come back here, you fellows. If you would keep your mouths shut they would not bother you.' Just then a cucumber hit McCloskey flush behind the ear and a tomato splashed square across his face, filling his mouth, eyes and nose. He grabbed a bat, leaped from the box and chased the mob so far that the bus got away and he had to walk to the park."

This yarn was appreciated by the fans, but the Stove Leaguers do not know what they missed by not having Amos Strunk present. Amos played under McCloskey at Milwaukee when all the other members of the team were of the old school who liked "rough-house," etc., and the Athletics' fleet outfielder can tell more funny stories about McCloskey and Milwaukee than we ever heard from the stage or anywhere. Amos has the rare ability to impersonate anyone he refers to in his jokes and it is certainly a treat to hear the usually quiet outfielder tell these stories.

And Still They Roast

A few days ago there appeared an interview with a prominent base ball manager roasting the Federal League and giving some advice to ball players who are said to have contemplated jumping to the Federal League. The strange part of this interview lies in the fact that the said manager was once a jumper himself, not a reserve clause jumper, but a

The International League

DOINGS AND SAYINGS IN PRESIDENT BARROW'S LEAGUE

Official Announcement Made That the League Will Not Go Out of Business, Even If It Be Necessary to Get Down to Six Clubs.

SPECIAL TO "SPORTING LIFE"

NEW YORK, N. Y., February 1.—President Barrow, of the International League, is indignant over an article in the "Evening Sun" to the effect that the International League had practically decided to suspend indefinitely and that in the near future 150 players would be thrown out of employment. According to the story affairs in the International League have reached a crisis and the league is ready to blow. It was pointed out that, notwithstanding the fact that the National Commission shipped the Buffalo Club \$25,000 last season to fight the Buffeds, Jake Stein and his Buffalo henchmen were prepared to throw up the sponge. The article further pointed out that the European war had killed base ball interest in Toronto and Montreal, and that Newark is practically a dead issue over the "intense admiration" Newarkers have cultivated for Charles Ebbets. Rochester and Providence are the only good base ball cities left, according to the article, and the players of the latter club are on strike for more money.



Edward Barrow

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NOT READY TO QUIT

Despite the fact that the league at present seems a little rocky, it is not as bad off as painted. Ed Barrow says the International League would be a fine bunch if they were ready to quit after only one year of fighting. He says there are thousands of dollars invested in the International League and that his club owners are prepared to fight to protect their properties. Rather than suspend hostilities, Barrow said, his league would be prepared to go along with six clubs next season, though only as a last resort. Should it be found impossible to enter Syracuse an International League team may be placed in either Worcester, Springfield, Hartford, Albany or Scranton. All of these cities have been represented in the old Eastern League at some time or other. It is generally understood that the National Commission is prepared to stretch a point to help the Barrow circuit to land back on its feet. Barrow has issued the following statement:

PRESIDENT BARROW'S STATEMENT

"The International League has no intention of going out of business now or at any other time. The story published in one of the local evening papers to this effect is absolutely untrue and without foundation. The International League is in the field to stay, and it is ridiculous to intimate that men like McCaffery and Soloman, of Toronto; Chapin, of Rochester; Lichtenhein, of Montreal; Stein and Hart, of Buffalo; Lannin, of Providence, and Ebbets and McKeever, of Newark, all having thousands of dollars invested, would lay down

AFTER ONE BAD SEASON.

The transfer of Baltimore to Richmond has already been completed, and if our plans to transfer the Jersey City Club to Syracuse should fall through we have other cities in view for the Jersey City franchise. Prominent local people in Jersey City have offered to take that club over and continue it in the International League. I will say further that rather than suspend operations we are prepared to go along with six clubs for one season; this action, however, would only be taken as a last resort."

Still Waiting at Buffalo

BUFFALO, N. Y., January 29.—"Nothing in connection with the affairs of the Buffalo Internationals will be done until the meeting of the New York State League takes place," said Jacob J. Stein, president of the Bisons yesterday. "We will not re-sign Clymer as manager, or pick another pilot, or, in fact, do anything until it is decided whether or not Syracuse is coming into the circuit." As has been announced before the Buffalo Club has sent out no contracts so far. Whoever is appointed manager will have some hustling to do, as a third baseman to take the place of Vaughn is needed. And, by the way, Roney Roach's position at short will also have to be taken care of. No doubt the Bisons will have a number of new players on the team this year. The fact that some of the big leaguers will unload this Spring assures the Barrow league aggregations of some good players of big league calibre who are sure to be replaced by men just a little bit faster.

NEW YORK STATE LEAGUE

Legal Obstacles Interposed to Present the Transfer of the Syracuse Territory to the International League.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., January 27.—Upon the request of John H. Farrell, president of the New York State League, the sale of the franchise of the bankrupt Syracuse Stars (Incorporated) will be postponed until February 27, by Charles L. Stone, referee in bankruptcy. That this action seals the doom of the project which it was hoped would bring International League base ball to this city was the opinion offered by men identified with the sport here. Representing the interests of the New York State League and the owners of the various component clubs, Mr. Farrell bought the postponement through the office of Frank J. Miller, attorney for William R. Quinn, trustee in bankruptcy. William Rubin, representing dual interests, agreed to the postponement of the sale when it was made clear to him that the State League club owners had taken a positive stand against permitting the International League to acquire the Syracuse property rights of the State League. According to Mr. Rubin, who represents Messrs. Burchell, of the defunct Syracuse Club, the postponement of the sale was asked for in order to defeat the International League proposition.

PASSING OF A SPORTSMAN

UTICA, N. Y., January 30.—The people of this city were shocked on the morning of the 26th inst., to hear of the suicide of William E. Richards, one of Utica's best known and most popular citizens. Mr. Richards was a member of the fire insurance firm of Thomson, Richards & Brady, and was connected with many local organizations. Since the formation of the Utica Field Club, in the Spring of 1907, he had served as a director and was one of its most active members. He was a regular attendant at the State League games in this city and was much interested in base ball, light harness racing, curling and other healthful sports. He shot himself through the head at his place of business, on lower Genesee street. His funeral took place on the afternoon of the 26th inst., and was largely attended. What prompted Mr. Richards to take his own life is unknown. Business affairs he believed to have caused him some anxieties, and for some time he had been a sufferer from severe headaches. He was in his fifty-seventh year. His passing is deeply regretted by all who knew him. His wife and two sons survive. The Utica Field Club has signed two new players, who will be tried out in the Spring. One is William E. Stuber, of this city, and he can play either infield or outfield positions. The other is N. C. Pattie, of Gainsville, Va. He is an outfielder, and was recommended by Frank Brower, of the Utica Club.

CENTRAL LEAGUE CHATTER

Grand Rapids has purchased catcher Leo McGraw from Milwaukee.

The veteran catcher, Heinie Peitz, has been appointed an umpire for this league by President Hellbroner.

The Grand Rapids Club has purchased pitchers Penner and Gilbert from the Cadillac Club, of the Michigan State League. Gilbert is a southpaw. Both men made excellent records last year.

Evansville has bought Robert Roche from the Owensboro Club, of the Kilty League. Terre Haute has bought McKinley Allen and Jesse Balley, of Henderson, in the same league, the first named a baseman and the other a pitcher.

Several changes in the Central League were announced last week in the official bulletin issued by President Louis Hellbroner, as follows: Released by purchase: By Dayton to Grand Rapids, Arista De Haven; by Cadillac to Grand Rapids, George Gilbert; by W. K. Penner; by Edmonton to Dayton, Bus Povey; by Calro to Dayton, A. L. Wise, Joseph B. Horan.

Sayings in the Southland

LATEST DOINGS IN PRESIDENT KAVANAUGH'S FIELD

Manager Dobbs Early on the Job at New Orleans Owing to Anticipated Difficulties With Players Over Compulsory Salary Cuts.

NEW ORLEANS, La., January 30.—How to sign members of the 1915 Pelicans at reduced salaries as called for by the retrenchment



John Dobbs

policy adopted by the National Association is the problem President Heineman and Manager Dobbs, of the local club, have before them. Dobbs arrived in New Orleans Tuesday. He comes for the purpose of suggesting "cuts" the different players are to stand. For the present neither Heinemann or Dobbs say they are quite ready to "bust" loose the 1915 line-up. The only item of interest picked from Manager Dobbs' first interview concerning the players, and the fans are frank to say they've heard enough of the magnates since the World's Series, is the probable return of outfielder Otto Burns. Dobbs is not quite sure Otto is going to favor a cut in salary. Manager Dobbs' biggest job, once the monetary question is disposed of will be to assemble a representative pitching staff. Men will have to be found to replace Wilson and Walker. Also, there is a possibility that Jim Bagby's uniform will be given to some one else. The hurling staff to be built up will have Weaver and Kissinger. Recruit Davis, ex-Auburn phenom, is to report. So will Jack Frost, the elongated curve exponent who starred with the Little Pels several years ago in the Cotton States League. Outside of the pitching staff Dobbs' team looks like it is ready for business. Coyle, first; Flick, second; Blum or Knaupp, short; Murphy or Knaupp, third; and Hendryx, Sylvester and Edmondson for the outfield, in all probability, will be the men given uniforms on the opening day of the season. Behind the bat Dobbs will depend upon Bob Higgins for the biggest part of the work, while De Berry, purchased by the Naps from Paducah, Ky., and sent to the Pels last Fall,

will be the second-string man. In regards to Jim Bagby, Manager Dobbs says he is not in position to discuss James. Of course, Jawm would like Bagby to forget the idea of becoming a member of the Federals. Bagby could not only be of service to the Pels from a hurling standpoint, but he is also capable of doing outfield duty and a fairly good hitter when called upon in a pinch.

THE VIRGINIA LEAGUE

The Old Dominion League Compelled to Reach Into North Carolina to Get a Town to Replace Richmond.

BY W. C. BRIGGS

NORFOLK, Va., January 30.—Rocky Mount, N. C., has been awarded the berth in the Virginia League to fill the vacancy caused by the release of the Richmond territory to the International League. The action was taken by the league directors at the end of a four-hour session, on January 25, when the claims of both Rocky Mount and Elizabeth City had been fully considered and discussed. The two North Carolina towns were the only applicants. Lynchburg was represented but its delegate, who was here at the request of President J. O. Boatwright, did not make any application for the franchise. Thus, in the tenth year of its existence, the Virginia League will go outside of the Old Dominion to round out its circuit. It will continue to operate as a Class C circuit, as the directors figure present combined the population of six cities, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, Petersburg, Suffolk and Rocky Mount is large enough to meet the requirements of the National Association. This means that the salary limit of \$1400 a month, excluding that of player-manager, and a player limit of 13 men, will remain as in the past. In addition to awarding the franchise to Rocky Mount the directors decided on how to dispose of the \$12,500 received for the sale of the Richmond territory to the International League. It will be divided into five equal shares of \$2500, to go to the Norfolk, Newport News, Portsmouth and Petersburg Clubs. President Boatwright has not yet received the actual cash from the committee of Richmond business men who were promoting the International League club for Richmond. He has a joint note for the \$2500, signed by eight responsible business men of Richmond. It is payable February 28. Rocky Mount was awarded the franchise over Elizabeth City by a unanimous vote. The players reserved by the Richmond Club and those signed by it since the close of the past season were sold to Rocky Mount for \$500. Two hundred dollars of this amount was included in the certified check of \$1000 which E. W. Penner and W. S. Royce, the members of the Rocky Mount committee, offered as a guarantee for the Tar Heel city to finish the season. The other \$300 is to be paid when the players belonging to the Richmond Club have accepted terms with Rocky Mount.

Manager W. D. (Dave) Gaston, of the Americus Club, of the Georgia State League, has been engaged as manager of the Jacksonville Club.

Spring Base Ball

It is just one big month right after another— all the year round—in base ball

Winter Months—the Period of Statecraft, for Planning, Rule Revising, Team Rebuilding and all Fundamental Groundwork will soon give way to Spring—the Season of Mental and Physical Awakening—the Time for Action Among Managers and Men

when, under the first inspiring call of the outdoor spirit, teams will be assembled, new personnels drilled and grilled and every player's senses trained to keen perception, his sinews to untiring performance for the quick wit, strong arm and fleet foot that win in base ball. Spring ushers in the training period, which builds the teams for the line-up, puts iron vitality in the blood and valor in the hearts of players, starting them off toward the zenith of their ambitions in the achievement of victory.

"SPORTING LIFE" will give a Faithful Forecast from every Angle and make it Possible for you

to quickly review each week, all the important preliminary activities, taking the fans through this experimental period of determining who are to be chosen among the hundreds of reconstructed teams to be contenders in the early struggles for supremacy, and to put them on edge for the line-up over the **WHOLE** field of the 40 or more leagues, 300 or more clubs, and 5000 or more players in **PROFESSIONAL BASE BALL**, and of the 3000 or more gun clubs that are under the auspices of the **INTERSTATE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF TRAP SHOOTING**. And, **SPORTING LIFE'S** editorials on the more important affairs of base ball and trap shooting are Especially Illuminating.

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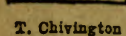
American Association

FURNISHES A SENSATION BY MAJOR LEAGUE CLAIM

President Chivington Admits the Aspirations of His League, Also That It Intends to Press for Exemption From Draft.

BY HARVEY T. WOODRUFF

CHICAGO, Ills., February 1.—When President J. C. McGill, of the Indianapolis American Association Club, made the apparently inspired announcement that the National Commission would eliminate the draft in favor of the Association, President T. M. Chivington, in this city, hastened to confirm the report. There is no question that the Class AA leaguers have been assured by one or more members of the National Commission that such action will be taken. Owner McGill's manifesto might possibly be questioned as a war bluff by his rivals because of the fact that the Indianapolis Feds are said to be offering bonds for public consumption on the patriotic plea that Indianapolis citizens should support a major league club, were it not



T. Chivington

FOR CHIVINGTON'S FOLLOW-UP. Chivington has been exceedingly discreet for several years in all his public utterances concerning the triumvirate of base ball. That seems to have been the league policy since the cold turn-down given a few years ago, after some of its members had threatened what they might do to Organized Ball if certain concessions were not granted. Kid glove diplomacy has been followed since and whatever grievances the American Association has nursed have not found their way into public prints through any interview accredited to President Tom. Therefore his words at this time are significant. That the American Association would request that the draft rule be

ELIMINATED AS A WAR MEASURE to combat the Federal League claims of major league class in Indianapolis and Kansas City was forecast in these columns several weeks ago. The request was made while the members of the National Commission were attending the base ball trial before Federal Judge Landis, in this city. Both McGill and Owner Tebeau, of Kansas City, the two American Association magnates most affected by the Feds, also came to Chicago at that time. They wanted moral support in their struggle and they wanted it badly. Apparently, they were told to go ahead. On the other hand, the response from the National Commission was hardly as cordial as expected. Messrs. Harrmann, Johnson and Tener politely admitted the matter had been discussed and such action might be taken. That was all. Perhaps they were going slowly because of the International and Pacific Coast Leagues, which are also in the AA classification. Already the strident voice of the Coast magnates has been heard demanding the same concessions as may be granted to the American Association. While there has been

PLENTY OF CONVERSATION that the American Association would thus become a major league, talk naturally encouraged by the club owners, President Chivington has been entirely non-committal on the subject of circuit changes to make the major league grow fit more gracefully. He admits the St. Paul franchise may be transferred, but that has been Stove League talk all Winter. It is a fact that plans are pending to retain the St. Paul franchise for its non-appreciative fans. In speaking of circuit changes, Mr. Chivington says: "The matter of changing our circuit requires careful consideration. We have cities which in normal times are perfectly satisfactory. Five of the eight clubs—Cleveland, Columbus, Milwaukee, Kansas City and St. Paul—own the ground upon which the parks are located. Certainly we should not change unless all the members of the CIRCUIT CAN BE BETTERED. Why should Cleveland be mentioned as one of the franchises likely to be transferred. Cleveland is the sixth largest city in the United States. It ought to support two major league clubs. In addition, we have there the first class plant of the Cleveland Americans at our disposal. Chicago is not attractive at the present time with three clubs already there. The same applies to St. Louis." From these statements it might be inferred that the Association is likely to retain its present circuit unless new developments arise, and to center its fights against the Feds in the beleaguered cities of Indianapolis and Kansas City. It is an open secret that the American Association wanted to

COME INTO CHICAGO a year ago, when some of the major magnates were refusing to take the Feds seriously. They were wanted to locate on the North Side, probably on the very site of the present Federal plant, the ground being owned by the Cantillon and Archambault, of the Minneapolis American Association Club, and now rented to the Feds for a 99-year term. One cannot help wondering whether some of the American Association magnates are not hoping that the Federal League eventually may be annihilated in the present war and that its really handsome park with a seating capacity of 15,000 be placed on the market by its present owners. If such a condition should arise, who would be more natural bidders for the stands, than Messrs. Cantillon and Archambault, owners of

the land, and club owners of the American Association?

COLUMBUS CHEER

Ohio Capital City Enthused Over Hulswitt's Managerial Appointment.

By A. D. Murphy

COLUMBUS, O., January 30.—The announcement that Rudy Hulswitt, former short-stop of three Columbus championship teams, would be the next field manager of the Columbus Base Ball Club was well received by Columbus fans, and many expressions of approval were heard on the streets last week after the news had been made public property. That Rudy has a warm place in the hearts of the laymen for his share in winning pennants for Columbus as a player is undisputed, and all fadom will be pulling for him to bring another flag to the Capital City

AS A TEAM LEADER

Hulswitt is not without managerial experience. Two years ago he acted as manager for the Louisville Colonels during the training season and in the early part of the championship race, while Jack Hayden was hovering between life and death during an attack of typhoid fever. He did the job so well that the Colonels entered the season in the best of shape and were pennant contenders all year long. Last season Hulswitt managed the Jersey City team, of the International League, and his failure to land high up in the pennant race was not his fault, as he was working for a club which

WAS PRACTICALLY BANKRUPT

and consequently was unable to purchase any player of Class AA variety. When Hulswitt secured his release from the Jersey City Club in December of last year it was reported that he might become the leader of the Senators, and he certainly must have had some inkling of this fact because he refused to listen to overtures from the Jersey City Club officials to return there this season. Hulswitt seems

MORE THAN PLEASED

to land the berth here. He knows all Columbus fadom, Columbus conditions, and conditions on the team he is to pilot. Ever since he started playing ball in Columbus he has made this city his Winter home. Since signing to manage the team he has received assurance from all the members of the team, who, by the way, are all signed for the season, that his choice is acceptable to them. It may be possible that Hulswitt will become a playing manager this year. He played for Jersey City last year, until injured about mid-season, and while he was in the game he hit far over the 300 mark and fielded his position in faultless style.

JOHN DELL AND JIMMY JONES,

who were Columbus outfielders for parts of last season, were Columbus visitors last week. Dell was on his way home to Cincinnati from a Connecticut city, where he has been working for a firm engaged in building submarines. Jones, who was a Milwaukee champion at the wind-up of the last A. campaign, is wintering in London, Ky. He had business in Cincinnati and after getting it over decided to come on to Columbus for a short visit. Each hunted up Bill Hinchman the first thing after reaching the city and with him called on the Columbus Club officials as well as a lot of their Columbus acquaintances.

READY FOR START

In about another month ball players will be breaking away from Columbus. John McGraw will call pitcher Fred Cook, from whom he is expecting a great deal, toward the Marlin camp late in February; Hinchman, Gerber and McQuillan, of the Pittsburgh Club, probably will break away about March 6; catcher Hank Gowdy may be the first to depart, as it is possible that he will be ordered to Hot Springs about February 23 to work with the members of the Boston National pitching staff.

NEWS NOTES

The champion Brewers will assemble at West Baden, on March 15, to start their annual Spring training grind, according to announcement made last week. Only the veterans will be taken to the Indiana resort. They will remain there a week or ten days and then will go to Owensboro, Ky., where they will join the youngsters. About 25 men will be taken South. Lanky Jack Knight, who has been chosen to lead the Cleveland American Association Club, will carry only 16 additional players on his roster this season. Knight figures himself good enough to play the short field regularly. Ray Kirtle is to appear at first base. Earl Gardner at second, and Bates at third. From Bill Stump, Tom Reilly and Larry Pezold, a utility infielder will be selected. Knight figures on four outfielders, three catchers and six pitchers.

THE TEXAS LEAGUE

Louisiana Back in the Circuit Owing to the Purchase of the Austin Franchise By Shreveport Parties.

GALVESTON, Tex., January 20.—The Texas League Directors met here on January 9 and 10, to lay the lines for the coming season. The sensation of the meeting was the announcement that the Austin franchise had been sold to Messrs. W. R. Hirsch and W. A. Sullivan, of Shreveport, La., for \$60,000, and that the purchase has been ratified by the league directors. Ten days are allowed for payment of the purchase price. Each club in the league contributed the difference toward the sum asked by Austin, \$37,500, and that offered by the Shreveport men, \$60,000. It was decided to open the season on April 8. Notable new-by-laws are: "No second division club shall at any time during the season sell or trade any player to a club in the first division. "All games shall be championship games. The first game of a double-header must go nine innings and the second by mutual agreement may go seven innings, unless called by the umpire. "No umpire shall be allowed to stay more than nine days in any one town. "All speech-making and presentations must take place before the first game.

"Before an umpire can expel a player from the game, he must fine him first and then notify the captain or manager that fine has been assessed."

Magnates attending the meeting were: W. R. Hirsch and W. A. Sullivan, Shreveport; Doak Roberts and Otto Sens, Houston; Ed Stedman, Beaumont; Ellis Hardy and League President Davidson, Waco; A. D. Dolson and R. P. Williamson, Galveston; Paul Lavigne, Fort Worth; Joe Gardner, Dallas; Morris Block, San Antonio.

NEWS NOTES

The Shreveport Club has signed pitcher Hornsby, late of Dallas.

George O. Ledy has been appointed manager of the San Antonio team.

Leo Garvin, secured from the Winston-Salem Club, of the North Carolina League, has been appointed manager of the Shreveport Club.

BILLIARD NEWS

BY JOHN CREAHAN

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., February 1.—Alfred De Oro, champion at three-cushion billiards; James Blair, and Frank Jones—two local amateur players, played an exhibition game of 50 points at Patrick Donahue's five billiard hall, on Eleventh street above Chestnut, on the night of January 19. The amateurs played 25 points each—or were to—while De Oro was to play 50. As I did not remain to see Mr. Jones play, I cannot comment on his game. He scored 14 while Mr. De Oro made 25. Jones' high run was 3; De Oro's, 24. With Mr. Blair lost by one point, the score being 24 to 25 for De Oro, he might, I imagine, easily rank with the best of three-cushion players. He plays with great confidence, and does count occasionally—which seems to be the best that any three-cushion player can do. His high run was 3. It is possible that Mr. De Oro was in his worst playing form imaginable. It would be rather difficult to conceive of any man doing worse work—that is for a man professing to be a master at such a game. The truth is, as I have frequently stated: It is not the fault of the players, but the game. Commencing on his third inning, Mr. De Oro failed to count 20 times in succession, and failed to count 49 times in his 25-point game with Mr. Blair. De Oro's high run was 3.

In his game with Mr. Jones, Mr. De Oro played better, as he missed but 19 times out of 31 innings. His high run was 4. This may be considered remarkable playing for those who think so. They are quite welcome to their opinion. As a matter of courtesy to the players, I refuse to express mine. As there was no admission charged there was a very large attendance. I have rarely seen a finer attendance in public. Mr. De Oro is looking remarkably well, and is distinguished for all of the polish and graces of a high-toned gentleman; which remarks are quite applicable to his opponents.

Pierre Maupome, of this city, and Charles Legros, of Cincinnati, played 50 points, three cushions, at Allinger's room, on the night of January 20. There was a fair attendance considering the condition of the weather. As Mr. Maupome's friend, Mr. Alfred De Oro, was present, the Philadelphia man up his mind that he would show De Oro how the three-cushion game should be played. Maupome made one run of 4, five runs of 3, six runs of 2, and 19 single counts. He also failed to count but 44 times, which is probably rather remarkable at this style of billiards. The game was played in 75 innings. This was probably one of the best games that Mr. Maupome has played in this city. Mr. Legros is a very fine-looking man, physically and otherwise. He plays with great confidence, but also with great modesty. I very much doubt if he did himself justice on this occasion. It is certain that he had more than his share of hard luck. His high run was 4. The score was 50 to 29 for Legros.

Clarence E. Green, who has been living in Chicago since he left Philadelphia—his home—about 25 years ago, is now associated with Louis Bensinger's new room, on Monroe street, which opened some time ago, with 25 tables, which is the second establishment which Mr. Bensinger has in that city. If I am not mistaken, Mr. Bensinger is a brother of the late Moses Bensinger, and an uncle of B. E. Bensinger, president of the B. B. Collender Company. There is a remarkable resemblance between the two brothers, and while I never had the pleasure of meeting Louis Bensinger, I should know him at a glance through his resemblance to his jolly and good-natured brother. I congratulate Mr. Bensinger in having so experienced, reliable and a man of such ability and integrity connected with his new establishment as Mr. Green; and I congratulate Mr. Green in being associated with Mr. Bensinger, who, if he is half as good-natured as he looks, may account for his happiness and competency.

Parker A. Byers, who died recently at his home at Lafayette, Ind., at the age of 63 years, was but little known to the billiard world of today, who perhaps the exception of Samuel May, of Toronto; A. E. Troescher, Timothy Flynn and Thomas Foley, who were probably born in the early part of the past century. Charles P. Miller, Maurice Daly, George F. Slosson, Albert Troescher, W. P. Mussey, W. M. Douds and William E. Rockhill are all no doubt familiar with the professional career of Mr. Byers, while in the West, where he lived during his life, he was of course much better known than here in the East. The papers have stated that Mr. Byers played professional billiards for 45 years, and also that he was once champion at three cushions, which is probably a misnomer, and yet such may have been the fact, as at that peculiar species of imbecility anything seems possible but the very general impossibility of counting, or at least, the failure on the part of the players to count.

According to billiard history, Parker A. Byers belonged to an era of not only State champions in this country, but also for billiard billiards. In 1869 he was State champion of Indiana, where by the way, they had two State champions at that time, which may seem like a strange anomaly, which was the result of rival Billiard Associations, or nearly ten years before the creation of The National Billiard Association of this city, and later on, The American Billiard Association. On March 2, 1871, Mr. Byers and William F. Kenny played a match game of 1200, four ball, at the Academy of Music, Lafayette, Ind., for \$400, which was won by Mr. Byers. This contest is said to have been the first known four-ball match that was played on a 5x10 table. It is a matter of history that it is very much to be doubted if the billiard business was ever as popular in the public rooms of this country as it was during the era of State champions and the four-ball game. This subject would be too prolix to dwell on now even if space permitted. Later on I may again refer to the same.

William Hoppe and Melbourne Inman played an exhibition of 900 points, English billiards at Detroit, Mich., on January 18. The score was 600 to 129 for Hoppe. Winner's average, 60 2-3; high run, 212; loser's average, 14 4-3; high run, 77.

Theodore Armstrong, who died recently at his home at Chestnut Hill, was a well-known amateur player, and had a fine billiard room in his home. Mr. Armstrong was a member of the Union League.

In their first exhibition of 400 points, balk-line, at Detroit, Mich., on the 19th of January, Hoppe defeated Inman, 400 to 117. Winner's average, 30 10-13; high run, 168; loser's average, 9 3-4; high run, 50. The score in the second exhibition was 400 to 62 for

Inman. Winner's average, 22 2-9; high run, 110; loser's average, 3 11-17; high run, 18.

At Memphis, Tenn., on January 20, Jacob Schaefer defeated Marcus Catton, 300 to 113. Winner's average, 21 3-7; high run, 78; loser's average, 8 9-13; high run, 20.

At Jackson, on January 20, Jacob Schaefer defeated Marcus Catton, 300 to 147. High run, winner, 67; average, 11 7-13; loser's average, 7 7-20; high run, 25.

Koji Yamada defeated Albert Cutler, 300 to 293, at Chicago, Ills., on January 20. Winner's average, 9 12-32; loser's average, 9 5-22.

It may seem rather paradoxical, but notably so at the present day, when the game of billiards in public rooms is undoubtedly in a very demoralized condition owing to the overproduction of public rooms, that one of the largest rooms in Boston will not permit three-cushion billiards to be played in it. The room, which contains 32 tables, is owned by Moses Yatter—one of the oldest roomkeepers of that city, if not in New England. Mr. Yatter, if I am not mistaken, was at one time a billiard table manufacturer of that city, but was probably swallowed up during that era when trusts were safer than they are at the present day. It is difficult not to concede admiration for Mr. Yatter's independence. He is probably the only roomkeeper in the country today to take so radical a stand against three cushions. It is not, it is true, a game that has anything about it to admire or recommend, unless it is its idiosyncrasies, while the latter, as a matter of fact, belong to those who play the game—or to probably 95 per cent. of them.

There is no doubt that in very isolated cases men are to be found who can play this game not only intelligently, but with such ability as to make the game attractive to look at occasionally; but where one such player is to be found, 95 can be seen who really recall baboons in their bathos or imagination that they are doing rather phenomenally artistic work. I do not now refer personally or professionally to the "experts" who play at this game. Personally, I am satisfied that they are very honorable men, and probably can accomplish as much at such a game as the average man who plays at it. To my mind it is a species of insane billiards to waste valuable time on, and I am entirely of the opinion that 95 per cent. of the men who advocate this game for commercial reasons are of my way of thinking. It is much easier to moralize, however, than to get your money out of a "plant."

And yet, the three-cushion game in public rooms, in point of respectability, is a thousand times more preferable than that hybrid game known as pool. The men who play three cushions are almost invariably self-respecting and honorable men, while 75 per cent. of the wild-eyed freaks who play pool, should be kept in a straight-jacket from the time they are born until they are put in their grave. I am strongly inclined to the belief that Mr. Yatter is one of the legitimate or old school of roomkeepers, and that the billiard business is not overdone to such an extent in Boston as in most other cities of this country. At all events Mr. Yatter is to be congratulated on his independence, which simply means that he not only owns himself, but has a thorough knowledge of his business.

The French have a proverb that it is the unexpected that happens. It is not at all probable that English billiards will ever become popular in this country, and yet, this game, from the little I know about it, differs but very slightly from the American four-ball game which was played on 6x12 tables in this country 50 years ago, and what was then the recognized game of billiards, even among the professional masters of the game, as the 18-2 balk-line game is today on 5x10 tables. I can well recall the time when the push shot was abolished at the four-ball game on the 6x12 tables, and there were many of the opinion then that the new innovation in abolishing the push shot might prove serious, if not dangerous, in consequence of making the game too difficult for the patrons of public rooms and the public in general. For fully 50 years at least, all billiard tables made in this country had but four legs. Had anyone predicted ten years ago that six-legged tables would again be seen on the market here, he would have been considered about four-fifths mentally unbalanced—and the other fifth hopelessly so. Yet, as a matter of fact, nearly all of the really fine billiard tables that have been made during the past five or six years have six legs, while the tables I refer to are not besealed as they were for about 50 years, but are shaped in the same six-legged tables, and what was then the recognized game of billiards, even among the professional masters of the game, as the 18-2 balk-line game is today on 5x10 tables, and, I think, more massive in their general construction.

If this is not returning to what the ancients would call "the golden era," it is most assuredly a change, as yet not a radical one, but no one can predict what it may develop into later on. Who would have thought ten—or even five—years ago that it would be possible to find 6x12 tables in some of the most prominent public rooms in this country at the present day? Yet Maurice Daly and John Doyle, of New York; William P. Mussey, of Chicago; and C. C. Peterson, of St. Louis, have all placed some few 6x12 tables in their respective rooms, while Mr. Mussey has a tournament at English billiards being played in his room as I write, with not less than eight players. If I am not wrongly informed, with the exception of one man, these roomkeepers rank among the oldest and most experienced professionals in this country. While Mr. Helms, of Detroit, one of the leading roomkeepers of the West, has a tournament at the four-ball game in one of his rooms.

I doubt very much if the present generation will ever see 6x12 or even 5x10 tables come into general use in the public rooms of this country, as they were some 40 years ago. To me, the 5x10 table seems like the ideal one to play billiards on, yet it would not be prudent to be either pessimistic or optimistic in this respect. In a huge country such as ours is, and in view of the changes which have taken place in the business during the past 40 years, we should not be surprised at anything. It is certain that the tables will never be made any smaller than they have been, while the introduction of 5x10 tables would be an absolute novelty to the billiard public of today. It is rather surprising to me that so old and experienced a master of the business as Thomas Foley is, did not suggest such a change instead of playing match games by innings. In any event, the innovations which I have referred to are decidedly in the interest of professional billiards, and may develop to such an extent that no one now can predict what the result may be later on.



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News of the Pacific Coast

MOVEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS IN BAUM'S CIRCUIT

The Teams Gradually Being Made Up—Ernest Johnson Flops Back From Federal—President Baum Announces His Umpire Corps.

BY R. S. RANSOM

LOS ANGELES, Cal., January 23.—Pacific Coast League managers are making good progress in lining up their clubs for the coming season. More changes have been made in the make-ups of the clubs than in any previous season and with a new city in the circuit there should be more interest in the race than ever before. President Darmody, of the local club, has given out an interview, in which he declares that he will stand for no "hold-up" tactics by his players. Ryan and Ellis are still talking Federal League, and Clarence Brooks has refused to sign the contract offered him. "Some deal may be fixed up for Ryan to go to some other club. He may even be sent to Washington," Mr. Darmody today declared. "Ryan is a major league pitcher."



Frank Dillon

JOHNSON A DOUBLE-JUMPER

Ernie Johnson has done a Bill Killifer—a Walter Johnson—a Roy Corhan—a double flop. For E. Johnson, once an Angel and later a Federal, is an Angel again. Johnson came to Los Angeles, where he conferred with President Darmody. A 1915 Angel contract was submitted to the little shortstop. A few seconds later he handed it back to Darmody with "Ernie Johnson" scribbled at the bottom. "Ernie Johnson will play in the Federal League this season, or he will not play at all," was George Stovall's declaration. Stovall is jumping, hopping, fighting mad.

PLAYER PROTESTS DEAL

Pitcher Clarence (United States) Smith asserts that he is still the property of the Vernon Tigers. Furthermore, Smith asserts that his trade to Portland and his subsequent trade to New Orleans is worthless and he has no intention of going to the Crescent City this year. Smith states that he did not receive a written release from Hogan, neither has he received any written notice from Manager McCredie relative to going to New Orleans. When the training season opens, Smith is going to join the Tigers, and if there is no one to receive his shoes, he intends to bounce a certain tennis ball off the outfield fence, and when the 15th of the month arrives he is going to collect his salary the same as in the past. According to Smith, it is a ruling of the National Commission that a player must be released in writing, otherwise the release is worthless. He is sanguine in his hopes of collecting his salary from Hogan, and states that he will take the matter up with the Players' Fraternity, of which he is a member, if Hogan is at all backward in delivering the coin.

THE LEAGUE UMPIRE CORPS

The principal news in base ball circles last week was the announcement of the fact that the umpire staff of the Pacific Coast League had been reduced by the release of two more members, to wit, "Red" Held and Jack McCarthy. At its annual meeting the league declined to reconsider the resolution passed at the Fall gathering, at which it was decided to return to the single umpire system, making it necessary to cut the staff of arbitrators from half a dozen to three. President Baum, who has full charge of the umpires, released Umpire Hayes several weeks ago, and he brought the number down to the required trio by letting Held and McCarthy slide. Eddie Flinn, Billy Phyle and Bill Guthrie are the umpires who will take charge of the Coast League games this season. They are competent, seasoned umpires, and if the single umpire system is to be a success they are the ones who can make it go.

WILL OPPOSE A. A. DRAFT-EXEMPTION

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., January 20.—The Pacific Coast League will fight tooth-and-nail before it permits the American Association or any other minor league of Class AA proportions to be elevated to major league standing, unless the Coast League is given the same status. This statement, made informally today by Henry Berry, owner of the San Francisco Club, expressed, he said, the attitude of the Pacific Coast League magnates toward the proposed graduation of the American Association into big league circles. "I believe," he continued, "that some such arrangement is necessary in fighting the Federal League, but if there is any minor league that is worthy of being raised it is the Pacific Coast League. We could conduct a major league here more easily than it could be done in the East or Middle West."

NEWS NOTES

Skeeter Fanning signed a contract to pitch for the San Francisco Club.
The San Francisco Club has purchased outfielder Ping Bodle from the Chicago American Club.
Rudolph Baerwald, an outfielder, has been secured by Henry Berry for the San Francisco Seals.
The San Francisco Club has purchased outfielder Harry Hellman from the Detroit American Club.
Shortstop Bobby Coltrin returned his signed contract to Manager Walter McCredie the other day without so much as a murmur over Walt's salary notion.
"Lefty" Liefeld, the former Pittsburgh National pitcher, who has been a member of the San Francisco Club for the past two years, was given his unconditional release last week.
Dad McVickers, who for the last 12 years has groomed the diamond at Washington Park, Los Angeles, will not be groundkeeper this season. McVickers is known to every player in the Coast League.
Ray Stevens, southpaw pitcher for the St. Louis Browns, will be with Oakland this year. Stevens, who is visiting relatives in Los Angeles, expects to receive notice to report for Spring training in a few days.
Training season for the San Francisco team will open February 24, at Boyes Spring, with about 27 players working out. Twenty is the limit allowed any

team in the Pacific Coast League after the season has opened.

Pitcher Howard Ehmke is still a holdout. Thus far, every attempt to have him sign a 1915 Angel contract and a 1916 Washington contract has failed. Only under these conditions can the Los Angeles Club have him the coming season.

"Joe Berger's return to the minors is due to his not getting a chance," said Speed McDonnell. "No man can warm the bench and show all he has when he gets into the game. Besides that, Berger was not allowed to play the position he knew."

Manager Walter M. McCredie, of the Portland Coast League Club, has received a communication from the booking agent of the Chicago White Sox, offering to play three games in California with Portland. McCredie said the offer would be accepted.

Manager Wolverton, of San Francisco, last week received signed contracts from "Hub" Pernoll, Charles Baum, Wayne Barham and Johnny Couch, all pitchers; catcher Clark, and Shader, an infielder. Pitcher Fanning, shortstop Corhan and catcher Schmidt already had been signed.

The directors of the new Salt Lake Club have appointed W. J. O'Connor as business manager. Mr. O'Connor is well known in the newspaper advertising business in Salt Lake City, and last year acted as club secretary for the Salt Lake Club, in the Union Association, during the closing months of the season.

Manager Cliff Blankenship, of the new Salt Lake City Club, is now on an Eastern tour after players. He will visit St. Louis, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington and New York, to talk with major league managers in efforts to procure strengthening material for his team. Contracts to all reserved players have been mailed.

"Tubby" Spencer, who used to backstop for the Red Sox back five years or so ago, is to have just another final chance. Hap Hogan, of the Vehicule-Vernon Club, in the Pacific Coast League, is the manager who is sufficiently courageous to thus favor a fellow who has only himself to blame for not having become a real big, first magnitude major league star.

NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE

Aberdeen, an Excellent Ball Town, Re-Enters the League Under Better Auspices Than Ever Before.

ABERDEEN, Wash., January 20.—Bearing the title of the "Black Cats," Aberdeen re-entered the Northwestern Base Ball League on January 21, when J. S. Barnes signed over the Ballard franchise to A. H. Griffin and P. A. Bertrand, managers of the Aberdeen Club. The terms of the agreement are that Aberdeen will pay \$2000 for the new club. Mr. Barnes, who signed a contract to manage the team for this season, will furnish \$1000 and will see that another \$1000 is raised in Seattle. The meeting to organize the club will be called some time this week, when the directors and officers will be elected. Barnes has been instructed to get pennant-winners, and returned to Seattle to sign men. He will leave shortly for the East, where he has several good men who want to sign with Aberdeen. The first game of the season in Aberdeen will not be played until late in May, while the majority of the games will be held over until June, July and August. The Aberdeen promoters want and will get nine weeks of base ball. Barnes promises to have his recruits on a training field by April 1. The first game of the season will be played April 20, with Aberdeen probably on the road. Hoquiam and Cosmopolis fans have contributed about \$200 towards the club so far and more money from these towns is expected.

M'GINNITY OUT OF THE LEAGUE

TACOMA, Wash., January 30.—The Tacoma Club franchise in the Northwestern League and the title to the Tacoma athletic park were, on the 15th inst., transferred by J. J. McGinnity and Frank Redpath to the Tacoma Northwestern League Base Ball Club, incorporated. The consideration for the franchise and good will stated was \$1. The ball grounds which changed ownership by a deed being filed in the county auditor's office, are subject to a mortgage of \$15,000. Announcement comes from Spokane that the veteran, Bobby Wicker, has been signed as manager. Wicker has been running an independent team in Indiana since quitting the game a couple of years ago. He thinks he can come back and is signed by Spokane with the idea that he shall take his regular turn in the pitcher's box.

NEWS NOTES

Catcher Walter Cadman signed a contract with Seattle last week for the coming season.
The Spokane Club has signed infielder Lucius Walsh, a St. Louis boy, upon recommendation of first baseman Walter Holke. Holke is the young star who hopes to land Fred Merkle's job next Spring.
President Farr, of Spokane, has broken off all negotiations with the Omaha Club for the transfer of pitcher Wynn Noyes for a first baseman; and will try out "Pop" Arlett or "Club" Baker at first base.
Tealy Raymond, who probably will be the manager of the Seattle Club next season, believes Selmer Brenegan, a catcher F. C. Farr obtained for his Spokane Club next season by cash purchase from the McCredies, will become a star with a year or so of steady work.
Joe Gorman, sporting editor of the Victoria "Times," is to look after the business end of the Victoria Club. Marty Nye will be playing-boss. Joe Gorman is a son-in-law of Joshua Kingham, owner of the Bees, and he has had a lot of experience in lacrosse and hockey.
A Portland dispatch says that Mike Lynch has been appointed scout of the Federal League St. Louis Club in this circuit. Mike will look over promising young players in the interests of Felder Jones. This can be taken to mean that Mike will not manage the Spokane team again in 1914.
Looks like some awakening spirit has got hold of Tacoma. They have organized a "conversation league" there, with George W. ("Biddy") Bishop as president, whose sole purpose shall be boosting for a pennant for Tacoma this year. More than 200 signed the charter membership roll.
If Nick Williams succeeds in landing the Spokane management next year, big Glavenich, formerly of Cleveland and New Orleans, likely will show in an Indian costume. Glavenich is a California youngster and is said to have more smoke than a Pittsburgh foundry. At New Orleans last year his wildness kept him in hot water, but Glavenich says he has overcome that fault.
James J. Corbett, formerly champion heavyweight pugilist, was the first man to purchase a share of stock in the newly reorganized Tacoma Northwestern League Club. Corbett was in Tacoma last week and called on his friend, Joe McGinnity, who had owned the club, but was compelled to reorganize it because of his financial loss last season. McGinnity told how he was trying to float a stock company and Corbett responded by counting out cash for the first share of stock to be issued in the new company.

TAX ON BASE BALL

The New York Legislature Has Before It a Bill to Impose One More Burden on Professional Clubs in the Empire State.

ALBANY, N. Y., January 27.—A tax of five per cent., on all the gate receipts will be imposed on professional base ball games if the bill introduced today by Assemblyman Kramer is made a law. Every organization or league holding base ball games in this State under the system known as "Organized Ball" will have to furnish every Monday during the base ball season, a report to the State Athletic Commission, showing the number of tickets sold during the week and the amount of gross receipts. Within ten days after the report is filed a tax of five per cent. on the total receipts must be paid to the State Comptroller, and for every day the tax remains unpaid a penalty of \$50 must be paid by the association, according to the bill.

Metropolitan Clubs' Share

NEW YORK, N. Y., January 28.—According to the figures made public in the appraisal of the estate of John T. Brush, it was shown that the New York Giants, in the season of 1912, made a profit of approximately \$179,000. It may be assumed that the average attendance a day at the Polo Grounds during a season is about 5000. If the average admission is taken at 60 cents, the gross receipts of the New York National League Base Ball Club for its 77 home games each year would be in the neighborhood of \$251,000. At five per cent., this would yield the State \$11,550. The tax on the New York Americans would be roughly \$7500 and that of the Superbas about \$9000. This would be a total of \$28,550 from the clubs of Greater New York alone in a single season. If any one of the teams should get into a World's Series the share of the State would be well-nigh \$10,000 more. The bill introduced by Assemblyman Kramer is similar to that now governing boxing bouts and racing before the passage of the Percy-Gray law.

Brush Estate Undervalued?

ALBANY, N. Y., January 28.—Eugene M. Travis, State Controller, yesterday ordered a re-appraisal of the estate of John T. Brush, who owned the New York National League base ball club. He said that the value of the estate had been greatly underestimated and that unless it is increased, especially in regard to the stock in the National Exhibition Company, which controls the Giants, the State will lose a large sum in taxes. No consideration was given, said Travis, to the money Brush and his colleagues paid for ball players, the number of players owned at the time of his death, or the value of the league franchise. The appraisal was filed on the last day William Schmer, former Controller, was in office. The gross value was set at \$470,102; the net value at \$415,625. The principal asset was 1396 shares in the National Exhibition Company, appraised at \$348,702. Harry N. Hempstead and the other executors had valued the stock at \$180,000. The lease on the Polo Grounds was appraised as of no value for taxation purposes.

ACTION IN BASE BALL WORLD

Continued from first page

present five-years' agreement between the Eastern Association clubs, which has four more years to run.

Bank Owns a Ball Club

TOPEKA, Kan., February 2.—The German American Bank, of this city, on January 23, became owner of the Topeka Western League Club when a mortgage it held on the club, franchise and grandstand was foreclosed. The club will be sold, according to officers of the bank. It likely will be transferred to another town, Joplin and Oklahoma City being reported as bidders for it. The club was owned by a stock company and has finished in seventh or eighth places for five years. It has been a losing proposition for the owners and the foreclosure was the result of the desire of the owners to retire from base ball. President O'Neill, of the Western League, states that the Topeka franchise matter will be settled at the Western League schedule meeting in Chicago, on February 7.

Three Clubs to Jump?

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., February 2.—That the Springfield, Hartford and Worcester clubs will jump Organized Base Ball is the general feeling here. They have not jumped as yet, but the spring board has been placed in position ready for the expected stunts. The Feds are confident that there will be jumping, because "the minors have had a whack at Organized Base Ball and know what it is." It is said that these are the only members of the Eastern Association and New England League now wanted for the new Federal New England League, all the other cities having new backers and grounds.

Conductor Sues Joe Tinker

CHICAGO, Ill., February 2.—Joe Tinker, manager of the local Federals, left yesterday afternoon for New York to answer charges brought against him by a New York street car conductor. The latter charges Tinker's car knocked him down some time ago, and since then blood poison set in.

Catcher Lou Criger Dying

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., February 2.—Reports received here by friends of Lou Criger are that the former major league star is near death. Criger formerly was catcher for the old Cleveland Nationals and also played with the New Yorks.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES

Special to "Sporting Life."

Outfielder Duke Redley and pitcher Sanford Burk have signed their 1915 Indianapolis contracts.

B. M. Parsons, president of the newly-formed Blaine Base Ball League, has called a meeting for

February 13, at Chicago. Business left unfinished at the organization meeting in Rockford will be considered.

Outfielder Al Burch has purchased his unconditional release from the Louisville Club, of the American Association.

Outfielder Rudy Baerwald, late of Galveston, has signed with the San Francisco Club, of the Pacific Coast League.

The Appleton Club, of the Wisconsin-Illinois League, is \$5000 in debt, and the directors have decided to wind up its affairs.

The Portsmouth Club, of the Virginia League, has engaged Win Clarke, last year an umpire, as team manager for next season.

The Columbia Club, of the South Atlantic League, has signed a semi-pro. catcher named Arthur Koshier, hailing from Sibley, Ills.

Manager Paul Sentell, of the Galveston Club, of the Texas League, has signed his 1915 contract with that club, and will report for duty on February 23.

John P. Hannah, a base ball player, formerly a member of the Dubuque, Bearstown, Ottawa and Champaign teams, died at Champaign, Ills., on January 27.

Manager Russ Hall, of the Tacoma Northwestern League Club, has signed infielder Gilbert Stokke, infielder Glen Collou, first baseman Dick Helster, and pitcher Russ Hoover.

Joe Judge, Red Sox recruit and first baseman on the 1914 Lewiston New England League team, has signed a contract with the Providence Club, of the International League.

Outfielder "Doc" Miller has been given his unconditional release by the Cincinnati Club, and the chances are that he will play no more ball, but will practice medicine, probably in California.

Jack Compton has signed a contract to manage the Dayton Base Ball Club, of the Central League. He succeeds John Nee, who resigned recently to go into business. Compton, who is a pitcher, has been with the Dayton Club for five years.

Outfielder Ping Bodle, recently transferred by the Chicago American Club to the San Francisco Club, has accepted his transfer and has signed with San Francisco. That club has also signed Cy Ross, a local semi-pro. southpaw pitcher; and has given pitcher Overall his unconditional release.

Pete Cleary, the smallest and best umpire in the New York State League for the last four years, announces that he has resigned his berth in the Farrell circuit to take a job dealing out decisions in the International League. He will get the place vacated by Dick Nallin, of this city, who recently landed a berth in the American League.

With the intention of making the Central League an eight-club circuit, application for the Toledo, O. territory has been made by President Louis Hellbroner. A meeting of the owners will be held within ten days to complete plans for the 1915 season. Erie, Pa., and Youngstown, O., are to be added to the five cities remaining from last season, and the eighth city will be either Toledo or Wheeling, W. Va.

A Houston, Tex., dispatch says: "George Blackburn, a former Texas League player, but more recently an umpire in leagues of the Southwest, has made application for a berth on President Davidson's 1915 Texas League staff. The application was accompanied by an endorsement from the Georgia-Alabama circuit, in which Blackburn worked last season. When playing ball Blackburn was a terrific clouter. As an umpire he ranks just as high."

NATIONAL LEAGUE NOTES

Continued from fifth page

with a chest of silver when they heard that he had been appointed manager of the Phillies. They wanted to show him that they would stick by him, no matter what happened.

Luque, who is now pitching down in Cuba, is the second best ball player ever turned out by that island, according to Manager Stallings, of the Braves. Marsans is rated the best. Luque played second base for Jersey City last season.

Jimmy Ryan, once an outfielder with Anson's Chicago team, a great and grand ball player, is to coach the University of Indiana next Spring. Ryan was a right-handed hitter and, wonder of wonders, a deadly accurate left-handed thrower.

An X-ray photo of Nap Rucker shows an extra growth of bone in the arm. This led the New York "Tribune" to remark: "An X-ray photo of certain other members of the Brooklyn team would also show an extra growth of bone, but not in the arm."

Schenectady fans declare that recruit third baseman Hobert Reed, of the New York Giants, is Frank Gill, whose home is in Gloversville, N. Y. Gill is remembered as having played in the Princeton-Yale game last season. Gill played semi-pro. ball at Schenectady for years.

The New York American Club will pay \$60,000 for the use of the Polo Grounds this year. The rent in 1914 was \$55,000, and these figures have been increased. In view of the fact that the New Yorks have no grounds of their own the Giants have been able to dictate terms.

New York Giant officials last week declared Rube Marquard, who signed with the Brooklyn Feds and was then offered back to the Giants by Owner Ward, would be sent a notice to report at the Giants' training camp, at Marlin, Tex., at the same time as the other players.

Chief Meyers, of the New York Giants, and Mrs. Meyers spent an afternoon last week with the Indians at the Paint Desert, at the San Diego, Cal., training grounds. They met Carlisle and Sherman students with the less civilized men from Arizona. Meyers is a Mission Indian.

Jim McGrory, a former Philadelphia Central High School catcher, is the latest scholastic star to secure a chance to make good in the major league. McGrory has signed a contract to play with the Cincinnati team, of the National League, and will go South with the Reds on February 28.

Al Wagner, a brother of the famous Hans, has been engaged to coach the basketball and base ball teams of Carnegie Tech. Hans has agreed to assist his kinsman, so that Tech. stock should boom. The Flying Dutchman is every bit as skilful at the indoor game as he is upon the diamond.

Says the New York "Sun": "C. H. Ebbets declares he will invoke the law to prevent Jack Dalton from playing in the Federal League. If the Squire of Flatbush took the trouble to learn the opinion of George Stallings as to Demon Jack's ability, he might pay the Independents a bonus instead."

Trainer Fred Hart, of the Cubs, last week signed a new contract to continue in his position for the next three years. Hart asked for a raise in salary because he declared he wasn't paid nearly as much as other trainers in the league. The raise was given him without hesitation, as his work has been most satisfactory.

Josh Devore, termed the "luckiest man in base ball" because of his connection with the New York Giants and later with the Boston Braves when each team won World's Series, was given an unconditional release by the Boston Nationals on January 29. A desire to allow him to sell his services in the best market was given as the reason for the release of the little outfielder. Devore has played also with the Cincinnati and Philadelphia teams of the National League.

THE WORLD OF SHOOTING

THOMAS S. DANDO, EDITOR

THOMAS D. RICHTER, ASSISTANT EDITOR

Sunny South Handicap

A. R. LUDLAM WINS HANDICAP WITH 87 OUT OF 100

Under Hard Weather Conditions Harve Dixon, of Oronogo, Mo., Leads All Shooters for Average With 1084—Murrelle Tops Pros.

Houston, Tex., January 30.—The annual Sunny South Handicap, held at the Houston traps all this week, proved a big disappointment in point of attendance, less than 40 competing at all times, but the event was marked by some keen shooting by noted trap shooters from all parts of the country. The Sunny South Handicap event, the feature of the tournament, was shot in a cold rain and the score of 87 won for A. R. Ludlam, a Texan. The high amateur average of the week was won by Harve Dixon, of Oronogo, Mo., who shattered 1084 out of 1180 targets, over 90 per cent. under hard conditions. The leading professional was Harry Murrelle, of Houston, with 1081 out of 1180, F. M. Faurote, of Houston, being next with 1054. The tournament was managed as in the past, by Alf Gardiner, the originator of the event.

LIVINGSTON HEADS PRACTICE EVENTS

On practice day the shooters were greeted by a brand of weather that belied the Sunny South, it being intensely cold. This kept the attendance down. John Livingston, of Springville, Ala., led the amateur field with a score of 91 out of 100. Burt, of Colorado, was second, with 90, and O. P. Weymouth, of Portland, Me., third with 86. Harry Murrelle, of Houston, topped the professionals with 91 out of 100. Billy Hill, of Portland, Me., was second with 87, while James Loftin, of Tyler, and F. M. Faurote, of Houston, tied for third with 86. The scores follow:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
John Livingston...	100	91	W. L. Hagerty ... 100 79	
C. Burt	100	90	John Clay	100 79
O. P. Weymouth...	100	84	Harve Dixon	100 78
E. J. Skidmore...	100	84	Wm. Ridley	59 45
George Tucker ...	100	81		
PROFESSIONALS				
H. Murrelle	100	91	W. E. Scott	100 85
W. G. Hill	100	87	J. R. Hinkle	100 77
Jas. Loftin	100	86	Ben Schwartz	50 46
F. M. Faurote	100	86		

HARVE DIXON FIRST DAY STAR

The first day opened with crisp, dry weather, but with attendance below normal. Only 19 amateurs and six professionals competed this day. Harve Dixon, of Oronogo, Mo., led the amateur field with a breakage of 190 out of 200. H. R. Bosley, of Dallas, one of the best shots in Texas, was second with 188. Third place resolved itself into a four-cornered tie between W. S. Hoon, of Jewell, Ia.; John Livingston, of Springville, Ala.; Wm. Ridley, What Cheer, Ia., and E. W. Fry, of Graham, with 187. H. A. Murrelle, of Houston, Tex., led the professionals with 193 out of 200. F. M. Faurote, of the same place, was second with 187. Fry had the long run in the amateur ranks with 65, while J. R. Hinkle had the long professional break of 75. Scores:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
Harve Dixon	200	190	Jim McLean	200 172
M. R. Bosley	200	188	Lee Jones	200 169
W. S. Hoon	200	187	C. E. Sands	200 169
John Livingston...	200	187	J. R. Hinkle	200 169
W. H. Bailey	200	187	W. M. Bertrand	200 164
E. W. Fry	200	187	O. P. Weymouth	200 160
Phil Miller	200	186	A. R. Ludlam	200 157
George Burt	200	185	E. J. Skidmore	200 151
George Tucker ...	200	174	C. W. Lindsay	180 153
A. P. Smith	200	174		
PROFESSIONALS				
H. A. Murrelle	200	193	Ben Schwartz	200 181
F. M. Faurote	200	187	J. S. Loftin	200 177
J. R. Hinkle	200	182	W. E. Scott	200 161

DIXON STILL HIGH SECOND DAY

The second day found Harve Dixon still leading the field of amateurs with a score of 190 out of 200. There was a slightly increased attendance and improved weather conditions. Sam A. Huntley, of Omaha, Neb., who had just arrived from the Pinehurst shoot, shot a tie with W. H. Ridley, the Iowa, for second, with 186; W. S. Hoon, also of Iowa, next with 185. H. A. Murrelle continued leading the professionals with 187. Ben Schwartz and F. M. Faurote breaking 184. Dixon also had the largest run of the tournament to his credit with 84 straight. J. R. Hinkle ran his unfinished string of 76 up to 82 before missing. Scores:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
Harve Dixon	200	190	Lee Jones	200 174
S. A. Huntley	200	186	John Livingston	200 172
W. H. Ridley	200	186	C. E. Sands	200 172
W. H. Hoon	200	185	A. P. Smith	200 172
E. W. Fry	200	181	A. R. Ludlam	200 168
C. D. Coburn	200	181	Geo. Tucker	200 160
H. R. Bosley	200	180	Jim McLean	200 159
Bud Barnes	200	180	W. H. Bertrand	200 159
Phil Miller	200	177	John Clay, Jr. ...	200 154
L. J. Matlock	200	177	E. J. Skidmore	200 147
George Burt	200	177	Chas. Gay	89 58
PROFESSIONALS				
H. A. Murrelle	200	187	J. S. Loftin	200 181
Ben Schwartz	200	184	J. R. Hinkle	200 176
F. M. Faurote	200	184	W. E. Scott	200 162

LIVINGSTON WINS SOUTHERN TITLE

John R. Livingston, the Alabaman, performed a meritorious feat on Wednesday when he won the Houston cup, emblematic of the Southern amateur championship. To do this he was forced to break records, for he is the only shot who ever won this title twice. His score of 99 out of 100 equals the best record ever made for the trophy. He was far ahead of his nearest rival, Bud Barnes, of Bay City, being second with 94. Livingston was also high amateur for the day with 192. Harve Dixon being second with 189 and S. Huntley third with 185. Four tied for professional honors at 182, they being Harry Murrelle, F. M. Faurote, J. S. Loftin and J. R. Hinkle. Scores:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
John Livingston	200	192	John Clay	200 166
Harve Dixon	200	189	W. H. Bertrand	200 166
S. A. Huntley	200	185	C. E. Sands	200 163
W. E. Hoon	200	183	Lee Jones	100 88
Geo. Burt	200	183	Phil Miller	100 87
Bud Barnes	200	182	Geo. Tucker	100 84
L. H. Matlock	200	180	Jim McLean	100 81
H. R. Bosley	200	179	A. R. Ludlam	100 79
C. D. Coburn	200	179	Charles Gay	100 75
W. H. Ridley	200	176	Otto Suppe	100 64
E. W. Fry	200	174	R. L. Wiley	40 10
A. P. Smith	200	170	Sid Toulan	40 22
PROFESSIONALS				
H. A. Murrelle	200	182	J. R. Hinkle	200 182
F. M. Faurote	200	182	Ben Schwartz	200 179
J. S. Loftin	200	182	Walter Scott	200 156

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY



Squad of New York State Shooters

The Representatives of New York State in the above photo are J. N. Bates, Jr., A. C. Skutt, Sim Glover, Hank Pendergast and H. J. Tuckett. This quintette of shots attended the Grand American Handicap and frequently get together at the Rochester Gun Club.

TEAM SHOOT THURSDAY FEATURE

The Thursday program called for 180 targets in the program and a two-man team shoot, each firing at 25 targets. Harve Dixon again led the amateurs with 167, with John Livingston second with 165 and W. Hoon third with 164. The professional leader was Harry Murrelle, who broke 173 out of 180; J. R. Hinkle being second with 168, and J. S. Loftin third with 159. The team race was for combinations from same towns. This championship was won by Phil Miller and H. R. Bosley, of Dallas, with 46 out of 50, Miller making a straight. The scores:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
Harve Dixon	180	167	H. R. Bosley	180 153
John Livingston	180	165	J. H. Forsgard	180 153
W. E. Hoon	180	164	Phil Miller	180 162
S. A. Huntley	180	163	Jim McLean	180 163
Dan O'Connell	180	162	Joe Johnson	180 152
Bud Barnes	180	160	A. R. Ludlam	180 151
W. H. Ridley	180	159	C. E. Sands	180 145
Lee Jones	180	158	S. Hutchings	180 143
C. D. Coburn	180	156	A. P. Smith	180 141
George Burt	180	156	Geo. Tucker	180 140
John Clay	180	156	W. L. Hagerty	120 96
W. H. Bertrand	180	154	L. J. Matlock	106 83
E. W. Fry	180	153	Charles Gay	80 49
PROFESSIONALS				
H. A. Murrelle	180	173	F. M. Faurote	180 157
J. R. Hinkle	180	168	Ben Schwartz	180 164
J. S. Loftin	180	159	W. E. Scott	180 164

What Averages Show

TEAM RACE			
Miller and Bosley	25	25	50
*Hinkle and Loftin	25	22	47
*Faurote and Murrelle	24	23	47
Barnes and O'Connell	23	23	46
McLean and Jones	21	24	45
Forsgard and Hutchings	23	22	45
Ludlam and McNeil	21	24	45
Hagerty and Fry	22	23	44
Ridley and Hoon	22	22	44
Clay and Johnson	22	22	44
*Schwartz and Scott	21	23	44
Tucker and Bertrand	18	19	37
Atwell and Bering	19	18	37

LUDLAM WINS SUNNY SOUTH

In a drizzling rain, A. R. Ludlam, of Raymondville, Tex., won the Sunny South Handicap event on Friday, with a score of 87 out of 100, from 16 yards, beating the nearest entry by two targets. Jim McLean, of Augusta, was second, and C. D. Coburn third. Thirty-one competed, six being professionals. On the whole day's program, Sam Huntley was high with 180, and Coburn followed with 177. H. A. Murrelle topped the professionals with 169, while J. S. Loftin broke 166. Scores:

AMATEURS				
Sh. Bk.		Sh. Bk.		
S. A. Huntley	200	180	W. S. Hoon	200 164
C. D. Coburn	200	177	Phil Miller	200 163
A. R. Ludlam	200	175	H. R. Bosley	200 160
Dan O'Connell	200	173	S. Hutchings	200 160
Jim McLean	200	173	F. W. McNeil	200 159
John Livingston	200	171	Geo. Burt	200 158

OFFICIAL 1914 TRAP RECORDS PROVE SHOOTER'S SKILL

Nearly Seven Hundred Amateurs of Country Shoot Way Into 90 Per Cent. Class—Pennsylvania Leads List With 747 Amateurs.

The complete and official trap shooting averages of every amateur and professional who competed in a registered tournament of the Interstate Association in 1914, which were published in "Sporting Life" in the five issues of January, show some remarkable facts and give a remarkable insight into the breadth, character and concentration of registered shooting in this country. These averages which represented a year's trap shooting work, placed Pennsylvania ahead of all other States of the Union in point of entry of shooters to registered tournaments. The Keystone State showed itself far ahead of any other section with 747 different amateurs and 18 professionals, against 468 amateurs and 13 professionals for the next best State, New York. They also proved false the belief in some minds that the 90 per cent. shooter is in such

A VERY SMALL MINORITY

that to introduce class shooting at all under any conditions would be a rank injustice to that class. The averages showed that there is a surprisingly large percentage of expert amateur shots who have reached 90 or better for their season's work. The actual amount is 9 3/4 per cent. of the total entry, thus showing that in no country of the world is there such a number of great shots. All will admit that a 90 per cent. shot is a real expert. This country showed that there were 675 amateurs who reached this high figure out of the total of 7083 amateurs listed for the year. In the professional division there were 298 different shooters, this including shooting representatives, district men and local profes-

Continued on twenty-second page

Value of Sporting Life Trap Averages

Philadelphia, January 26.—Editor of "Sporting Life."—Your copies of "Sporting Life" and printers' proofs, giving the averages for the year 1914, were duly received. While I was not on the Handicap Committee at Pinehurst, the boys who were appointed were delighted when they found that the averages were available, and they told me they would have been lost without them, and that they were referred to with regard to the handicap of every shooter. I, therefore, extend to you the thanks of the Handicap Committee for your kindness in forwarding these records, and I can assure you they were very much appreciated. With kindest regards, I remain, Very truly yours,
O. H. NEWCOMB.

BY BERNIE ELSSESSER

Sec'y Westy Hognans and Penna State Ass'n

York, Pa., January 30.—Editor "Sporting Life."—"Sporting Life" is doing great work in publishing from time to time the official averages of the great body of trap shooters throughout the country. It is to be seriously doubted if there is any other single influence that contributes more to conserve and stimulate interest in this greatest of all outdoor recreation.
BERNARD ELSSESSER.

BY WARD BURTON

Famous Illinois Professional

Chicago, Ill., January 26.—Editor "Sporting Life."—The shooters should support "Sporting Life" and show their appreciation of the work you do to let them know "Who's Who" in trap shooting. Wishing you every success, I am, Very truly yours,
WARD BURTON.

BY F. P. WILLIAMS

Famous U. S. Navy Official and Trap Shooter

New York, N. Y., January 28.—Editor of "Sporting Life."—I wish to congratulate you and your associates upon the excellent work that you have done in the publication of all averages, without regard to the number of targets shot at during the year 1914. We all like to see our averages in print, to compare them with those of the other fellow, and "Sporting Life" has done a great favor to all trap shooters. Yours very truly,
F. P. WILLIAMS.

Those Shooters We Know

NOT TOO PERSONAL, BUT JUST PERSONAL ENOUGH

Gossip and Comment About Sportsmen Whom the Lovers of Shooting Know in Person or Through the Medium of Fame.

The Onondaga Gun Club, of Syracuse, one of the foremost trap shooting organizations in New York State, held its annual meeting on January 21, and selected the following officers for the coming season: President, T. E. Clay; vice-president, O. E. Carpenter; secretary-treasurer, H. V. Fellows; field captain, G. L. Bartoo. The club will hold field trophy events during the winter months, on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Three elegant trophies have been donated and are to be shot for in distance handicap. A money shoot will be run in connection with trophy events, and the division will be Rose system. A solid silver spoon will also be donated to high gun of each shoot. Our grounds are located at the Syracuse Yacht Club.

Annie Oakley (Mrs. Frank E. Butler) had a narrow escape at St. Cloud, Fla., recently, while hunting quail, when she nearly stepped on a rattler, coiled ready to spring. A quick jump and a quick shot saved her. The snake measured 7 feet 4 inches.

Haze Keller, the new sales manager of the Hunter Arms Company, of Fulton, N. Y., recently made a ten-strike when he obtained the services of James Carraher, for many years in the service of the various companies, especially the Stevens Arms and Tool Company, as a representative. Carraher is a sportsman with a wide acquaintance and a host of friends.

It now transpires that at the recent Illinois State Sportsmen's Association that organization did not merely bar all amateurs of high class, but specifically named those who should not be allowed to take part in their State championship tournament, they being Woolfolk Henderson, Sam A. Huntley, Bart Lewis, Mark Aric and F. A. Gräpner.

It seems almost beyond comprehension that George Maxwell, the famous one-armed professional from Nebraska, should lead all the double-target shots of the country with a percentage of .8933. Maxwell swings and handles his gun with marvelous speed and accuracy.

With a view to figuring in the stirring trap shooting events about Chicago this season, the South Chicago, Ills., Gun Club last week held its annual election of officers, the choice resulting as follows: President, J. W. Stanton; vice-president, Gilbert Morgan; recording secretary, Charles H. Rambo; financial secretary, Ben Taylor; treasurer, Fred Perno; field captain, James Johnson.

Madison, N. Y., is the latest town to go on the trap shooting map, a gun club having been recently organized at that place and the following officers elected: President, J. M. Clarke; vice-president, J. R. Wilson; recording secretary, Joseph V. Keating; treasurer, Isaac R. Wilson; Board of Managers, James E. Burnett, Matt Appar, J. Frank Allen.

The Western Cartridge Company has just issued one of the most unique and attractive sportsman's calendars ever conceived. It consists of the heads of two fine hunting dogs in relief and made in imitation bronze that looks so much like the real article that those sportsmen who are fortunate enough to possess one will have an artistic and enduring wall display that will be extremely ornamental for any sportsman's room. At the close of the year the calendar can be completely removed without showing traces, leaving only the bronze wall plaque.

The Penn Gun Club, of Norristown, Pa., has selected its new force of officials for the next year as follows: President, R. Scheetz; vice-president, F. R. Heavner; treasurer, A. B. Parker; financial secretary, J. C. Cassel.

At the recent annual meeting and banquet of the Northwestern Gun Club, of Duluth, Minn., the following officers were named for the ensuing season: President, Frank Russell; vice-president, Bert Jerinimous; treasurer, John Wold; secretary, Herman Kalkbrenner; field captain, Harry Anderson; auditing committee chairman, Frank Heidman.

Hagerstown, Md., is to be represented in the trap shooting field this year, a gun club bearing the town name having been recently organized with the following officers: President, D. Newton Hopson; vice-president, Clarence Gayla; secretary, G. S. Brussard; treasurer, Sam B. Haines.

Secretary Ralph A. Thresher, of the Akron, O., Gun Club, writes of his club as follows: "At the annual meeting of the Akron Gun Club, held Friday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, I. S. Myers; first vice-president, O. F. Berk; second vice-president, Ed Schumman; third vice-president, E. L. Geib; secretary, R. A. Thresher; financial secretary, Dick Polsom; treasurer and general manager, E. E. Thresher; competitive captains, O. F. Berk and Dick Polsom. The dead timber has been relegated to the rear and we may look for some stirring times with the club from now on! We expect to use clay targets in conjunction with steel pigeons and will install a clay target trap in the pit from whence the right and left quartering, ascending and de-

scending steel birds fly. This ought to add greatly to the interest of trap shooting by the greatly increased number and variety of flights, making a very good substitute for hunting. We hope to make this the first self-supporting gun club in the world and put Akron on the map in the trap shooting world as a leader."

Merchants Gun Club, of Stafford, Kan., held a shoot on January 19, at which a team was picked to represent them at the State shoot. R. W. Bueke, Sherman Guthrie, and Grant Hicks, all using Nitro Club shells, took first, second and third places in the order named.

F. Shockley, of Salisbury, Md., led the field at the traps of the Salisbury Gun Club the 15th, using a Remington Auto gun and Nitro Club shells. The same shells were used by W. Taylor and Dr. Burris, who carried off second and third honors, respectively.

Joseph Schroeder, one of Iowa's prominent shooting men, was recently chosen president of the Key City Gun Club, of Dubuque, with A. J. Eisenegger, secretary-treasurer, and Frank Fencil, field captain.

High scores were the rule at the Evanston, Ills., Gun Club shoot, recently. H. Kennicott, of Evanston, was high gun with 97x100, second honors going to C. C. Emery, of Chicago. Both used Nitro Club shells, as did D. E. Thomas, of Chicago, who broke 78 out of 75 targets.

The Sac City, Ia., Gun Club recently met and elected the following officials for the year: President, Jack Peacock; vice-president, William Leeger; secretary, W. F. Weary; treasurer, C. A. Schulte.

At the Felton, Pa., Gun Club on January 15, Harry Snyder, a local shooter, and Archie Davy, of Red Lion, tied for first honors, with scores of 51x60. Arthur McGungo was a close second, breaking 50 out of his 60 targets. All three winners used Nitro Club shells.

The Brenham, Tex., Gun and Rod Club is in for a busy season, if the plans made at its annual meeting may be taken as a criterion. The following officers were also chosen: President, T. A. Low; vice-president, R. P. Thompson; treasurer, O. E. Baumgart; secretary, L. F. Amisler; manager, L. F. Ammons.

L. C. Wilson, of Bridgeport, Conn., led a field of 60 at the White Plains, N. Y., Gun Club shoot, on January 19, shooting Nitro Club shells, he broke 142x150. This was the special "Chin Chin" shoot in honor of Fred Stone, the popular comedian.

High general average at Onseida, Ills., on January 22, was won by H. Kennicott with a score of 193x200. H. W. Cadwallader was high professional, 190x200, both gentlemen using Peters shells.

The Keystone Shooting League, of Philadelphia, Pa., will hold its annual white flyer handicap at Holmesburg Junction, on Lincoln's Birthday, February 12. The event will be at 25 flyers, \$20 entrance, sliding handicap each five flyers, starting 16 to 19 yards, money percentage system. J. Frank Pratt, 535 Cuthbert street, is receiving entries.

B. L. Kammerer, of Riverside, Ills., shooting Nitro Club shells, led the field at the traps of the Chicago Gun Club, on January 17, breaking 93 out of his 100 targets.

The Janesville, Wis., Rod and Gun Club, which each season figures prominently in its State's trap shooting events, met and elected its officers for 1915 as follows: President, G. W. Coppins; vice-president, George Sperbeck; secretary, Ed Winn; treasurer, Olaf Johnson.

The Hartford, Conn., Gun Club is now one of the largest and most important trap shooting organizations in the country. The club contains 217 members and has purchased 47 acres of ground. On this they have a \$2000 club house, three sets of traps and pistol and rifle range up to 600 yards. M. F. Cook is one of the officials and prime movers in this organization who has helped to make the club a big success.

At White Plains, N. Y., on January 21, Neaf Appar, shooting Peters "steel where steel belongs" shells, won high professional average, 137x150.

The West End Gun Club, of Duluth, Minn., will have its shooting affairs in the following hands in 1915: President, Emil Gustafson; vice-president, Dr. C. B. Greene; secretary, R. S. Morrison; treasurer, John Cullen.

At a shoot held by the Parker Gun Club, of Milwaukee, Wis., on January 24, the three high guns all used Nitro Club shells, while the men scoring first and second places shot Remington guns. The winners were: J. Sausen, of Wawautosa; H. S. Smith, a local shooter, and H. Ludington, also of Wawautosa.

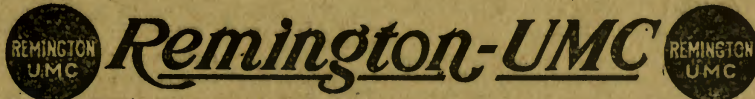
Tom Davis, the secretary of the White Plains, N. Y., Gun Club, is to be congratulated upon the unique program he arranged for the recent Fred Stone shoot. It was carried out in Chinese characters, in keeping with the "Chin Chin" show.

B. M. Higginson, the noted Metropolitan amateur, was high gun at the recent shoot of the New Rochelle, N. Y., Yacht Club's tournament with 95 out of 100, tying Dr. G. H. Martin with 95 and winning on the shoot-off.

C. A. Heckscher Wetherill, of the Racquet Club, of Philadelphia, Pa., has returned to his home from Africa, where his entire shooting outfit was confiscated by the British government for military purposes. Wetherill had spent two months in British East Africa.

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quest of large game. When the news of the war reached him he was stopped by the British military authorities, who politely explained that it was unhealthy for an American to be roaming around the country where military operations would soon take place and advised him to take a boat home. Wetherill did so. Wetherill will return to Africa at the conclusion of the war.

At Peekskill, N. Y., on January 14, Neaf Appar, shooting Peters "steel where steel belongs" shells, won high general average, 96x100.

Still another country club has taken up the sport of trap shooting. This is the Burlington County, N. J., Country Club. Secretary Conard has installed traps and will hold Saturday shoots.

The Everett, Mass., Gun Club recently selected the officials for the 1915 season as follows: President, H. R. Grant; vice-president, A. L. Walliser; treasurer, H. M. Stoodley; captain, C. B. Day; second captain, E. M. Collins; secretary, R. E. Kempton.

At Lincoln, Ills., on January 19-20, H. Kennicott, of Evanston, won high amateur average, and J. R. Graham, high professional average, both scoring 283x300 and both using Peters factory loaded shells.

The Soo Gun Club, of Sioux City, Ia., has arranged its twenty-first annual tournament for June 8, 9 and 10, according to Secretary W. F. Duncan. This is annually one of the biggest shooting events in the country.

P. Downey writes that the Michigan Association for the protection of fish and game held a Sportsmen's Show in Light Guard Armory, Lansing, Mich., on January 27 and 28, while the annual meeting of the Association was held at Downey Hotel.

At New Rochelle, N. Y., on January 16, high professional average was won by Neaf Appar, shooting Peters shells, with a score of 93x100.

Z. C. Offutt, who claims Louisville, Ky., as his home, is one of a small number of shooters who are as well known at a club far distant as at home. Offutt shoots from both the Louisville Gun Club and New Rochelle, N. Y., Yacht Club.

The Du Pont Trap Shooting Club, of Wilmington, Del., will hold its annual team shoot and dinner on February 13, and the opposing captains will be Dudley S. Wood and W. C. Corey. The dinner will be in the Hotel Du Pont, the same evening, and this annual event is looked forward to as a time when

February 20th to 27th the 1915 Annual SPORTSMAN'S and TRAVEL SHOW at the New Grand Central Palace

Lexington Ave. & 47th St., New York City
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Hunters, Anglers, Campers, Explorers,
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A Real Old Fashioned Sportsman's Show
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all the gunners can get together on a common ground.

The Du Pont Powder Company has such great confidence in a speedy return of prosperity for a greater America that its president, T. C. du Pont is sending out engraved letters to its friends, wishing them a share in the prosperity.

Three Events at Everett Traps

Everett, Mass., January 29.—The Everett Gun Club's weekly shoot, on January 23, drew a good field despite rain. Spencer won the silver cup after tying Bogle at 24, by breaking seven out of ten on the shoot-off. Newton won the second event with 25 straight from scratch. H. Hunt won the third event after a shoot-off with Collins, both having 23. Scores:

	H.	B.	H.	B.	H.	B.
Rich	0	18	0	24	0	23
Lettney	8	19				
H. Hunt	1	22	1	21	1	23
Spencer	4	24				
Ross	5	20				
Willoughby	0	20				
Davis	0	22				
Collins	0	21	0	21	0	23
Fraser	0	20				
Drew	2	23				
Brackett	2	21	2	21	2	20
Grant	3	21			3	23
Bogle	4	24				
Newton	0	23	0	25		

ROLIE E. KEMPTON.

The Coming Events

IN TRAP SHOOTING WORLD CAST THEIR SHADOWS BEFORE

"Sporting Life's" Compilation Contains Complete List of Registered and Unregistered Tournaments of Gun Clubs; and Club Fixtures

WITH the announcement of the placing of the Grand American and three of the subsidiary handicaps of the Interstate Association and the completion of arrangements for the holding of these features, comes also the word of the planning for many of the State championship tournaments and other big shooting fixtures that go far towards assuring a big season in the sport. In Delaware, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri and various other States, sportsmen are busy framing up feature events that will attract an even greater entry list than attended the events of the past season. Just how the season's events are shaping up will be shown by the appended articles and schedule list:

Pacific Coast Shooting Plans

Portland, Ore., January 30.—With the annual meeting of the Portland Gun Club over and the officers for the coming year selected, plans are under way to make 1915 one of the best years in the history of the club. H. R. Everding was elected president at the annual gathering in the Imperial Hotel last Tuesday night and Joseph A. Adelman was re-elected secretary and treasurer. W. E. ("Dick") Carlson was chosen vice-president, but he has tendered his resignation because of pressure of business. The Northwest shoot, the banner affair of this portion of the country, has been awarded. It will be held at the club grounds, at Jenne Station, on the Estacada car line, June 6, 7, 8 and 9. The Pacific Coast Handicap tournament, which produced the champion amateur shot of the Coast, was held here last July, and this season San Diego, Cal., will probably get a crack at the spoils. The Pastime Club, of that place, has sent in its application and there probably will be no opposition. The Portland Gun Club is in good favor with the Interstate Association directors because of the success of the locals in handling the various registered tournaments given to them. In 1912 the Pacific Coast Handicap was held at the Portland Gun Club grounds in Kenton and it broke all previous records, but the handicap tournament held last July established such a record that it will be hard to beat under ordinary conditions. Should San Diego receive the Pacific Coast Handicap this year, all records should go, as great throngs of amateur and professional shooters from all over the country will be there at the fair. From now on each Sunday, when the attendance reaches 12 or more, a piece of silverware will be given to the high amateur shooter at the Portland Gun Club grounds. In order that women may compete in the event, it will be shot under the added target system, with each entry being handicapped. E. L. Matthews has full charge of the handling of the club grounds, and it is his desire to bring more visitors out to the traps each Sunday, as well as during the week.

Lock Haven Club's Meeting

Lock Haven, Pa., January 30.—The Lock Haven Gun Club held its eleventh annual meeting this week followed by a banquet that drew not only club members, but also prominent men from all over the State. The election of officers for the coming season resulted in the choice of the same set of officials as ruled last year, they being president, R. H. Stewart; vice-president, W. H. Klapp; secretary, C. A. Jobson; assistant secretary, E. W. Harnish; treasurer, C. M. Plack; captain, P. S. Kift. Executive committee, R. L. Leinbach, J. B. Kyler, H. A. Stevenson, H. H. Wilson, O. G. Munro, C. H. Bressler, C. R. Lauer, N. M. Bingham and E. B. Shaffer. This committee, in connection with the president, secretary and treasurer, constitutes the board of directors. The energetic and popular Secretary Jobson read a set of new rules for the government of the shooting events for 1915, and which were framed with a view of avoiding too much shooting on any one day, which will keep the expense down to one dollar for each shooter. After thoroughly discussing the rules and especially the clause limiting the shots to 25 for one day, which will entail some sacrifice on the part of the old sportsmen of the club like President Stewart, Captain Kift and others, who have been in the habit of pumping out 100 or more shots a day, the rules were adopted without a dissenting vote.

Highland Falls Annual Dinner

Philadelphia, Pa., February 2.—The annual banquet of the Highland Gun Club was held last night and it was one of the most successful in the history of the club. The same men who held office last year were re-elected. They are: President, William Dalton; vice-president, J. Markeley Freed; treasurer, Robt. Greenwood; secretary, J. Franklin Meehan; assistant secretary, S. Morris Crothers. Mr. Meehan found that it was impossible for him to devote sufficient time to the duties of secretary, and the club members were unanimous in declining to accept his resignation, so a

compromise was effected by creating the position of assistant secretary, and Crothers was elected. A new board of directors was selected, consisting of Vincent Oliver, R. G. Fell, Harry Greenwood, Joel Davis, Thomas Tansey, Fraser Dixon, J. Greenwood and H. L. David. The annual award of prizes was made as follows: Club championship, S. M. Crothers, with an average of 86. The yearly class championships went to S. M. Crothers in Class A; S. M. Freeman, in Class B; H. Greenwood, in Class C, and F. Harkins, in Class D. The period trophies went to C. H. Newcomb in Class A; S. M. Freeman, in Class B; H. E. Perry, in Class C, and R. G. Fell, in Class D, for the first period. In the second period, S. M. Crothers landed the Class A prize; Freeman copped the Class B, H. Greenwood got the Class C, and F. Harkins again came through in the D Class. The third period saw Crothers win in Class A once more, while Thomas Mooney landed the Class B and R. G. Fell won in Class C. The D Class was a tie between S. Crothers, Sr., Harkins and J. F. Meehan, Jr. The president's trophy was won by Fell, the directors' trophy by Harkins and the Burns Memorial trophy saw another tie between Perry and Harkins. The captain's trophy went to Crothers, while the improvement trophy was landed by Fell, whose work during the past season has raised him to a Class A rating.

Delaware State Shoot Plans

Wilmington, Del., January 29.—All plans have been completed preliminary to the Delaware State shoot and now forces are at work to make this event a record-breaker. The fourth annual meeting was recently held here with six of the State's clubs represented, they being the Du Pont Trap Shooting Club, Aurora Gun Club, Wilmington Gun Club, Claymont Gun Club, East Lake Trap Shooting Club, and Guyencourt Gun Club. Three new gun clubs are in line to join the Association, they being the Seaford, State Road and Yorklyn Clubs. With all these co-operating it is expected that the State will have more trap shooting than ever. The 1915 State tournament was again awarded to the Du Pont Trap Shooting Club and the dates set are Friday and Saturday, May 28 and 29. The officers selected were as follows: President, Dr. Horace Betts; vice-president, A. B. Richardson; secretary-treasurer, W. A. Joslyn; directors: C. Thorpe Martin and W. G. Wood; program committee: T. E. Doremus, T. S. Chalfont and W. A. Joslyn.

Get Ready for Washington Shoot

Seattle, Wash., January 29.—The Seattle, Wash., Trap Shooters' Association has lined up its forces for the season by selecting a popular set of officials for the year. Fred Landwehr was chosen president at the recent annual meeting; M. Grossman, vice-president; Charles Stadtfeld, secretary-treasurer; Dr. E. W. Kerr, Hugh Fleming and J. S. Ruppe, executive committee; and Matt Grossman, Deskin Reid and A. E. Drake, field captains. A committee was named to look into the matter of securing new shooting grounds. All efforts will be made to obtain a record attendance for the Washington State shoot, to be held at Seattle, on May 17, 18 and 19. It is hoped that a sufficiently attractive program will be arranged to make it possible to have every club in the State send a large entry to the tournament.

Illinois Broadens Its League

Lincoln, Ill., January 29.—The Central Illinois Trap Shooters' League is on the road to a big and busy season, as indicated by its action at its recent meeting, when three more gun clubs from good shooting sections were admitted to membership. These clubs were Peoria, Alexander and Shelbyville. With these three new clubs in line it is likely that a record season will result. The officials who will pilot the organization during the rest of the year are: President, L. J. Robinson, Peoria; vice-president, John Snyder, Alexander; secretary-treasurer, Roy Gayle, Lincoln. The following dates for the league shoots were selected: Springfield, March 30, 31; Shelbyville, April 21, 22; Jacksonville, May 19, 20; Alexander, June 9, 10; Deatur, July 21, 22; Bloomington, August 11, 12; Lincoln, September 15, 16; Mt. Pulaski, October 13, 14; Peoria, November 3, 4. A pleasing and sensible innovation was the determination to make the programs for all league shoots uniform. Heretofore they have been of a great variety. On the two day shoots the program will always be 150 targets each day.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Within a reasonable date after the middle of February an announcement will be made of the list eligible to hold these events, and they will be so distributed throughout the country that all will have a chance at them. As usual, this year "Sporting Life" will publish all of the registered tournaments, being the only publication having access to the official registered tournament scores. Along with this the registered official averages will be published once every month. As there are no registered tournaments scheduled as yet, the schedule list below contains only the list of unregistered tournaments for the near future. In addition, there will be found appended thereto a list of gun clubs who hold regular periodical shooting contests. This will be added to or changed from time to time at the request of gun club officials. "Sporting Life" earnestly requests gun club officials to keep this list before them and make changes whenever necessary. It will have regular publication during the season when the opportunity and space permit. The schedule and fixtures are as follows:

Tournaments Registered

May 11, 12, 13—Memphis, Tenn. The Interstate Association's Tenth Southern Handicap Tournament, under the auspices of the Memphis Gun Club; \$1000 added money. Winner of first place in the South-



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to throw the kind of target you miss so often at the club. This trap is adjustable. The shooter gets a 35 or 70-yard straightaway, fast or slow, high or low, "jack rabbit," curvers or skimmers—whichever flight he desires for improving his shooting. Such practice methods will surely result in better scores.

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Mr. S. A. Huntley, Omaha, Neb., with a PARKER Double-Barrel Stock Gun captures the Premier event of the Winter season at Pinehurst, score 95 x 100; also High on all targets, 759 x 800.

J. D. Platt, Jr., winner of Preliminary Handicap and the three men who tied for first, all used PARKER Guns.

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HARRY SLOAN'S FINE SHOOTING

Meadow Spring Star Runs 70 Straight and Breaks 96.

Philadelphia, Pa., February 1.—Harry H. Sloan kept up his phenomenal shooting at Meadow Spring Gun Club on January 30 by running 70 straight targets and breaking 96 out of 100. Hilpot and Simmonds tied for the club spoon on the full program, each with a perfect score, including handicap, and they tossed for the trophy, Hilpot winning. Scores:

	B.	H.	B.	R.	H.	T.
Hilpot	21	23	23	23	14	100
Coyle	21	24	22	24	7	98
Killian	18	24	20	24	8	90
Martin	16	21	11	11	6	43
Coleman	21	23	11	11	11	48
Simmonds	19	22	21	24	20	100
Sloan	35	26	24	23	2	98
Williams	20	20	21	23	9	93
Brown	29	10	20	15	14	89
H. H. Roberts	25	19	22	17	15	98
Kitch	16	17	16	11	15	48
Jones	22	19	10	20	1	80
Clegg	23	19	22	22	10	96
Beaver	20	22	24	11	6	72
Henry	24	25	11	11	11	49
Lee	16	17	16	11	11	48
Lloyd	13	11	11	11	11	43
Unger	18	15	11	11	11	53
G. H. Williams	17	17	11	11	11	54
Biddle	17	14	11	11	11	51

*Visitor.

Blandford High at Ossining

Ossining, N. Y., January 30.—C. G. Blandford won the main event in the weekly shoot of the Ossining Gun Club by breaking 25 straight. He was also high gun for the 100 targets. Scores:

Targets	25	25	25	23
J. S. Fanning	20	18	10	10
Mr. Wilbur	19	17	19	16
Col. F. Brandreth	22	21	19	11
D. Brandreth	19	21	21	21
W. H. Coleman	18	19	21	20
Mr. Crawford	15	11	19	15
Mr. Borden	17	17	12	19
C. G. Blandford	23	25	24	21
J. T. Hyland	22	20	18	18
J. C. Barlow	13	11	11	16
G. E. Hubbell	19	17	17	16
Dr. C. W. Farr	17	14	11	11
A. W. Hendrickson	12	11	11	15
L. Barrett	14	11	11	11

Tournaments Not Registered

February 5—Princeton, Ills. White Flyer Gun Club's 150-target program. C. R. Trimble, secretary.
February 6—Philadelphia, Pa. Philadelphia Trap Shooters' League matches, at Clearview, Lansdale, Camden and Highland Clubs.
February 12—Bergen Beach, L. I. Bergen Beach Gun Club's tournament.
February 19—Princeton, Ills. White Flyer Gun Club's 150-target program. C. R. Trimble, secretary.
February 20—Birmingham, Ala. Midwinter tournament of Birmingham Gun Club. O. L. Garl, secretary.
February 22—Montpelier, Vt. Vermont State Trap Shooters' League, under the auspices of Montpelier Gun Club. Dr. C. H. Burr, secretary.
June 8, 9, 10—Sioux City, Iowa. Twenty-first annual tournament of the Soo Gun Club. W. F. Duncan, secretary.
June 23-July 1—Oedar Point, Sandusky, O. The Indians' annual tournament. D. H. Eaton, secretary. 315 East Fourth St., Cincinnati, O.

GUN EDITORIAL COMMENT

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 6, 1915

No matter what happens, you will find a record of it in "Sporting Life."

SHOOTING'S BIG GAIN

UNDOUBTEDLY trap shooting is rising to a higher estate as each year rolls around. It was only a few years ago that the sport was emerging from the live bird days and from obscurity. There was nothing stable about it, clubs rising and dying almost overnight. The club houses and shooting equipment were nothing to boast of, and even many of those who followed the sport did not openly take the trouble to talk its good points. In recent years a change has come about. Better supervision and organization, and the gradual entry into the sport of thousands of the best type of sportsmen have placed the game on a plane than which there is no higher. In our last issue we recorded the fact that the Omaha Gun Club, an organization that has been through all the vicissitudes of the sport, is planning to build a handsome and costly clubhouse. The country is being dotted with similar structures. Trap shooters are no longer satisfied to have a set of traps and a shanty shelter for their shoots. They are asking for and getting fine clubhouses, thoroughly equipped, and as complete and perfectly-appointed as those connected with any other sport. All these are signs of greater and more successful days in the sport of trap shooting.

REACHING ITS PLACE

TRAP SHOOTING is gradually realizing the fine possibilities that the originators of the sport hoped would be its due. Scarcely a day goes by that we do not hear of the organization of some new clubs, the broadening of the scope of others, and the increase of the number of shooters in different localities. "Sporting Life" has heard from time to time some faint-hearted critics of the sport maintain that the sport is going back and that it is as great now as it ever will be. To these we would answer that we have absolute knowledge that there is more trap shooting now than ever before. In addition to this there is every evidence that during the past year, in which almost all kinds of business and sport suffered a certain amount of decline due to many disturbing conditions, the good sport of trap shooting went ahead with never a halt. We feel that trap shooting is a sport that is here to stay, and that it has not begun to realize the great possibilities that are in store for it.

ANOTHER HANDICAP FIXED

THE Annual Pacific Coast Handicap of the Interstate Association has been thoroughly mapped out according to the attached letter from Tournament Manager Elmer E. Shaner: "Pittsburgh, Pa., January 30.—Editor "Sporting Life."—Please announce to the readers of "Sporting Life" that the Tenth Pacific Coast Handicap Tournament will be held at San Diego, California, on July 5, 6, and 7, 1915, under the auspices of the Pastime Gun Club. There will be \$1000 added money and the winner of first place in the Pacific Coast Handicap will be guaranteed \$100 and a trophy; winner of second place will be guaranteed \$75 and a trophy, and the winner of third place will be guaranteed \$50 and a trophy. Several other trophies will also be awarded. Yours very truly, The Interstate Association, Elmer E. Shaner, Treasurer and Manager."

ITHACA IN INTERSTATE

THE following letter from Secretary E. Reed Shaner, of the Interstate Association, bears out the exclusive story which "Sporting Life" published last week about the entry of a new member into the ranks of the Interstate Association: "Pittsburgh, Pa., January 30, 1915.—Editor "Sporting Life."—Please be kind enough to announce in the trap department of "Sporting Life" that the Ithaca Gun Company, of Ithaca, New York, has been elected a member of the Interstate Association, and oblige, Yours very truly, The Interstate Association, E. Reed Shaner, Secretary."

DEPENDENCE ON AVERAGES

WITH the last issue "Sporting Life's" official averages for the year of 1914 were completed and the shooters now have at their fingers' ends a complete record of all that transpired during that eventful season. There has been an unusual demand for copies of these averages, and it now appears that

the directors of the various gun clubs and most of the big shooting events are counting upon these records to keep them posted in their handicapping and classifying of shooters for the season that is ahead. There are so few good shots who are not in the records that no mistake can be made in depending upon these averages.

WHAT AVERAGES SHOW

Continued from nineteenth page

sionals. Of this number, in keeping with the class, 112 broke their way into the 90 per cent. division, or a percentage of just a little less than 40 per cent.

PENNSYLVANIA WITH ITS 747

amateur shots, had 62 shooters ranking 90 per cent. or better, an excellent showing, but not so high in average as several other States. Canada, Ohio, New Jersey and several others showed a better general average. Of Pennsylvania's 18 professionals, only three broke better than 90 per cent. Of New York's 468 amateurs 36 were 90 per cent. shots. Ohio ranked third in the number of amateur shots with 437 and Canada next with 421. Florida strangely enough did not have an amateur registered shot and only one professional. New Mexico had a clean slate as regards 90 per centers, the two amateurs and one professional listed from that State all getting into the sacred division. Aside from Florida, Vermont and South Carolina were the only States to have no 90 per cent. shots. The table of statistics gleaned from the averages follows:

Table with columns: State, Ama., Pro., Ama., Pro. Lists various states and their respective numbers of amateur and professional shooters.

RECORD N. Y. A. C. FIELD

Forty-Three Compete at Travers Island—G. J. Corbett High.

New York, N. Y., February 1.—With a field of 43 contestants, the attendance record at New York A. C.'s weekly shoot was broken. The competition was keen, G. J. Corbett, the trap shooting director of the club, shot a fine race, leading for scratch honors with 94 out of 100. B. E. Eldred won the Club Cup, Novice and High Handicap Prizes; George Lyon the Travers Island Distance Handicap honors, and R. L. Spotts the Accumulation Cup. Scores:

Table with columns: Events, 1, 2, 3, 4, H. B., Y. B., D. B., E. B. Lists names of shooters and their scores in various events.

Event 1—Travers Island Trophy, won by G. Lyon; 2—High Scratch Prize, won by G. J. Corbett; 3—Handicap Prize, won by B. E. Eldred; 4—Distance Handicap, won by G. Lyon.



HIGH AVERAGE PRIZES

Season of 1915

For Shooters of "Western" Factory-Loaded Steel-Locked Shells

In order that shooters of "Field" and "Record" Shells might profit specially from the shooting which they do in regularly advertised Tournaments we are offering prizes as follows:

A Beautifully Designed 14-Karat Rolled Gold Watch Fob One Hundred Dollars Worth of Personally Selected Merchandise

Any shooter winning a Tournament Average of one, two or three days will be given one of the Watch Fobs and, if he be an amateur, a proper number of points will be scored to his credit, same to apply to the contest for the Season-End Merchandise Prizes, conditions of which follow:

- An average win at a One Day's Tournament scores One Point.
An average win at a Two Days' Tournament scores Two Points.
An average win at a Three Days' Tournament scores Three Points.
A Championship win in a State Sportsmen's Association, in The Indians, the Pacific Indians or the Westy Hogans will score Five Points.
An Open State Championship win will score Ten Points.
A National Amateur Championship win will score Twenty-Five Points.
An Interstate Association Handicap win will score Twenty-Five Points.
At end of season, to those having the greatest number of points to their credit, prizes will be awarded as follows: First—An order for \$50.00 worth of Merchandise. Second—An order for \$30.00 worth of Merchandise. Third—An order for \$20.00 worth of Merchandise. In case of ties, Class System will be used to divide. Kind of merchandise and place of purchase is left optional with the winners.

To qualify for these prizes "WESTERN" Factory Loaded Shells must be used and the shooting must be done at a Tournament that is regularly advertised and open to general competition. High General Average is not necessary to make points count. Notification of win, accompanied by voucher signed by Tournament Manager, or Club Secretary, together with a copy of the Tournament Program, must be sent in within five days after win, to Advertising Department,

WESTERN CARTRIDGE CO., Alton, Ill.

Curtis's & Harvey Diamond Smokeless when ordering your shells. It combines all the advantages of both bulk and dense powders without any of their disadvantages. VON LINGERKE & DETMOLD 200 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

GUNS, AMMUNITION AND SPORTING GOODS

J. B. Shannon Hardware Co. 816 Chestnut St., Phila. Catalogue Sent for the Asking.

JANUARY 23 SHOOT Table with columns: Events, 1, 2, 3, 4, H. B., Y. B., D. B., E. B. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

Event 1—Scratch Shoot, won by W. B. Ogden; 2—Handicap Shoot, won by B. E. Eldred; 3—Distance Handicap, won by W. B. Ogden; 4—Travers Island Trophy, won by E. H. Locatelli.

SKELLY WINS DELAWARE TITLE

Noted Marksman Lands Open Championship With 93.

Wilmington, Del., February 1.—James T. Skelly, came into his own on January 30, when he outshot a big field for the Delaware State open championship. Shooting in a hard, cold crosswind Skelly made the fine record of 93 out of 100. The calibre of his shooting may be judged by the fact that his nearest rival, Ward Hammond, only broke 88. The trophy was put into competition owing to the removal to New Jersey of its holder, W. Schuyler Colfax. Among the visitors were C. A. Hardy, a Chicago amateur, and O. Stull, a professional. The cup competition resulted in a victory for R. P. Willis with 46. He broke 23 out of 25 in his first shoot and took advantage also of the rules allowing his score to be doubled instead of shooting again. H. Winchester was second with 44. Scores:

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS A Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS B Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS C Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS D Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS E Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS F Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS G Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS H Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS I Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS J Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS K Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS L Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS M Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

RICHARDSON CUP SHOOT CLASS N Table with columns: Name, Score. Lists names of shooters and their scores.

The Battles of Pinehurst and Houston Decisive Victories for

WINCHESTER

Loaded Shells and Shotguns

Generals Huntley, Platt, Ludlam and Livingston the Heroes

S. A. Huntley, of Omaha, Neb.; J. D. Platt, Jr., of Dayton, O.; A. H. Ludlam, of Raymondville, Texas; and John R. Livingston, of Springville, Ala., were respectively the 42 centimeter guns of the recent Midwinter Handicap and the Sunny South Handicap campaigns.

Mr. Huntley, shooting Winchester Loaded "Leader" Shells, captured the Midwinter Handicap with the phenomenal score of 95 x 100 from 23 yards; tied in the Preliminary Handicap with 89 x 100 from 22 yards; captured High Average on 16-yard Targets, breaking 575 x 600, and High Average on All Targets with a score of 759 x 800.

Mr. Platt, shooting Winchester Loaded "Leader" Shells, captured the Preliminary Handicap, breaking 89 x 100 targets and 20 targets straight from 18 yards on the shoot-off of the tie.

Mr. Ludlam, shooting a Model 1912 Winchester Hammerless

Shotgun and Winchester Loaded "Leader" Shells, captured the Sunny South Handicap by breaking 87 x 100 targets; Jim McLean, Augusta, Texas; and C. D. Coburn, Mechanicsburg, O., captured second and third places by breaking respectively 85 and 83 out of 100, both shooting Winchester guns and Winchester Loaded "Leader" Shells. These scores were excellent, considering the terrific weather conditions.

Mr. Livingston, shooting a Winchester Repeating Shotgun and Winchester Loaded "Leader" Shells, successfully held the Houston Chronicle Cup against all assaults by smashing 99 x 100.

For a Hard Campaign the W Brand is THE One

THE VICTORIOUS W BRAND



NEW YORK SPORTSMEN CONFERENCE

Representatives of Eight Clubs Gather at Rochester Traps.

Rochester, N. Y., January 29.—Representatives of eight gun clubs in Western New York gathered at the Rochester Gun Club yesterday at the call of President Loomis and Secretary Wilson, of the Interlake Gun Club, for the purpose of discussing the formation of a trap shooters' league and at the same time of competing in a conference shoot. The chief issue was the formation of a trap shooters' league. It was decided to hold one registered tournament each month under the auspices of one of the clubs, the tournament to be registered in the Interstate Sportsmen's Association. A suggestion to hold a meet each month going around the circuit of towns represented did not meet with approval, as it was thought that some of the towns would not be suitable for such a meet. The annual State shoot will be held as usual, each club sending one squad to participate. The meet yesterday was one of the best run by a local club in some time. All of the participants expressed themselves as pleased with the arrangements, and no complaints were heard about the traps, all of which were working well. G. N. Fish, of the Audubon Club, scored 143 out of a possible 150 for the high score of the shoot. R. C. Kirchner, of Rochester, and Charles Scoon, of Ithaca, tied for second place, each man scoring 141 out of a possible 150. A. C. Skutt, of Morton, came in for third with a score of 139. In the "bear trap" contest W. Patterson, of Buffalo Audubons, won with 10 straight. Sim Glover led the professionals with 141. Scores:

Table with columns for Events (Targets, Fish, Wright, Conley, Skutt, Patterson, Bonbright, Macomber, Kirchner, Powers, Sim Glover, Scoon, Mrs. Harrison, Willey, Evans, Tuckett, Targ, Fay, Frantz, Wooden, Nichols, Brewster, Morrison, Parsons, Burnell, Lytle, R. Clark, E. Clark, Horton, Shanley, Rosenfelt, Bissell, King) and rows for scores 1-10. Includes a note for *Professionals.

MARYLAND TRAP LEAGUE

Baltimore Shooting Association Desposes Havre De Grace Leaders.

Havre de Grace, Md., January 29.—The Baltimore Shooting Association now holds first place in the Maryland Trap Shooters' League by virtue of its victory over Havre De Grace Gun Club in one of the finest shoots ever held in this State. The Baltimore shots won by eight targets, 319 to 311, and the result was in doubt to the finish. The two clubs were tied for first place in the league, and a big entry resulted despite the heavy rain. J. Mowell Hawkins was the individual star, he missing but six out of his 50 targets. Scores:

Table comparing scores between Baltimore and Havre De Grace. Baltimore shooters: S. Michael, M. Mitchell, E. Poplar, R. Lawder, S. Walker, C. Osborne, H. Whitney. Havre De Grace shooters: Bk. Whitford, Graham, Rosebury, Hawkins, Malone, Hargest, Frances.

SHOOT TRIBUTE TO FRED STONE

Sixty Shooters Compete in Event at White Plains Traps.

White Plains, N. Y., January 30.—The White Plains Gun Club had a remarkable turnout to its tournament on January 21, in honor of Fred Stone, the famous comedian-shooter, which was as well a tribute to the ability of Tom Davis, the professional, as a tournament originator and manager. Sixty shooters, representing more than a score of clubs, turned out. In addition to the shooters, a big crowd of visitors saw the events. The handling of this big event fell to Tom Davis and P. B. Keenan. The "Go Gar Sig Gong-Jue" trophy, presented by Fred Stone for high scratch score was won by L. C. Wilson, of the Bridgeport Gun Club, who scored 142. H. O. Allyn, of the White Plains Club, won the Du Pont trophy, score, 140. High handicap for "Chin Chin" trophy was won by Nat Webb, of the New Rochelle Yacht Club, who tied with Bill Ogden, of the N. Y. A. C., with a perfect score. In the shoot-off, Webb turned in a score of 22 against Ogden's 21, which awarded Ogden the "Dil Mon Sto" trophy. The other prizes were won as follows: "Aladdin" trophy, Bill Ogden, N. Y. A. C.; "Chin Hop Hi" trophy, D. H. Hall, Bridgeport Gun Club; "Izy Yung" trophy, Nat Webb, New Rochelle Yacht Club; "Chin Hop Lo" trophy, L. C. Wilson, Bridgeport Gun Club; "Wing Wu" trophy, T. L. Denyse, White Plains Gun Club; "Lee Toy" trophy, T. H. Lawrence, White Plains Gun Club. Scores:

Table with columns for Shooters (Plummer, Shumway, Leidel, Drought, Capt. Jack, Cullen, Siefken, Stump) and rows for scores. Includes a note for *Professionals.

The Hercules Powder Company's 1915 Calendar

Advertisement for Hercules Powder Company's 1915 Calendar, featuring illustrations of a man with a target, a horse, and a woman, along with several calendar pages for July, August, September, October, November, and January.

MONMOUTH COUNTY CONTEST

A. L. Ivins Wins Distance Handicap Shoot at Freehold.

Freehold, N. J., January 29.—The second 100-target distance handicap of the Monmouth County Shooting Association was decided yesterday. A. L. Ivins, of Red Bank, on 19 yards was high with 92. F. Blain, of Freehold, a 17-yard man, was next with 89. W. Wooley, of Lakewood, 16 yards, broke 88; W. D. Applegate, Asbury Park, 19 yards; 87, and Walter Sherwood, 17 yards, 85. Scores:

Table with columns for Shooters (Ivins, Blain, Wooley, Garrett Buck, Courtwright, Wm. C. Daiser, Wm. Foman, Geo. Buck, W. Sherwood, F. Blain, C. Newman, H. Chafey, M. Conover, R. Hartman, C. Ackerson, Dr. Hartman) and rows for scores. Includes a note for *Professional.

Pennsylvania in Sportsman's Show

New York, N. Y., January 30.—Among the regions resorted to by city sportsmen that will be represented in the Sportsman's and Travel Show, February 20-27, at the New Grand Central Palace, New York City, will be Monroe and Pike Counties, Pennsylvania. The rugged fastnesses of this part of the Keystone State are as wild as some less accessible localities in Maine and Canada's Maritime Provinces. For 20 years the live, public-spirited railway and steam navigation line officials, hotel keepers, resort and camp proprietors and associations of guides of Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have employed New York's original annual international sportsmen's shows as the logical medium through which to reach the moneyed sportsmen and tourist classes of the metropolis and from anywhere. Other localities have followed their lead and in 1915, Monroe County and a part of Pike County tributary to it, in Pennsylvania, will be represented in the show with a characteristic exhibit representing wilderness attractions for sportsmen and all outdoors. The title of the exhibit will be "Exhibit of Monroe County, Pennsylvania and Tributary Territory." The moving spirit in the organization of the Monroe County exhibit is Emil Held, and the centre of activity is East Stroudsburg, Monday, February 22, Washington's Birthday, will be Pennsylvania Day in the Sportsman's Show.

Peters SHELLS Score a "Winner" at PINEHURST

THE HIGH PROFESSIONAL, ON ALL 16-YARD TARGETS, WAS E. H. STORR

570 ex 600

Mr. Storr shot the P brand—"steel where steel belongs" shells—the kind that won the 5 leading honors in 1914 trap shooting.

The Grand American Handicap: The Amateur Championship—Single Targets: The Amateur Championship—Double Targets The Official High Amateur Average: The Official High Professional Average

1915 will be YOUR best year at the traps or in the field if you USE Peters SHELLS

THE PETERS CARTRIDGE COMPANY, Cincinnati, OHIO. [New York: 60-62 Warren St., T. H. Keller, Manager. San Francisco: 583-585 Howard St., J. S. French, Manager. New Orleans: 321 Magazine St., Lee Omohundro, Manager.]

HIGHLAND'S ANNUAL TOURNEY

H. B. Cook Is Star of Noted Club's Big Trophy Shoot.

Philadelphia, Pa., January 30.—The Highland Gun Club held its annual prize shoot at Edge Hill today with a field of 39 fine shots competing. Aside from the cold weather shooting conditions were good and competition keen. The Highlanders showed their usual generosity in the awarding of prizes, the awards being profuse and valuable. Harry B. Cook, of Atlantic City, was the big winner. With 93 out of 100 he was high gun for the day and won a black leather traveling bag, a silk-covered umbrella for the only straight score made in event 1, a whisk broom and silver-mounted holder for breaking 24 in the second event, and a silver spoon for the best score made by a visitor in the club's monthly shoot. There was a particularly keen fight on between S. M. Crothers, Sidebotham, Plum, Newcomb, Hand, Fontaine and Hoffman for the runner-up prize. The first two gunmen tied for the trophy with 86 each, but instead of shooting off for the prize they tossed a coin, and, Sidebotham calling the turn, won the donation. Plum finished with 85, Hand and Hoffman cracked 84, Newcomb 83, and Fontaine 81. In the club events S. M. Crothers won the Class A umbrella with 86 out of his 100, Harry Greenwood carried off the B umbrella with 77, R. G. Fell with 81 captured the C prize, while Kelly with 67 walked home with the D prize. Spoons were also offered for the club gunners for high scores on the first two events and the final pair of tests. In Class A Crothers won the dipper, Fell the C donation, and S. Crothers the D spoon. Charles H. Newcomb won the A prize on the last two events, Fell and Perry tied for the C donation and will have to shoot it off next month, while Harkins won the D spoon. Scores:

Table with columns C, B, B, B, B, T. listing names and scores for various events.

"Chief" Bender Makes 94 Score

Camden, N. J., January 30.—With all his old form "Chief" Bender, the famous baseball pitcher, carried off the honors in a 100-target event at the Beideman Club today. In the face of a cold, biting wind, the "Chief" showed wonderful form, breaking 94. He missed but one out of 25 on each of his first three trips to the traps and dropped three in the last squad. Dr. Jones was second, with Superintendent of Police Robinson and Director Porter having a battle royal for third prize, the former besting his superior by one target, 86 to 85. Scores:

Table with columns Events, 1, 2, 3, 4, Bk. listing names and scores.

RIVERSIDE DEFEATS LEIPERVILLE

Philadelphia, Pa., February 1.—By a margin of 37 targets Riverside Gun Club won a 10-man team shoot from Leiperville Gun Club on January 30. The scoring was excellent under the handicap of cold weather. Of the 10 men who made the Riverside team four cracked 41 or better, while Leiperville had but two men to do 42 or better. Powell, with 45, not only led the winning team, but as well topped the field, with Stella, of Riverside, and Harper, of Leiperville, tied for runner-up with 44 each. Fisher and Wiltbank each cracked 42, while Bowers landed on 41. Scores:

Table with columns RIVERSIDE, LEIPERVILLE, listing names and scores.

Three other gunners failed to qualify for their respective teams, they being Sibling, with 22, and Rossa, with 22, both Riverside men; while Maddon, Leiperville, broke 25.

Walls Wins Farragut Special Shoot

Camden, N. J., February 1.—In the special shoot at Farragut Sportsmen's Association on January 30 Walls won a cup and side purse with 43 out of 50, beating Fred von Neida by one target. This was good scoring in the strong cold wind off the river. Scores:

Table with columns listing names and scores for the Farragut Special Shoot.

Tie For Camden Field Honors

Camden, N. J., February 1.—William Kling and Fred von Neida shot a tie at the Camden Field Club's trophy shoot on January 30, with 45 out of 50. Pfeffer was next with 44. Scores:

Table with columns Du Pont, Stevens, listing names and scores.

H. Burlington Wins at Hudson

Jersey City, N. J., January 30.—The bi-monthly shoot of Hudson Gun Club found Harry Burlington high gun with 77 per cent., Carl von Lengerke being runner-up. Henry Pape won Stevens trophy with 142, and T. Kelly the Smith prize with 141. Scores:

Table with columns Sh. Bk. Pct., listing names and scores.

H. Spaulding Pinehurst Club Winner

Pinehurst, N. C., January 30.—The weekly shooting handicap of the Pinehurst Gun Club this week had H. N. Spaulding, of Manchester, N. H., the trophy winner with 96 out of 100. Scores:

Table with columns H, B, B, B, T, listing names and scores.

BURNS TIES RECORD IN SNOW

Metropolitan Shot Breaks 57 Straight at Larchmont Traps.

New York, N. Y., February 1.—A. L. Burns, gave a brilliant exhibition of his shooting ability when he equaled the season's long run record at Larchmont Yacht Club traps yesterday, breaking 57 straight. This score was exceptional, as it was made in a severe snow storm. Burns' good shooting gave him the Visitors' Cup, Take-Home Trophy, and Scratch medal. His total was 116 out of 125. R. L. Spotts and C. W. Berner broke 115. Scores:

January Cup, 25 targets, handicap—R. L. Spotts, 6, 24; G. W. Lembeck, 3, 24; B. M. Higginson, 2, 25; S. H. Core, 4, 25; A. W. Church, 4, 23; C. W. Berner, 1, 23; T. Lenane, Jr., 3, 23; R. K. Spotts, 4, 21; D. F. McMahon, 0, 21; A. L. Burns, 0, 20. Shoot-off for leg won by R. L. Spotts. *Not members. Cup won by A. L. Burns (three legs).

Visitors' Cup, 25 targets, handicap—A. L. Burns, 25 straight; B. M. Higginson, 2, 25; R. K. Spotts, 4, 25; S. H. Core, 4, 25; C. W. Berner, 4, 25; T. Lenane, Jr., 3, 24; D. F. McMahon, 1, 23; A. W. Church, 2, 22; R. L. Spotts, 0, 22; G. W. Lembeck, 3, 21. Won by A. L. Burns. Take-Home Trophy, 25 targets, handicap—A. L. Burns, 25 straight; B. M. Higginson, 4, 25; D. F. McMahon, 2, 25; C. W. Berner, 6, 25; G. W. Lembeck, 3, 25; R. K. Spotts, 3, 24; S. H. Core, 4, 23; R. L. Spotts, 0, 22; T. Lenane, Jr., 5, 22; A. W. Church, 4, 21. Won by A. L. Burns.

Accumulation Cup, 25 targets, handicap—D. F. McMahon, 25 straight; B. M. Higginson, 3, 25; A. W. Church, 5, 25; R. K. Spotts, 6, 25; S. H. Core, 4, 25; C. W. Berner, 5, 25; G. W. Lembeck, 4, 25; A. L. Burns, 1, 24; R. L. Spotts, 1, 24; T. Lenane, Jr., 4, 19. Won by D. F. McMahon.

Handicap Cup, 100 targets—C. W. Berner, 16, 108; B. M. Higginson, 11, 104; R. K. Spotts, 21, 100; A. L. Burns, 5, 98; S. H. Core, 16, 90; G. W. Lembeck, 15, 97; A. W. Church, 15, 92; D. F. McMahon, 3, 94; R. L. Spotts, 1, 92; T. Lenane, Jr., 15, 88. Won by C. W. Berner.

High Scratch Medal, 125 targets—A. L. Burns, 116; R. L. Spotts, 115; C. W. Berner, 115; B. M. Higginson, 114; D. F. McMahon, 113; G. W. Lembeck, 104; T. Lenane, Jr., 99; S. H. Core, 99; R. K. Spotts, 96; A. W. Church, 95.

Ten targets, scratch—R. L. Spotts, 10; D. F. McMahon, 10; C. W. Berner, 10; B. M. Higginson, 8; A. L. Burns, 8; C. H. Core, 8; G. W. Lembeck, 8; A. W. Church, 6; R. K. Spotts, 6; T. Lenane, Jr., 6. Shoot-off won by R. L. Spotts. Fifteen targets, scratch—G. W. Lembeck, 15; A. L. Burns, 15; R. L. Spotts, 14; C. W. Berner, 13; B. M. Higginson, 12; D. F. McMahon, 12; R. K. Spotts, 11; A. W. Church, 10; T. Lenane, Jr., 10. Shoot-off won by G. W. Lembeck.

JANUARY 23 SHOOT

January Cup, 25 targets, handicap—J. Ward (3), 25; Dr. G. H. Martin (3), 25; T. Lenane, Jr. (3), 25; A. L. Burns (0), 23; W. B. Short (3), 23; C. W. Berner (1), 21; F. M. Wilson (4), 18. Shoot-off won by J. Ward.

Visitors' Cup, 25 targets, handicap—J. Ward (3), 25; A. L. Burns (1), 24; C. W. Berner (4), 24; G. H. Martin (1), 23; T. Lenane, Jr. (3), 22; F. M. Wilson (3), 22; W. B. Short (3), 21. Won by J. Ward.

Take Home Trophy, 25 targets, handicap—J. Ward (5), 25; A. L. Burns (3), 25; C. W. Berner (6), 25; T. Lenane, Jr. (5), 25; F. M. Wilson (3), 25; Dr. G. H. Martin (1), 23; W. B. Short (4), 22. Shoot-off won by Ward.

Accumulation Cup, 25 targets, handicap—J. Ward (4), 25; T. Lenane, Jr. (4), 25; W. B. Short (3), 25; A. L. Burns (1), 24; Dr. G. H. Martin (1), 24; C. W. Berner (5), 23; F. M. Wilson (3), 20. Shoot-off won by Ward.

High Scratch, 125 targets—A. L. Burns, 114; J. Ward, 114; Dr. Martin, 112; T. Lenane, Jr., 102; W. B. Short, 99; C. W. Berner, 98; F. M. Wilson, 90. Shoot-off won by Burns. Handicap Cup, 100 targets—J. Ward (15), 100; T. Lenane, Jr. (15), 99; A. L. Burns (5), 97; C. W. Berner (16), 97; Dr. Martin (6), 96; W. B. Short (13), 91; F. M. Wilson (13), 82.

West Nottingham's Poultry Shoot

Colorado, Md., January 29.—The West Nottingham Gun Club held a poultry shoot for prizes, which consisted of canvasbacks, mallards, geese and guineas. In event No. 4, four men tied for third place, C. Kirk winning out. In event No. 5, McCush, Clayton and Thompson won out when the ties were shot off. Events 7 and 8 were sweepstakes, Duyckinck and Jackson, Clayton C. Kirk winning out. Scores:

Table with columns Events, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Sh. Bk. listing names and scores.

Table with columns listing names and scores for a competition.

T. B. Club's Trophy Competition

Las Animas, Colo., January 30.—The T. B. Trap and Gun Club's weekly shoot was well attended. Treasurer Rupert won a 15-target match with Mitchell, but lost to the same man on 35 targets. Dr. Grieve won the handicap prize leg with 24. The P. P. Williams trophy contest finds Hamby leading with 45 out of 50. Scores:

Table with columns B, H, T, listing names and scores.

Table with columns Bk. Sh., listing names and scores.

Tie for Honors at St. Cloud

St. Cloud, Fla., January 29.—The St. Cloud Gun Club, a new organization of 37 members, held its weekly shoot yesterday with 20 contestants. G. Entrikin and S. J. Entrikin tied with 23. Scores:

Table with columns Bk., listing names and scores.

Kammerer Leader at Chicago

Chicago, Ills., January 29.—The Chicago Gun Club's weekly shoot was favored with clear, cold weather and 23 competed. B. L. Kammerer was high with 142 out of 150. Scores:

Table with columns Bk., listing names and scores.

Sausen Leads Parker Club Shooters

Milwaukee, Wis., January 30.—Sausen was high gun in the weekly shoot of the Parker Gun Club with 82 breaks out of 100 shot at with H. S. Smith, his nearest rival, four targets behind. Despite adverse weather conditions a good-sized field faced the traps. Scores:

Table with columns Sh. Bk., listing names and scores.

Dr. Seward Nemours Winner

Wilmington, Del., January 29.—At the regular weekly shoot of the Nemours Trap Shooting Club, held yesterday afternoon at the Du Pont traps, Dr. Florence Seward won seventh place on the Willis cup. When ten members of the club have had their names on the cup, it will be put up for final ownership. Scores:

Table with columns Sh. Bk., listing names and scores.

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