

MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS MAY RETURN TO "FARMING SYSTEM" WITH MINOR ORGANIZATIONS

CHICAGO NATIONALS HAVE BLAZED WAY FOR RENEWAL OF OLD FARMING SYSTEM

Method of Keeping String on Players, Frowned Upon a Few Years Ago, May Prove Beneficial for Short Period

MANY critics declare the purchase of a large block of stock in the Peoria Club of the I. L. League by the Chicago Cubs will start the old "farming" system which was so severely criticized and surely will bring forth a howl of protest from the Players' Fraternity as soon as Tinker tries to switch a player back to the "bushes," and hold a string on him.

The farming out of players has many disadvantages, but with the major leagues overloaded with "ironclad" contracts, it is a great question as to whether the game will not be better off if "farming" is permitted for a year or two. The National Commission should not permit a class B or C league team to be used as a "farm," however, as it is sure to cause complications.

There are many players who will refuse to go to a team in a class B or C league, and quite a few will insist on being sent to class AA organizations. Therefore it would seem wise of the magnates (if they intend to return to the "farming system") to have working agreements with clubs of the International, Pacific Coast or American Association leagues.

Cubs Will Pay Difference in Salaries. Manager Joe Tinker insists that the Cubs have made no agreement with Peoria, but that he purchased the stock as an investment. It is possible, according to Tinker, that a great deal of the excess Cub baggage will be sent to Peoria, but in no case will the player be the loser. If a player has a contract calling for more than the Peoria Club can afford to pay, the Chicago Club will make up the difference.

As the salary limit in the I. L. League is \$1500, it is asking too much to expect the fans to believe that the Chicago Club will pay the difference in salary for five or six players unless Peoria is being used as a farm. Tinker has few youngsters on his roster, and it is doubtful if there are more than two players on the Cub payroll drawing less than \$400.

Although the farming system has failed to have been extinct for years, it is well known that several clubs had "working agreements" with minor league clubs. A notable instance of this was the continual shifting of players between the Cleveland Americans and the Portland Club, of the Pacific Coast League. Cleveland also used its American Association team for this purpose, but that was to be expected, as there was no attempt to conceal the fact that Charley Somers owned both franchises.

While it is hoped that some of the evils due to the farming policy are not repeated, baseball would suffer in no way if it was adopted for two years, as both major and minor league clubs would have their financial burden lessened with two clubs dividing the expense of an "ironclad" contract.

Von Kolnitz Case for National Commission. Another interesting point for the National Commission is the Von Kolnitz case. Two weeks ago Von Kolnitz sent his resignation to President Herrmann, of the Reds, believing at the time that he could not make satisfactory arrangements to leave his law practice in Charleston, S. C., during the summer months. A few days ago Von Kolnitz learned that it would be possible for him to report to the Reds and notified Herrmann of this fact.

It is said that Herrmann insists that Von Kolnitz will have to sign a new contract calling for less money than the "war-time" contract, claiming that the resignation made the document void. There is no telling just how the National Commission will decide this case; but it is hoped that it will deal fairly with Von Kolnitz, as the baseball contract should be kept out of court.

Critics Believe Braves Look Best in National League. Bill Phelon, the veteran baseball writer of the Cincinnati Times-Star, can see nothing but the Braves in the coming National League race. This sentiment appears to be strong in National League cities of the West. The Cubs were favorites a few weeks ago, but Chicago critics now concede that the Braves are the strongest combination in the league on paper. In commenting on the outlook in the National League, Phelon says:

"Despite all the shifts and changes made in the ranks of the National League clubs during the winter, and the influx of Federal leaguers, there seems to be reason to question the real superiority of the Boston Braves when closely compared to all other teams in the Tenser organization. This club, which was really the strongest in the league last season, will take the field in better shape than ever, and it is hard to figure where any of the other seven crews have added enough strength to beat Stallings to the wire. Hence Boston seems the logical choice, accidents barred, for the 1916 banner.

"The Braves were in all kinds of tough luck last season, and didn't help themselves any by their behavior and conduct in the game. They were so crippled that they were shy a considerable percentage of their fighting power, and yet finished only 46 percentage points south of Philadelphia. Close attention to business, less scrapping with umpires, less chesting on and off the field, might easily have overcome that margin, even though the Braves were short-handed. With a full team in the struggle, how could they have possibly been stopped last summer? And how can any one beat them out this year?"

Giving F. Jones the "Once Over". Any one doubting Fielder Jones' ability as a manager should glance over his record. Some critics are inclined to believe that Fielder has been overrated, but he has done more with less material than almost any leader in the game. In five years as manager of the White Sox he never was out of the first division and won a world's championship. In one year in the Federal League he took a fall-end aggregation and developed a team which lost the pennant by a fraction of a point.

That Jones has quite a task before him is evident, as the Browns have finished in the first division but twice in 14 years. Jones declares that he has better material at hand this year than he ever has had, so he evidently feels certain he will be up with the leaders.

Jess Admits He Is Out for the Money. In one of the articles appearing beneath his signature, Jess Willard, heavyweight champion of the world, says: "There is one particular thing about this bout and that is the \$47,000 that I am to receive. That, you will admit, is a lot of money. Still, when you consider that this is the frenzied age, I suppose it is not out of the ordinary.

"You know Charley Chaplin is going to get \$500,000 a year, which makes me look like a piker. Boxing is now regulated on a business basis like everything else. One is compelled to make the most of opportunity and earn every dollar possible. And especially in my case, when I have four children growing up who will need every advantage to fight their way through the world."

Willard is to be commended for trying to look out for the future of his children; but for the good of the game it is to be hoped that the champion gets trimmed when he meets Moran, if he entertains any idea of raising his price in case he wins. Then the fans will be forced to read of Willard's stage doings instead of his boxing. Evidently, Tom Jones censored the article, the whole tone of which would indicate that Willard wants still more money or he will be a "matinee idol" in the circus for another long stretch after the fight is over.

Pitt Tights Eligibility Rules. Realizing that it will be impossible to ask or receive recognition at the hands of Yale, Harvard and Princeton (which is its ultimate aim), the University of Pittsburgh athletic association is tightening its eligibility lines. As a result several star athletes have been barred from further competition until their scholastic marks are improved. It is rumored in Pitt that several gridiron stars will be dropped from college if they do not work off conditions before the close of the present term.

In connection with this, Karl Davis, graduate manager of athletics at Pitt, says: "We are barring men who would be eligible at any Eastern college, but we want to prove to everybody that Pitt is aboveboard and is not a centre for professional athletes. We are willing at any time to have the standings of our athletes investigated because we know that our standard is as high as any institution in the United States."

For the first time in the history of boxing in New York, smoking will be prohibited when Willard and Moran meet. This rule will be enforced for the benefit of the large number of women who have reserved seats. Throughout the Middle West promoters are enforcing this rule, and at the present time there is not a club operating in Milwaukee, St. Paul and Minneapolis which permits it.

RAILWAY TO PICK SITE OF REGATTA; COLLEGES, NEVER!

Poughkeepsie Race Blocked When Trains Are Refused for June 29th or 30th

MAY ROW AT CORNELL

A railroad company, rather than the Board of Stewards, will have the determining voice in saying where this year's intercollegiate regatta will be held. Although the railroad company which controls the observation trains along the west side of the Hudson river has twice refused to furnish trains for either June 29 or 30, the compromise dates suggested by the stewards, the stewards have asked the company to hold and last time to grant this concession.

If the request is denied, as the stewards seem to feel it will be, the race will be rowed on Lake Cayuga, at Ithaca, N. Y., June 24. This is the final decision of the Board of Stewards, according to the statement of Pennsylvania's rowing authorities today.

It was also learned today that when no agreement could be reached between Cornell, Pennsylvania and Columbia and the railroad authorities for a suitable date when the race was running out, it was proposed that the race be rowed upstream as Harvard and Yale frequently do at New London under similar conditions. This proposal, however, has been definitely abandoned because it would necessitate passing out of the course and starting far down below the present finishing point. The race has never been rowed upstream.

The only objection to rowing the race on Lake Cayuga is its distance from New York and Philadelphia, which furnish the big majority of the spectators. The length and expense of the trip to Ithaca would keep down the attendance greatly.

Although none of the stewards have said anything for publication it is known that there is considerable resentment toward the railroad authorities for their arbitrary refusal to run observation trains on either June 29 or 30. It is pointed out by the stewards that the railroads are the only ones that make any thing out of the regatta. They get from 25,000 to 40,000 persons, many from long distances, and they give the competing crews virtually nothing in return. The railroads will get many of the spectators for longer hauls in the regatta, and the stewards feel that they should make some concessions under the circumstances.

The excuse given by the railroads for their unwillingness to run the regatta on June 29 or 30 is that these dates come too near July 4 and would interfere with their plans for taking care of their holiday traffic.

Manager Jack Thayer, of the Pennsylvania crews, explained today that the decision to have the Quaker oarsmen live along Boathouse Row, at least until after the regatta, does not mean that the rowing authorities have abandoned the present boathouse into habitable sleeping quarters. The Quakers' boathouse is the poorest along the river and no one could live in it. What the Rowing Committee is trying to do is to get the consent of other boat clubs along the river to permit the Quaker oarsmen to live in their houses.

"This is being done simply because, on account of hours, the entire sand cannot be taken out of the river. The rowing authorities are not going to do it. It is not intended to have the same men row twice a day necessarily. In order to make lecture periods on time it will be necessary for the early morning spin to be taken at about 7 o'clock. The second will be held later in the afternoon.

"The men will eat at a house near Strawberry Mansion. This is more or less of an experiment, but we think it will work out well."

AMERICAN SOCCER ELEVEN TO PLAY ANGLO-SAXON TEAM

Players Picked for Special Match at Tacony Tomorrow

At the semi-annual meeting of the American Soccer League, held last night, the delegates selected the American eleven to play the Anglo-Saxon team tomorrow afternoon at Duxton's Bill Park, State road and Tacony street, Tacony. On account of there being so much rivalry regarding whether the American or the Anglo-Saxon team is superior to the other, the committee selected the strongest players from both teams. The players who will appear in the two teams and the club they represent are as follows:

Anglo-Saxons—Ness (Duxton), Small (Duxton), McKelvey (Bellevue), Hildebrand (Duxton), Clarke (Bellevue), Plaster (Duxton), Anderson (Bellevue), Robinson (Bellevue), Rodgers (Duxton), Houston (Duxton), Scott (Bellevue). American—Foster (Duxton), McLaughlin (Duxton), Spaulding (Duxton), McDonough (Bellevue), J. White (Bellevue), Hulcher (Duxton), Courner (Bellevue), Williams (Bellevue), J. White (Bellevue), Barrett (Bellevue), Gaylor (Bellevue), Healey (Bellevue), Angelo-Saxons—McIntyre (Bellevue), Young (Bellevue), Brisson (Bellevue), All-Americans—McIntyre (Bellevue), Clark (Bellevue), Johnson (Bellevue), Johnson (Bellevue), and Johnson (Bellevue).

HOLD BASKETBALL MEN

Referee Charges Three With Attacking Him After Game

CHESTER, Pa., March 3.—Scott Smith, Logan Campbell and Israel Birkel, members of the basketball team of the Pennsylvania Military College, have been held in jail here by Alderman Melville for an arraignment at court on a charge of assault and battery, preferred by Robert W. Yates, of Philadelphia.

NOTES OF THE AMATEURS

The Wallace Boys' Club five, on its own tour, won a decided victory over the St. John's combination by the score of 21 to 14. Wallace second team defeated the Wesleyan Juniors.

The Olympia Rowing Club desires to book games with all second or third division crews of out of town. Randolph Hays' Club, St. Louis, is desiring a partner at Princeton. Wallace second team defeated the Wesleyan Juniors.

The Parkway team, winners of the championship of the Philadelphia Junior League, finishing the season without a defeat, is without a game for the present. The team would like to hear from all third-class teams. Write Joseph F. Walsh, 2553 Meridian street.

Schoen a Hockey Captain

PRINCETON, N. J., March 3.—William H. Schoen, of Pittsburgh, a junior at Princeton University, has been elected to lead the Princeton hockey team in the game played last night on the forward line for the last two seasons.

YOU'LL HAVE A HARD TIME RECOGNIZING LAST YEAR'S TEAM



10 VETERAN PITCHERS WILL TRY TO AVOID DOWNFALL THIS YEAR

Rice Says Interest Is Not Centered on Youngsters, But on Hurling Kings Whose Reigns Are Drawing to a Close

VARIOUS seasons bring various shifts in the doddering dope. No one would ever charge this remarkable statement to the brain of Plato or Aristotle, but that doesn't prevent its truth, nor its qualifications for a leading paragraph.

About Pitchers. Year after year early spring interest in baseball has been raised around the promise of young pitchers—recruits breaking in or youngsters who have shown something after a year's trial.

Nineteen sixteen is another year. Young pitchers carry but little interest. The bulk of fandom interest is now gathered around the most remarkable flock of veterans that ever reached the last rings of their prime together. The game has never before known as many stars of Yesterday in the box who are so uncertain about Tomorrow's returns.

The Record Crop. Take a look at the long list of those lifted to stardom who either had a bad year last season and hope to come back, or else have reached such advanced pitching ages that 1916 is a most uncertain period for the display of their wares:

Table with 4 columns: Name, Age, League Service, and Record. Includes names like Mathewson, Brown, Plank, Rucker, Bender, Marquard, Wood, James, and Walsh.

Peering Ahead. There are two types of cases here. Mathewson, Brown and Plank have all crossed 35. They have all seen over 12 years' service. They are about due to drop back beyond fame's skyline.

The Other Type. But there is another type hanging in the balance. Rube Marquard and Joe Wood are but 26. Bill James is but 24. All three are big, powerful fellows in their early prime, in the physical shape.

Last season, even with a sore arm, Joe Wood won 15 games out of 29 starts. His arm feels better this spring than it has felt in two years. There is no reason, then, why Snookball Joe shouldn't return to the land of glory.

NOTES OF THE BOWLING ALLEYS

Anti-Colden team is two games ahead of Mutual in the German-American race, due to capturing all three games from the Kensington International Beneficial Association team. Lambert started his third game by score of 198, 222 and 295, to 209, 217 and 272. He closed with a high for the winners with 295, his best effort being 225 in his last game.

Mutual and Quaker had a bottle royal. The champions plied up scores of 934 and 986 in their first game, while the Germans averaged team resp. tied with 842 and 910, and managed to win 7-0. Billie got 884 to Mutual's 842. Every one of the Mutual squad rolled a 200 score or better.

Hallman, of Quaker, batted up a 512 score in the series against Mutual. McCoy, after a poor start, with Harmer, landed on the pins for scores of 149, 224 and 212, which was some recovery.

Realla surely showed form against the Pirates last night, as they trimmed the Keystone leaders in three straight games by scores of 198, 222 and 295, to 209, 217 and 272. He closed with a high for the winners with 295, his best effort being 225 in his last game.

Higgins, of Wilmet, reached 459 in his three games against Bellevue.

It is Secretary Bell, and his drafting the individual and two-man team schedule for the Casino Alley tourney of that order.

Frank Wagner, of the Edward gutter, reached the 316 mark in his initial game against Rangers. This bettered MacFarlan's 310.

PENN QUINTET LEAVES TO COP COLLEGE TITLE

Victory Over Cornell Monday Will Give Red and Blue Championship

PLAY SYRACUSE TONIGHT

Pennsylvania's squad of basketball players left last night from the Reading Terminal for their trip through New York state, where they will meet the basketball five of the Syracuse University and Rochester University, and on Monday will play the most successful season with the Cornell University players in Ithaca, N. Y. The names of the Pennsylvanians who are entered in their team this year, and who will be the team in last night for his swing through the Empire State, it was accredited through a hearty send-off by the West Philadelphia footers.

The Syracuse and Rochester contests are insignificant in comparison with the Cornell contest, and it will not matter the least if the varsity fails to stop its first two opponents, but it will be to lower the odds of the Ithaca five for the second time this season. If the Quakers can accomplish their aim, they will have a mighty fine opportunity of winning the intercollegiate championship this year, and the worst they can do is to let Princeton should the latter win all of its remaining games.

Coach Joppelet took 10 men with him on the trip, and there is a possibility that a substitute may take McNichol's place in either the Syracuse or Rochester contests in order to rest up the Penn leader. The men who are trained for Syracuse last night were: Tom Joppelet, Captain McNichol, William, William, Martin, Joseph, Ed, Connelly, Howard, Robinson, and Gardner. McNichol and Joseph Whelan accompanied Captain McNichol's squad.

Jasper defeated the De Neer five last night in an Eastern League game by a score of 17 to 12.

In the second half Dark charged Friedman into the cage, snatching the latter's rifle, and Dark was disqualified, according to the Eastern League rules. The referee saw off to their shooting, many fine shots going for nothing.

Advertisement for Gothic Arrow Collar. Text: 'GOthic ARROW COLLAR. Fits the knot of a four-in-hand or bow perfectly. 2 for 25c. Cluett, Peabody & Co., Inc., Makers.'

Advertisement for Newark Shoe Stores Co. Text: '205 Stores in 97 Cities - Worn by Over 3 Million Men. And every man of the vast number of wearers of The NEWARK Shoe HAD to be shown—the \$3.50 value of The NEWARK Shoe had to PROVE itself—and it DID. Enormous production, scientific distribution—that's what saves the dollar for you. 'SAVE-A-DOLLAR' Newark SHOE for MEN \$2.50 \$3.50 VALUE. The NEWARK Shoe Maker says: "I'm so sure to pay for shoes—never pay more—237 styles here—all one price—\$2.50."

Advertisement for Evening Ledger Movies. Text: 'EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—YES, ABIATHAR, THERE IS A DRUM IN YOUR EAR; SO BEAT IT. FRIEND, ROMANIAN, COUNTRYMAN, GAZE ON MY EAR! IS IT NOT A TRULY PUGILISTIC AUDITORY ORGAN? IS IT NOT A CAULIFLOWER EAR?? AYE, BENVOLIO, AND (MUSICAL EAR?) FOR BY MY FAITH—IT HAS A DRUM IN IT! GET THEE GONE, KNAVE! I'M GONE—IN THE HEAD! YES—'