

EASTERN BASKETBALL LEAGUE DISBANDED: DE NERI TO PLAY INDEPENDENT BALL AT PRESENT

Will Also Try for Berth in Pennsylvania State League—American League Opens Its Season Before Good Crowd

The Eastern Basketball League has been disbanded. This was the action taken by the managers at a special meeting held last evening in which the subjects were discussed at length.



Never in the history of the organization has it worked under such adverse conditions. The season should never have been started with the managers having no interest in the game, and a bad move made when Greylock was allowed to play at Musical Fund, which contributed to the doom of the organization.

At last night's gathering the Jasper club presented its resignation and dropped out. Greylock was in favor of disbanding the league with the exception of five teams, but considered this a poor move.

Trenton, De Neri and Camden were very much in favor of continuing the league. It was suggested to withhold the decision until another meeting on Sunday, when Mr. Buff, of Reading, would give his opinion.

The De Neri and Reading voted to disband, and the motion was carried. Manager Myers, of De Neri, stated that as far as his club was concerned, it would be kept intact and there would be games every Saturday night at Musical Fund Hall. He anticipated playing Camden this week, and will try for a berth in the Pennsylvania State League.

The game of basketball has been bumped every year since last spring, and many of the best players connected with the sport are now in the service of Uncle Sam. And a still larger percentage of the fans of the indoor game are at the various cantonments. Under these circumstances one does not anticipate as large turnouts at the games as in the past.

The contests have a certain interest, but it is impossible to erect one, as the floor is used for dancing. Play was just as fast as if the players were in a cage, and, furthermore, they were not in any danger of being bruised which they may otherwise have received.

Prior to the start of hostilities William Scheffer, president of the Eastern League, and Ira Thomas, of the Athletics, made speeches. Scheffer praised the officials for keeping the organization intact under adverse conditions. Thomas referred to our boys at the front and pointed out that the American soldier has done his work as well in a measure because of his interest in the game.

Hancock and Girard Win. Hancock, champion of last year, defeated Y. M. H. A. 24 to 17, and Girard Almond won from St. Columba 29 to 17. The players were handicapped a trifle by the slippery floor, but they will be better prepared to meet conditions next week.

St. Columba had such seasoned players as "Ally" Fisher, "Midge" Moore and "Babe" Johnson. The team had a good aggregation was an entirely new combination with the exception of Jamison and White. Gallagher and Schaal, the forwards, gave the team a fine exhibition of play in their first game. Girard scored nine field goals for four of the Saints, and they went to school, 4; Gallagher, 1; Fowler, 1; Johnson, 1; McNamee, 1; and Hancock, 1.

The Hancock-Y. M. H. A. game turned out to be a rout in favor of the champions in the final meeting by a score of 29 to 17. The game required eight field baskets to five for their opponents. They are behind in the series.

Princeton Five Opens Cage Year. Tigers Start Collegiate Basketball Season With Manhattan Tonight. Have Strong Teams. The collegiate football season died less than a week ago and tonight the basketball season will get the way when the Princeton Tigers play open the cage year with the Manhattan College five in the Tiger gymnasium.

The Tigers have been practicing on the floor for the last week or more and are giving in for the sport with all of the enthusiasm that has been stored up during the fall months when there was no football on which to expend it. The Princeton basketball team will remain intact and even Yale will have a quintet to support its policy of no sports during the war.

Twelve Teams Are Left in the Six-Day Grind. NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Twelve teams were struggling in the six-day grind in the six-day race at the end of the thirty-second hour this morning. Pierce, of the Pierce-Greene team, was setting the pace. Madonna and Bello were one lap behind.

Stop Fights in Cleveland. CLEVELAND, Dec. 4.—Mayor Davis announced today that until the death of the late Mayor Taylor, the city of Cleveland would not allow any more boxing permits to be issued. The city will not allow any more fights to be held in the city.

ORIGIN OF THE TEXAS LEAGUER

Joyce, Rogers and Arthur Sunday Brought It North in 1888

SLANG IN BASEBALL. The triteness of the baseball vernacular has been the source of considerable comment among sporting writers, university professors and others, whose foremost aim in life is the uplift of mankind, spiritually and mentally, says an eastern critic.

Columns have been penned by learned commentators on the origin of what is generally termed slang; additional columns have been written concerning it. More than 85 per cent of the newspapers of the country continue to devote to the origin of the baseball vernacular and other stories pertaining thereto which fairly bristle with the popular code of baseball writers.

A movement was started during 1908 by one of the foremost of the northern writers to ascertain the justification for resorting to slang phrases or a wholesale slaughtering of English in reporting baseball.

After an exhaustive investigation, the university announced that there was nothing to be learned from the baseball vernacular which persons frequenting the stands and bleachers during the season did not understand fully and that the popular code of the baseball vernacular in the public mind was so great as to preclude its elimination.

And so, from that day to this, the public has not been called upon to read any further condemnation of baseball reports written in the vernacular majority of sporting writers.

To ask a sporting writer of the major league circuit if he understood the play would constitute nothing short of a downright insult, yet it is more than that. It is a challenge to the ingenuity of these experts on the same code given an accurate explanation of the origin of the phrase "Texas leaguer" or even satisfy himself as to its real fitness.

After the close of the Texas League season, a Bill Joyce, Emmett Rogers and Arthur Sunday, a trio of Houston club avengers who had wrought havoc and devastation to the hopes of the other clubs of the American Association, were more or less apprehensive as to just what the youngsters would do against big-time baseball. They felt then out rather cautiously, and the advisability of such a course was soon apparent.

None of the three hit the ball like the great Houston slugger, Frank Baker, who was the star of the American Association. They were not bitters of that sort. But they did get on the bases and they did it by hitting safely. They were not bitters of that sort. They were not bitters of that sort. They were not bitters of that sort.

CHICAGO CUBS WILLING TO PURCHASE IVY WINGO. CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 4.—Garry Herrmann, president of the Cincinnati Reds, is in town ostensibly to confer with President Weegman regarding a deal that has been pending between them for weeks. Herrmann declared he came for the purpose of seeing President Johnson, of the American League, regarding the reduction of the player limit to eighteen men in both leagues. That is only a minor part of his mission here.

Notes of the Bowlers. The Minko League series last night, on Casino Alley, resulted in the following scores: The Athletics, 10; the Woodpeckers, in all three matches. Doves, 1; Sparrows, capturing two games from Doves.

Leonard-Cline Tickets Placed on Sale Today. Tickets for the Benny Leonard-Patley Cline bout to be held at the Olympia A. A. Wednesday, December 12, were placed on sale today. The match is one of the biggest that could be arranged, and is attracting country-wide attention. The demand for seats caused the early sale.

Walker Eckersall Dying in Chicago. CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Walter Eckersall, sportswriter of the Chicago Tribune and former football star of the University of Chicago, was said to be near death here today from cancer of the stomach, and the poison has been administered by the very same hands. It only proved a matter of time.

Anderson Now in Service. The Athletics have lost another player to Uncle Sam's great big war. Anderson, who was a star pitcher for the Athletics in Detroit yesterday, Ray Bieker and Willie Anderson, who were in the baseball season was over. The Athletics were said to be in a great hurry to get Anderson into the service.

WILSON DEMANDS WAR ON AUSTRIA; PLEDGES NATION TO FULL VICTORY

Continued from Page One. apply any standard of justice so long as such forces are unchecked and undefeated as the present masters of Europe. Not until that has been done can right be set up as arbiter and peacemaker among the nations.

Let there be no misunderstanding. Our present and immediate task is to win the war and nothing shall turn us aside from it until it is accomplished. Every power and resource we possess, whether of man, of money or of materials is being devoted and will continue to be devoted to that purpose until it is achieved. Those who desire to bring peace about before that purpose is achieved I counsel to carry their advice elsewhere. We will not entertain it. We shall regard the war as won only when the German people say to us, through properly accredited representatives, that they are ready to agree to a settlement based upon justice and the reparation of the wrongs their rulers have done. They have done a wrong to Belgium which must be repaired. They have established a power over other lands and peoples than their own—over the great empire of Austria-Hungary, over hitherto free Balkan States, over Turkey and within Asia—which must be relinquished.

Germany's success by skill, by industry, by knowledge, by enterprise we did not grudge or oppose, but admired, rather. She had built up for herself a real empire of trade and influence, secured by the peace of the world. We were content to abide the rivalries of manufacture, science and commerce that were involved for us in her success and stand or fall as we had or did not have the brains and initiative to surpass her. But at the moment when she had conspicuously won her triumphs of peace she threw them away, to establish in their stead what the world will no longer permit to be established—military and political domination by arms, by which to oust where she could not excel the rivals she most feared and hated. The peace we make must remedy that wrong. It must deliver the once fair lands and happy peoples of Belgium and northern France from the Prussian conquest and the Prussian menace, but it must also deliver the peoples of Austria-Hungary, the peoples of the Balkans and the peoples of Turkey, alike in Europe and Asia, from the impudent and alien dominion of the Prussian military and commercial autocracy.

We owe it, however, to ourselves to say that we do not wish in any way to impair or to rearrange the Austro-Hungarian empire. It is no affair of ours what they do with their own life, either industrially or politically. We do not purpose or desire to dictate to them in any way. We only desire to see that their affairs are left in their own hands, in all matters, great or small. We shall hope to secure for the people of the Balkan peninsula and for the people of the Turkish empire the right and opportunity to make their own lives safe, their own fortunes secure against oppression or injustice and from the dictation of foreign courts or parties.

And our attitude and purpose with regard to Germany herself are of a like kind. We intend to wrong against the German Empire, no interference with her internal affairs. We should deem either the one or the other absolutely unjustifiable, absolutely contrary to the principles we have professed to live by and to hold most sacred throughout our life as a nation.

The people of Germany are being told by the world that they are to be held responsible for the war, and that they are to be held responsible for the war, and that they are to be held responsible for the war. They are to be held responsible for the war, and that they are to be held responsible for the war.

Partnership of Nations. The worst that can happen to the detriment of the German people is this, that if they should be obliged to live under a despotic and tyrannical government, they would be obliged to live under a despotic and tyrannical government, they would be obliged to live under a despotic and tyrannical government.

Decision Made Plain People. The thought of the plain people here and everywhere throughout the world is that the people of the world are to be held responsible for the war, and that they are to be held responsible for the war.

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come necessary before the present Congress again adjourns in order to effect the most efficient co-ordination and operation of the railway and other transportation systems. It is my hope, but to that I shall, if circumstances should demand, call the attention of the Congress upon another occasion.

WIN-THE-WAY SESSION. "I have ever looked anything that ought to be done for the more effective transportation of the war effort. I will supply the omission. What I am perfectly clear about is that in the present session of the Congress our whole attention and energy should be concentrated on the vigorous and successful prosecution of the great task of winning the war.

"We can do this with all the greater real and enthusiasm because we know that for us the war is a high principle, debased by no selfish ambition or conquest or spoliation; because we know, and all the world knows, that we have been forced into it to save the very institutions which are the basis of our civilization and our freedom. The purpose of the Central Powers strike straight at the very heart of everything that we believe in; that of the Allied Powers, on the other hand, is to uphold every principle of humanity and of knightly honor; their intrigue has corrupted the very thought and spirit of many of our people; their sinister and their crafty methods have sought to bring us to our knees, and to make us the very territory away from us and disrepute the union of the States. Our duty would be at an end, our honor forever stained, if we were to permit them to do this. We are striking at the very existence of democracy and liberty.

IN JUST AND HOLY CAUSE. It is because it is for us a war of high, disinterested purpose, in which the free peoples of the world are banded together for the preservation of our nation and of all that it has held dear of principle and of purpose, that we felt ourselves doubly constrained to propose for its outcome the most righteous, the most just and of irrefragable intention, for our foes as well as for our friends. The cause being just and holy, the settlement of the war must be made in a just and holy manner. For this we have entered the war, and we will not be satisfied until the last gun is fired and we have won the peace.

I have spoken plainly because this seems to me the time when it is most necessary to speak plainly, in order that all the world may know that even in the darkest hour of the nation's history, our whole thought is of carrying the war through to its end, and we have not forgotten any ideal or principle for which the name of America has been held dear. We are not to be deterred by the great generations that went before us. A supreme moment of history has come, and the eyes of the world are turned to us. We are to be the saviors of the world, and we shall be so, if we only have the courage to stand by our principles and to stand by our principles.

Capital Stirred by Wilson's Message. Continued from Page One. and occupied a seat in the executive session of the Senate on Thursday, the President's immediate family.

Before the members of the Senate left that body for the joint session in the House, Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, in a speech before the Senate, announced that he had been elected to the position of lieutenant governor of the State of Oklahoma. The new body was to be made up of 200 persons to be elected by the people of the State of Oklahoma. The same resolution also established a cross of valor to be conferred upon persons who distinguish themselves in the war.

Immediately following President Wilson's message to the joint session of Congress that a state of war was declared, a meeting of the foreign relations committee was called at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The committee will report a general resolution to carry out the President's wish. This resolution will be passed probably with very little debate and sent to the Senate, which will convene on Thursday.

After the President left the Capital there were hurried conferences and various resolutions were decided that the wish of the executive would guide all action. In consequence, the declaration of war will be against Austria-Hungary and Germany, and Bulgaria will be allowed to retain their present status, at least, for the time being.

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There was a different spirit in the halls of Congress today, the spirit which marked the opening session yesterday. Then there was evident only the spirit of good fellowship, warmed by the welcome of great and good men. Today there was a solemnity second only to that which marked the session that brought war to America, having put her hand to the sword, heard from the executive how she must wield it.

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close touch with the chamber and mounted the rostrum was prolonged. The members, standing, burst into repeated cheers.

As the President reached the words "our object is to win the war, and we shall not slacken or weaken until it is done," tremendous applause broke out. Again when he referred to anti-war agitators, the applause became deafening. As he urged an immediate war declaration against Austria, the members again rose in waves of applause. Allied diplomats joined in the clapping. The President ceased speaking at 1:05. As he left the chamber he was given a tumultuous send-off.

CONGRESSMEN PRAISE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Members of the House and Senate were unanimous in agreeing with President Wilson's statement of the war aims of the United States. They unstintingly praised his choice of words to the rulers and agitators. "It was magnificent," said Senator Ashurst, Arizona.

Cops Stand by City, but Rap Mayor Smith. Continued from Page One. protect both, but give us wages on which our families depend.

Controlled Walton is anxious that any balances on unused items shall merge with that of the balance on the "plus" there may be enough money to pay outstanding obligations that have piled up through Councils' failure to provide enough money the first of the year.

Municipal finances at the close of a year frequently show both a so-called surplus and a large deficit. This will be the case this year is certain. It results from the fact that unexpected revenues reaching the city treasury during 1917 only become available for use next year. This creates the surplus. The fact that many items of expense incurred during the year are not paid until the opening of 1918 accounts for the deficit.

It is the plan now to have the annual appropriation bill for 1918 reported to Congress on Thursday. The bill will contain a voluminous document may be got out of the way and the tracks cleared for a quick finish of the year's finances by the passage of the councilmanic loan of \$2,500,000 to take care of mandamus items.

Fighting For Peace. By Henry Van Dyke. "We could wish that this little volume might be read by every American citizen, and not only read but written in the hearts of every person concerned in the direction of the government and potentially concerned in the determination of the conditions of peace at the end of the war." N. Y. Tribune. \$1.25 net.

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