UNCLE SAM DECIDES BEST WAY TO GET IN SHAPE FOR KAISER IS TO FOSTER COLLEGE SPORTS

POLICY OF PENN ON ATHLETIC PROBLEM VINDICATED BY ACTION OF NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BODY

Sports Must Go on Is Decision of Governing Organization, Which May Bring Yale, Harvard and Princeton Into Fold

JUST April in the fever of the first call to war, when this college and that university was canceling its sporting schedules for the remainder of the academic year, the University of Pennsylvania, through Major Maylin Pickering, its graduate manager, came out of the darkness of the excitement and took a stand for the continuation of all intercollegiate athletics. In August, at the special meeting of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the policy of the Quaker sporting boss was vindicated, and yesterday at the annual meeting of the same organization it further was vindicated, and with such emphasis and force that such athletic prodigals as Yale, Harvard and Princeton scarcely can help but return to the fold.

Intercollegiate athletics must go on! Such was the slogan at the annual meeting of the N. C. A. A. in New York yesterday, and the same slogan could be heard in Washington from official Government circles. It echoed out on the Pacific coast, where there is a clamor for the continuation of all sports, and it is sounding in the Middle West, where the "Big Ten" is arranging a full schedule for 1918 football. In the long list of hundreds and hundreds of colleges throughout the country there are only a few which have not carried on athletics on a large scale. Yale, Harvard and Princeton, three of the largest institutions in the country, have not announced officially that they will carry on all sports in full bloom during the new year, but it scarcely is expected that they can hold out longer against opinion that harmonizes between public and Government.

No less authorities on the condition of men than Walter Camp, the famous Yale expert; Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, director of physical education at Harvard and a Yale graduate; W. H. P. Faunce, president of Brown University; Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of Navy Daniels have made statements favoring continuation of intercollegiate athletics and all have placed the policy on patriotic ground. The young men of the country must be sound physically as well as mentally.

THE main plea given by those institutions that have dropped intercollegiate competition was under the guise of patriotism. The most patriotic men of the country have spoken in favor of athletics in colleges, and Yale, Harvard and Princeton, to be patriotic, must begin anew their intercollegiate sporting relationships.

Athletics on Larger and More Economic Scale

PAIRED off with the slogan mentioned above is the demand for athletics for all. In the past there has been lots of room for criticism in the old methods of intercollegiate athletics. In the glare of war it has been seen that our colleges have specialized too much on the trained expert in the various branches of sports, neglecting the great host of students who were only second-stringers. In the athletics that are to be, if the plans of the association are to be carried into execution, there will be competition for all, the tendency being to get as many undergraduates on the training fields as can be urged, or in many cases, compelled to compete.

All sports will be subservient to the work of military preparations in our colleges, but this is just what has been carried on in the institutions that fostered intercollegiate athletics in the fall. Expenses will be reduced to a minimum and all the luxuries which the high specialized athlete has been used to in the past will be done away with. Training tables have been tabooed, pre-scouting has been barred, and institutions have been advised to cut the expenses incidental to a professional coach down to the rock-bottom. But in the lashing of things that have been normal in the past, there is no tendency to lower the bars of eligibility. On the other hand, the bans have been tightened and all the eligibility rules, including the freshman rule, have been reaffirmed.

The relation of athletics to military preparedness was the keynote of the convention, and it was brought out in a forceful speech by Dr. Dudley A. Sargent, the noted director of Harvard athletics, who declared that Yale and Harvard have been wrong in their athletic policy for the last twenty-five years. Specialization seems to be the root of the evil, and now in wartime, he said in effect, we will have an opportunity to develop the average man instead of centering our efforts on the expert.

* * *

INSTEAD of intercollegiate athletics decaying, as was the first indication at the beginning of the war, we find that they are taking new life, a life that is more beneficial to the general physical welfare of the college students and to the welfare of the country. College students here after will be better equipped physically to do their bit in the ranks.

Eighty-three in .300 Class in 1896 Season

JUST twenty-one years ago the batters showed no mercy upon the offerings of the mound artist. Those were the days when the boys were banging well above the .400 mark and it was nothing uncommon to have six army in the select. So many entries found their way into the .300 class that it ceased to be the select. Compare the records of the boys of the present and they seem a mighty feeble lot. Just six landed above the .300 mark this year against eighty-three in the 1896 season. What is responsible for this noticeable decline? Many argue that the hitters of the present do not class with the boys of the old days. George Stallings, present manager of the Boston Braves, has had a chance to study both schools and he claims that the present-day hitters are the equal of the old-timers. He insists that conditions then were more favorable to the batter than at present.

In the old days there was no foul-strike rule and this has been one of the big handicaps. Then again there is the spitball now, which has proved real troublesome. The horsehide twenty-one years ago carried a very high polish. That made it difficult for the pitcher to handle a new ball. The shine has been abolished and now it is much easier for the pitcher to control the sphere than it was when in the gloss-covered days. But one of the most important reasons for the decline, claims Stallings, is that the pitchers of the present are smarter than they were twenty-one years ago and use their heads as well as their arms to win ball games. Their sole aim in 1896 was to throw the ball past the batter. It failed, as the 1896 batting averages will show.

In those days only a few made a study of the batters. Pitchers didn't try to work on the weaknesses of the batter. But in the present era a pitcher's arm isn't his only asset, for his headwork plays as important a part in winning games as his arm.

* * *

IN 1896 eighty-three out of 256 players finished among the select. During the past year only six out of nearly 400 landed in the .300 division. This is the best indication of the increasing effectiveness of twirlers. Only once since 1906 has a National League batsman hit better than .350. This was in 1913, when Jake Daubert reached that figure. Back in 1896 two National Leaguers went over the .400 mark while thirteen hit better than .350. Some form reversal.

Owners Make Flattering Offers for Joe Bush

IT NOW becomes more apparent that Connie Mack was forced to dispose of his stars at the recent American League confab in Chicago. The American League chief decreed that the Red Sox needed strengthening and the Athletics were the ones to fill the weak spots. There was no placing the players on the market, for it since has been learned that at least two other American League magnates were anxious to procure the services of Mack stars. Colonel Ruppert, owner of the Yankees, was much miffed when the deal was completed without giving him a chance to put in a bid. Ruppert had the money and wanted the players, but wasn't given a chance to act. Evidently Ban Johnson had other plans in view when he was going to aid the crippled New Yorkers. The Browns, it seems, has been picked as the team to be stripped of its stars to aid the Yankees.

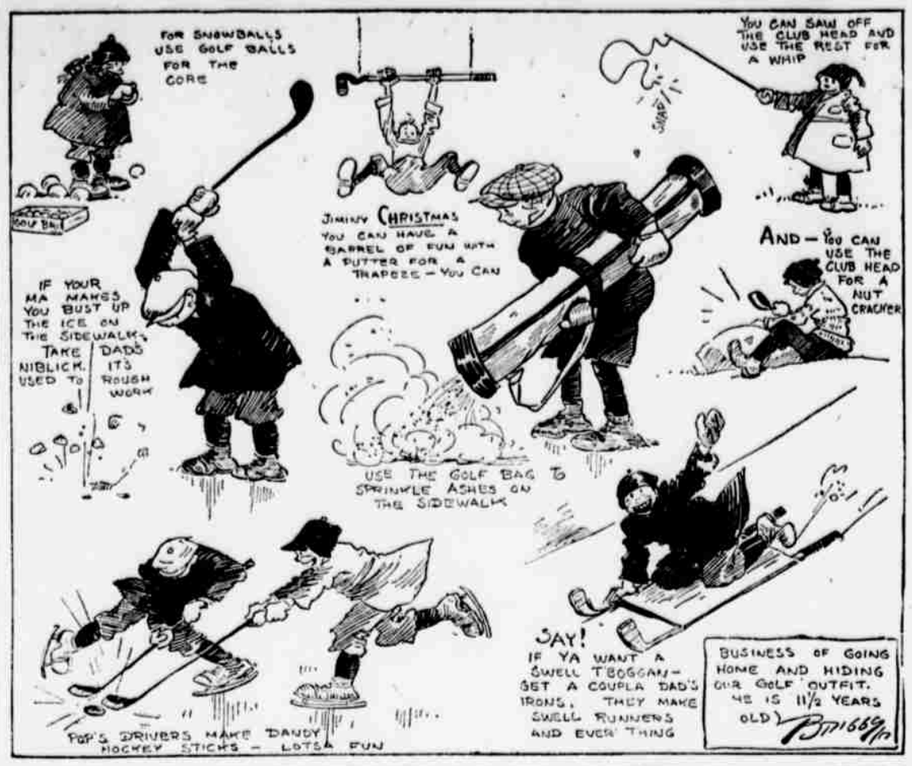
Bush was in demand. Only yesterday Comiskey, the liberal owner of the champion White Sox, announced that he was willing to part with his all to procure the services of Bullet Joe, but there was no chance to get him from Frazee. This helps to bear out the rumor that Connie did not want to dispose of his stars or break up his team of his own volition. Mack knew the value of his men, and it is safe to state that that trio, Bush, Strunk and Schang, would have brought more money if there had been anything like competition in the deal.

The sale was made very quietly and no one aside from Ban Johnson, Frazee and Frazee was aware of what was taking place until the sale was made. Owner Dunn, of the Indians, also was very anxious to land Bush and had been dickering with Frazee in the hope of landing Joe for the Cleveland club.

* * *

At what price Cleveland offered for Bush was not made known. However, Frazee stated that the offer was an attractive one. It will be recalled that last summer the Tigers made a big offer to Mack for the southpaw artist, but Connie wouldn't even consider the offer. If Frazee should dispose of Bush for $50,000, that would give him two great players for $10,000, the balance of the price being Strunk and Schang each would bring more than

NOW THAT DAD WON'T NEED HIS GOLF CLUBS



ALL ACADEMIC TITLES WON BY PENN CHARTER; HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE DIVIDED

Quakers Captured Five, Northeast, Central High and Frankford High Two First Honors

SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONS FOR 1917

BASKETBALL	SOUTH PHILADELPHIA
INDOOR TRACK	WEST PHILADELPHIA
CREW	CENTRAL HIGH
BASEBALL	CENTRAL HIGH AND PENN CHARTER
TENNIS	PENN CHARTER
OUTDOOR TRACK	NORTHEAST AND PENN CHARTER
CRICKET	PENN CHARTER
FOOTBALL	NORTHEAST AND PENN CHARTER
SOCCER	FRANKFORD
CROSS COUNTRY	FRANKFORD

By PAUL PREP

THE year of 1917, which has started its final sprint and is rapidly nearing the finish line, will long be remembered by followers of scholastic sport as producing the closest and most exciting races in many seasons.

In the public high school organizations the leagues in the various sports were not decided until the last contest, and on several occasions it was thought that a play-off would be necessary. Conditions were the reverse in the interacademic circuit, William Penn Charter annexing with ease similar to that of Jess Willard in keeping out of championship bouts.

Northeast Wins Two "Big Sports"

Honors were fairly evenly distributed in the high school ranks, all the institutions with the exception of Germantown winning one or more titles. Regarding indoor and outdoor track as two separate sports, Northeast High was the only school to capture leading honors in two "big" sports, the representatives of the Archive coming through in football and outdoor track.

During the course of the year several athletes stood head and shoulders above their teammates and rivals. In track, Captain "Dewey" Rogers and Al Whitaker, of Northeast; Melliger, of Central High, and Taylor, of South Philadelphia, were in the limelight in every meet in which they took part. Whitaker proved to be a second "Howard Berry" by his wonderful performances in the "quads," placing in five events a few hours after getting a furlough from the navy.

Several "Stars" Shone

"Nick" Carter and "Russ" White, of Northeast, were the only schoolboys in the city to win their varsity letter in four major sports, and proved without a doubt that they are the best all-around athletes developed in this city in many years.

Basketball was the first sport to be decided. South Philadelphia, coached by Mike Saxe, finished on top, with Coach Lewis's Germantown quintet proving the surprise, landing in second place in their league debut.

Bunnin, of the title winners, was the leading individual scorer. South Philadelphia also won the second team league, but only after a post-season contest with the Northeast five.

Central High was forced to bow for the first time in its history in the annual indoor "quads," West Philadelphia and Northeast doing the trick. The team from across the river was composed of a well-balanced squad and managed to beat out the Archives by a few points. Several events were run in near record time. Through the courtesy of the Meadowbrook Club, the meet was held on the track in Commercial Museum.

War Conditions Hurt Rowing

Only two schools, Central High and Northeast, entered the race for the rowing championship. The spectators lined on the bank of the Schuylkill were kept on the r toes throughout the entire race, the Crimson and Gold taking the lead at the three-quarter mark, which advantage gave them the race, as the Red and Black wearers made a strong finish, losing only by a margin of two feet.

The next title to be decided was that of the diamond, Central High winning its second and last title of the year. The closeness of the finish can be seen by glancing at the records of the first three teams: Central High won 11, lost 3; Northeast won 10, lost 4; West Philadelphia won 10, lost 4. The sensational playing of "Al" Mouradian, of Central, deserves special mention, as it was mainly through his individual efforts that the Crimson and Gold won. Mouradian established a league record by stealing eight bases in one game. He was the "Ty" Cobb of the Interscholastic League. Penn Charter was easily the best of the private school nines in the city and surrounding district.

Penn Charter Cricket Champs

Penn Charter won the honors in the tennis and cricket leagues, establishing a new record in the tennis by winning forty-three of its forty-five matches. Northeast and Central gave the Quakers a hard fight in the cricket play, while Frankford was always dangerous in tennis, mainly through the individual work of Dornheim.

The football titles fell to Penn Charter and Northeast, the former defeating its league rivals with comparative ease. Northeast played steady ball the entire season, defeating West Philadelphia, the runner-up, by the score of 3 to 0.

The failure of West Philadelphia to defeat South Philadelphia in its final game of the year paved the way for Coach Harry Snyder's protegee to win the Gimbel Cup.

Frankford High sprang a surprise in winning the soccer and cross-country honors. Northeast, thought unbeatable was conquered after having won the soccer championship for ten consecutive years.

MAXWELL CAPTURES QUALIFYING MEDAL

Aronimink Star Leads Pinehurst Field by Margin of Four Strokes

PINEHURST, N. C., Dec. 29.—Norman H. Maxwell, of Aronimink, led a field of 165 yesterday in the qualifying round of the fifteenth annual midwinter golf tournament by a margin of four strokes. A lost ball on the third hole cost two strokes and indifferent putting several more. His card:

Out .... 5 5 6 5 6 3 5 4 3—42
In .... 4 4 4 5 4 3 5 3 4—36—78

Play was over the No. 2 course, five divisions of sixteen each qualifying for match play to continue one round a day for the next four days. Ninety-four was the highest score to get into the first division. Weather conditions were perfect, but the scoring, as usual in the qualifying rounds, ran high. Summaries:

FIRST DIVISION

	Out	In	Tl
Norman H. Maxwell, Aronimink	42	36	78
R. C. Shannon, 2d, Brockport	44	38	82
W. B. Truesdell, Garden City	42	43	85
T. A. Kelley, Southern Pines	43	44	87
J. W. Robb, Merion	40	47	87
C. L. Becker, Ekwanok	44	44	88
J. D. Armstrong, Shenecossett	44	45	89
H. G. Phillips, Moore County	45	44	89
J. M. Brander, Woodland	45	44	89
N. W. Peters, Englewood	46	43	89

Philadelphians who qualified for the second sixteen were George W. Statzel, Aronimink, and Dr. Dennis H. Simmerman, La La Country Club.

Dr. William J. Merill, Philadelphia, and J. Ernest Smith, Harrisburg, made the third 16.

The fourth sixteen includes Charles K. Shaw, of Chester, and three Philadelphia golfers, E. P. Barnard, Dr. H. S. Simmerman and B. C. McFadden.

W. Lane Verlenden, of Lansdowne, A. M. Bankers, of Johnstown, and G. A. Magoon, of Pittsburgh, represented Pennsylvania in the fifth division.

The special sixteen, which play an elimination round tomorrow before embarking on match play, includes Howard D. Bernardy, J. F. Fryer and Dr. Charles A. Weber, of Philadelphia.

Highest-Priced Horses of the Year

Thoroughbred horses of approved quality were in much demand this year and sportsmen were willing to pay fancy prices for them.

A list of horses which changed hands for $20,000 or more follows:

Cudgel	$30,000
Omar Khayyam	26,000
Tipstaff Witchet	20,500
Liberty Loan	20,000
Westy Hogan	20,000
Kashmir	20,000
North Star III	20,000

Liberty Loan really commanded more than $20,000, as the sale included a contingent in the Latonia Derby, which the colt won.

North Star III was bought in 1916 for $20,000 and was sold for breeding purposes this year after breaking down.

Boston A. A. to Aid War Fund

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—The proceeds of the annual indoor track meet of the Boston Athletic Association, to be held on February 2, will be turned over to the military and naval athletic equipment fund. Several novel events for men in the service, including rope climbs and tugs of war, will be added to the program.

Phils May Lose Guy Constans

Guy Constans, who has been connected with the business end of the Phillies in various capacities, has resigned. Mr. Constans is spending the winter at West Palm Beach, Fla. He at one time was secretary of the club, but about two years ago was succeeded by Miss Mae C. D. Mallen.

MUST CONTINUE COLLEGE SPORTS

National Collegiate Association Sees No Reason for Curtailment of Athletics

ADOPT RESOLUTIONS

Baker and Daniels Urge College Sports for All

Letters to the National Collegiate Association from Secretary of War Baker and Secretary of the Navy Daniels, in which both paid high tribute to the benefits of college athletic training, were read at the annual meeting in New York yesterday. Mr. Baker said:

Athletics are a national asset of incalculable value, and collegiate athletics should be kept in mind in the possibility of this kind of an emergency in the future. It becomes more obviously important to spread the benefits of college athletics as widely as possible throughout the student body and to prevent their being monopolized by a few selected representatives.

In his letter Mr. Baker announced that the War Department would ask Congress to authorize the use of reserve officers and other qualified military men for the establishment of reserve officers' training corps, and expressed hope that suitable instructors and arms would be supplied to colleges willing to establish military training. Mr. Baker was strongly in favor of college athletics, but he urged that it be for all and not for a few specialists.

Mr. Daniels, in his letter, said:

Young collegians who had trained in athletics were seen to possess an incalculable advantage over their associates who had permitted delving in Greek roots to deny them the time to develop their muscles. College athletics will make the youths fit for the service calling for strength and ability to endure hardships. Softness is incompatible with efficient military service. In every branch college men are proving that in modern education a sound body must go with a sound mind.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.

Intercollegiate athletics took on a new lease of life today. The stimulus was injected at the annual convention of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, where it was unanimously agreed that collegiate athletic sport must be made subservient to military training.

Letters advocating the continuance of college sports written by Secretary Baker and Secretary Daniels were read, and resolutions favoring the retention of athletics were adopted.

The resolutions recommended that professional training and other incidental expenses be reduced to a minimum. Colonel Palmer E. Pierce was re-elected president of the association.

It was emphasized by various speakers that the physical training of the American youth is as essential to the well-being of the nation as the mental training. The view prevailed that the American system allowing the ascendancy of individual initiative is the best. It was held that the sterling qualities of the present-day American training resulted to a great degree to the free play of initiative in college sports.

Intercollegiate sports with the element of competition and not mass training along European lines, the latter of which it was held might encompass the throttling of the American spirit of initiative, was the sentiment which carried. The meeting was attended by the leading athletic solons of the country.

Train Youths, Says Vincent

President George Vincent, of the general education board, delivered a stirring speech to the convention, in which he stressed the necessity of maintaining physical training in this country. "We ought to train the youth for peace, perpetual peace, I hope, but for war if necessary. The physically trained man is proving of the utmost value to his country at the present time."

Dr. A. S. Stagg, of the University of Chicago, declared that athletics ought to be first in the equipment of an American. "The physically trained man," he said, "has led the way in the present crisis, and numerous officers have been recruited from the various colleges." He advocated the retention of the system which permitted the development of the individual initiative.

Four New Members

Most of the afternoon session was taken up with routine business, which included the reading of reports from the various districts. Four new members—Georgia Tech, Trinity, Texas A. and M. and New Hampshire State—were admitted. Resolutions for the fostering of boxing and wrestling in the colleges were adopted and committees to take the propaganda in charge were named.

The reports in the main showed that intercollegiate sport, despite the war, had remained nearly normal and that the vast majority of the colleges had acted in pursuance to the resolutions adopted last August. These called for no pre-season training, the abolition of training tables and the general cutting down of expenses.

Lear Re-elected Captain

WEST CHESTER, Pa., Dec. 28.—At the annual meeting of the athletic association of the West Chester High School, Arnold Lear, who proved such an efficient captain of the football team during the last season, was re-elected to that honor for next season, and Lowell Miles was chosen business manager, to succeed Jesse Moore, who graduates next June.

PAUL TO DEFEND HIS TITLE TODAY

State Champion and Billy Clegg in Live Bird Contest

MANOA TO BE SCENE

The Pennsylvania State feathered target championship title bids to flitter to another gunner today, when the present holder, Davy Paul, of this city, meets Billy Clegg another Philly wing shot, in a special challenge test at the Eagle Gun Club grounds at Manoa. The local pair will shoot at twenty-five live birds apiece from the same rise thirty or thirty-one yards from the traps.

Clegg has won numerous trap matches around this city and vicinity with such consistent regularity here of late that he can't help but win today's big event, providing he keeps up his present form with the double-barreled gun.

Paul, who is presently sporting the Keystone State title, won the championship during the early part of the year, and since then he managed to keep that title intact.

The Pennsylvania live-bird championship is of a challenge type; that is, if another gunner issues a defi and upon the placing of the sum of $25 up he is eligible to contest for that coveted honor. The champion names the distance from which to shoot, and where and when such match will take place.

Christmas Day found both Paul and Clegg shooting at nearby clubs. Davy Paul engaged in a little practice at the Manoa and scored five of 5 possible seven fliers. Billy Clegg, Paul's opponent had better luck. In the big Christmas twenty-five-bird trap shoot at the Fort Side Inn Gun Club, at Whitemarsh, Cleggie cleaned up in the shoot, scoring all his birds—twenty-five—without a miss, therefore carrying off the fat purse which was the prize in the Yuletide sporting event.

The challenge match is the chief topic of discussion at the various gunning clubs ar und this city, and it is expected that a big crowd of gun bugs will be spectators at the big shoot. Many other pigeon shoots around this section are all stirred up over the contest, and many are of the opinion that they will take a crack at the title after the smoke clears away and the victor is named.

Johnny Rehrig, the Port Carbon, Pa., marksman, took the measure of Earl McRath, of West Philadelphia, in a special fifty bird white flyer test Christmas Day at the Eagle Gun Club, in Delaware County. The upstater won by a margin of two birds, bagging forty-seven, to the Quaker person's forty-five.

The first twenty-five birds showed a tie between the men, each grassing twenty-three each. On the final quarter century Rehrig with greater skill downed twenty-four pigeons against twenty-two for the Philadelphian.

It is likely that the pair will be rematched in the near future.

O'NEILL MAY MANAGE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Syracuse Leader Says Rickey Has Tendered Him Coveted Job in Mound City

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A black horse will succeed Miller Huggins as manager of the St. Louis Cardinals. The dusky steed is no other than Mike O'Neill, manager of the Syracuse team of the New York State League. It was learned through the Syracuse club today that Branch Rickey had tendered O'Neill the managerial vacancy in St. Louis.

In a telegram to Syracuse from his home in Scranton, Pa., O'Neill said the St. Louis job was offered to him by President Rickey, of the Cardinals, last Thursday. O'Neill has three days to think it over, and will give Rickey his answer by next Monday. He also is considering a managerial offer from the Milwaukee club of the American Association.

Though O'Neill has not yet accepted the position, there is little doubt that he will be the next manager of the St. Louis Nationals, as few Class B managers are offered such tempting big league jobs during wartimes and refuse them.

O'Neill is the biggest managerial surprise sprung on big league fans since Charles Comiskey, of the White Sox, dug Clarence Rowland out of the bushes.

O'Neill's career, however has differed somewhat from that of Rowland. Mike won his spurs as a big leaguer, whereas Clarence had been a minor leaguer all his life until he came to Chicago. O'Neill is no stranger in St. Louis. Early in the present century he was the pitching member of the famous O'Neill brothers battery. Jack O'Neill, a younger brother, was catcher of the team. Steve O'Neill now catching for the Cleveland Americans, is the kid brother of the family.

O'Neill took to outfielding after his arm went back on him and played the outfield for his Syracuse club the last two years. He won the pennant in Syracuse in 1916, but was nosed out in a close fight last season.

O'Neill probably will come pretty close to the kind of manager Rickey wants for his team. Rickey desires a man for manager who will not have too set ideas of his own. Branch has his own deas on running a ball club, and the man who manages that club must harmonize with the owner. A manager plucked from obscurity may be more inclined to take the president's advice than a man with a firmer reputation in the big leagues.

"HAVE NOTHING TO SAY"

So Declares Rickey When Asked About Offer to Mike O'Neill

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 29.—When asked last night if he was considering Mike O'Neill, manager of the Syracuse club in 1917, as the 1918 pilot of the St. Louis Cardinals, President Rickey declared he did not want to say anything on the subject.

"Why do you ask about O'Neill?" was a query from Rickey. "Because O'Neill says he has been offered the position by you," was the reply.

"Oh, well, I have nothing to say on the matter," replied the Cardinal executive.

In response to further questioning Rickey admitted he had known O'Neill for several years and considered him to be a smart baseball man. He said Mike had always had his club up around

CAMP HILL HIGH FIVE MEETS ALUMNI TONIGHT

MARYSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 29. — The big game of the Camp Hill High School season will be played this evening, when the school quintet lines up against the alumni. Every year during Christmas week, when the alumni are home for the Christmas vacation, a game is staged. Included in the alumni line-up will be Bob Myers, a star football and basketball man from Dickinson College; Sutton, of Keller's Business School, Harrisburg; Cooper, of Gettysburg; Good of Carnegie Tech; Border, of Bucknell, and Myers, of Dickinson.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX AND CUBS SEEM TO BE MOST PROMINENT OF CONTENDERS FOR 1918 TITLES

Comiskey's Men Apparently Have Race to Themselves, While Giants Are Apparently Only Rivals of Weeghman's Players

RICE FEATURE TO APPEAR EVERY OTHER DAY AFTER NEW YEARS

Readers of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER who have followed Grantland Rice's striking pen pictures of sports, as portrayed in lyric and prose poetry for several years, will be pleased to be reminded that the soul of the poet has risen to the poetic heights of patriotic action. Somewhere Mr. Rice is bivouacked with his company, preparing for the sterner game that lies beyond the great waters. He is with the field artillery of the United States Army.

We are pleased to extend, as New Year's greetings, the glad tidings that the genius of Grantland Rice is not to be lost to this sporting page. The stern realities of war will not permit to Mr. Rice the time necessary to produce his customary daily feature. But Mr. Rice will be heard from in these columns three times a week, and if his songs are less frequent their charm should be all the sweeter. For to his verse and sporting comment par excellence will be added the flavor of the old camp fire. He will furnish gossip of the camp in preference to general sporting news, as heretofore.

By GRANTLAND RICE

FACING the year which waits just over the crest, the two major leagues are up against the greatest uncertainty they have ever known.

Just what effect the draft will have on their talent and just what effect the first big casualty lists will have on public interest are things not to be figured until the actual test is made.

But there is one thing fairly evident—that is, the strength of Chicago in the coming campaign.

The Outlook

In the two major leagues there are now three clubs that stand out above the mass. They are the Chicago White Sox, in the American League, and the Chicago Cubs with the New York Giants in the National.

As the evidence stands today there is no great chance that the White Sox will be supplanted, so far as copy-paper figuring goes. They retain most of their 1917 squad, and this squad was robust enough to win a world's title.

In the National League the Cubs, with the addition of Grover Cleveland Alexander, have risen up to challenge the Giants.

Owner Weeghman and his aids are quite evidently as to win at every and any cost. They have adjusted their sights on the pennant pole and are now in shape to give McGraw's team a health debate, unless Alexander is nipped in the draft and removed to the greater game. There seems to be very little chance to figure any one else in, although Cincinnati and Boston may yet surprise the talent by a rebound.

The 1917 Harvest

Nineteen hundred and seventeen, in its big harvest, collected many a fighting man. But in taking Bob Fitzsimmons and Frank Gotch the closing year lifted two of the greatest entities the boxing and wrestling game has ever known.

Fitz was far and away the best fighting man, pound for pound, the game ever produced. Pound for pound he never had his equal. He was the first to hear the mystic trumpeter.

Gotch passed out only a few days ago. The Iowa wonder was probably the greatest wrestler ever developed—certainly the best that America ever knew.

Whether he could have ever thrown the best of the big Turks who used to infest this shore is a matter of debate. But no Turk was ever big enough or terrible enough to throw Gotch.

Gotch had amazing speed, great stamina, unusual strength and all the courage there is. He knew every angle of his game and had no compunctions against cruelty when the time arrived to apply the torture.

Fitz and Gotch together formed a combination that will hardly be beaten. No decade will ever produce any two such men at the same time. With their physiques they might have lived for ninety years. Yet both "went West" at comparatively early ages. It's a queer thing, this arrangement called existence. It is far beyond the range of any dope.

CHURCH FIVES TO PLAY FOR TITLE

Northwest Association First Half Honors Go to the Winner

AT FIRST DUTCH HALL

The deciding game for the championship of the first half of the Northwest Church Association will be played this evening at First Dutch Hall, Fifteenth and Dauphin streets. The teams in action are Olivet-Covenant and Schwenkfelder, both of whom lost but a single contest in the first half. The winner will meet the second-half leaders later in the season for the championship.

The second series will open on Monday, January 7, and the circuit will be composed of Harper, Schwenkfelder, Calvary, Olivet-Covenant, Covenant, First Dutch, Northwest Memorial and Bethany. The schedule follows:

January 7—Harper vs. Schwenkfelder, Calvary vs. Bethany Reformed.
January 8—Covenant vs. Northwest Memorial, Olivet-Covenant vs. First Dutch.
January 14—Covenant vs. Bethany Reformed, Olivet-Covenant vs. Schwenkfelder.
January 15—Harper vs. First Dutch, Calvary vs. Bethany Reformed.
January 21—Olivet-Covenant vs. Bethany Reformed, Harper vs. Northwest Memorial.
January 22—Covenant vs. Schwenkfelder, Calvary vs. First Dutch.
January 28—Bethany Reformed vs. Schwenkfelder, Covenant vs. Olivet-Covenant.
January 29—Calvary vs. Harper, First Dutch vs. Northwest Memorial.
February 4—Covenant vs. First Dutch, Calvary vs. Schwenkfelder.
February 5—Northwest Memorial vs. Olivet-Covenant, Harper vs. Bethany Reformed.
February 11—First Dutch vs. Bethany Reformed, Northwest Memorial vs. Schwenkfelder.
February 12—Olivet-Covenant vs. Calvary Harper vs. Covenant.
February 18—Harper vs. Olivet-Covenant, Calvary vs. Covenant.
February 19—Schwenkfelder vs. First Northwest Memorial vs. Bethany Reformed.

The defeat of Butterworth by Dobson was the means of creating all sorts of excitement in the Industrial League, and with the addition of "Paddy" Swingstone and "Petey" Kilpatrick Dobson's chances for the pennant appear promising.

Over seven hundred were in attendance at this game, which, by the way, was the largest of the season. The schedule for this evening is Quaker City vs. Inter-Nos A. A. and Barrett vs. U. G. I.

The Pennsylvania State League is having pretty tough sledding these days. No more than two "pros" will be allowed on any team after next week, and there has been a big cut in salaries. Johnny Beckman is the latest Eastern League to invade the coal regions. He is playing with Nanticoke.

The De Neri Independents, representing Y. M. H. A. in the American League, easily defeated Salem by 37-20. This season's line-up includes Harry Passon, who made good with the De Neri of the Eastern League; Mackey Bunnin, Hughey Black, Chick Passon, Eddie Mackransky, Charley Newman, Ragan and Gouteil.

Joe Fogarty has not lost his eye for shooting foul goals and in a game with Harrisburg which the locals won, 58-42, he landed fourteen out of fifteen tries and caged seven field goals for good measure.

The American League will again be idle on Monday being unable to secure Traymore Hall. When the schedule is resumed on Wednesday many new players will be found in the various line-ups.

Colton Ruled Off Track for Life

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 29.—James B. Colton, of Galesburg, Ill., arrested here by post-office inspectors charged with using the mails to defraud in an alleged horse race tipping scheme, today was held under $1000 bond by United States Commissioner Browne for trial in a Federal court. Postal officials charged that Colton forged the name of G. W. Winfrey and J. B. Goodman, horse owners new racing at the Shrewsbury track here, to letters sent to persons in various parts of the country, offering to sell tips on horses racing here.

The stewards of the Shrewsbury track today ruled Colton off the turf for life.

PENNSYLVANIA WINS CHESS TOURNAMENT

University Players, by Defeating City College, Annex Triangular Trophy

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Pennsylvania, by defeating City College by a score of 3 games to 1 in the final round of the nineteenth annual tournament of the Triangular College Chess League at the League of Foreign-Born Citizens, obtained permanent possession of the Rice Trophy, which was won for the third year in succession. The achievement of the players from Philadelphia was a surprise, for the reason that City College had beaten Cornell by 2½ to ½, whereas Cornell had scored a 2-to-2 tie with Pennsylvania. On the strength of these figures City College should have had no trouble in winning.

DICK SPAULDING HURT

Star Disston Soccer Player Unable to Compete Against Bethlehem

"Dick" Spaulding, right fullback of the Dissions, will not play today against Bethlehem in the third round national cup match at Disston Ball Park. This announcement was made last night by Manager John Bedford, of Disstons, who stated that Spaulding's leg, which was injured at Franklin Field when the teams played in a blizzard, had not responded properly to medical treatment during the last few days. The absence of Spaulding will weaken the team somewhat, especially as the international fullback was playing a great game this season. However, with Johnny Small the veteran of nine years, to take his place, the Disstons management expects to score a victory over Bethlehem and thereby have the right to play in the semifinal round, as the competition is played on the loser-and-out plan.

Scraps About Scrappers

—By BILL BELL—

THE lad who comes very close to being the boxing sensation of the year is Tommy Carey. Tom was considered to have seen his best days in the ring sport. He was beaten quite often and he decided to rest up a while. He took things easy, started training in a quiet, sure way and his manager "let him out" easily. Five straight victories is his record just now and the fans up in Kensington have visions of Carey and Leonard. Tommy isn't going to box Leonard just now, but he has taken on an engagement that will require him to show at his best.

Carey has been matched to meet Johnny Clinton, of New York, and Johnny comes here with a good record. The boys meet in the finale at the Cambria Club on New Year's Day.

FRANKIE CALLAHAN proved against Willie Jackson that he can take as well as give. Willie hit Frankie with a side of a dence and Frankie was "out" on his feet. Jackson failed to follow up the advantage and at the final bell Frankie was doing the hitting. Callahan stopped Harry Tracey in eighteen seconds and on New Year's afternoon at the Olympia A. A. he will face Eddie Wagoner. Wagoner is a tough, hard-hitting customer, and should carry Callahan along at his best.

A lad who is showing to advantage at Olympia is Reddy Bell. He has opened the show for many weeks and his knockout record is wonderful. New Year's Day he meets Frankie Ray; Frankie Clark boxes K. O. Circus; Little Bear meets Bobby Burns; Joe Lynch battles Andy Burns, and Joe Tuber opposes K. O. Johnny Rosner.

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Tuesday, New Year's Afternoon, 3:30 Sharp
Reddy Bell vs. Frankie Ray
Frankie Clark vs. K. O. Circus
Little Bear vs. Bobby Burns
Joe Lynch vs. Andy Burns
Joe Tuber vs. K. O. Johnny Rosner
FRANKIE CALLAHAN vs. FIDDIE WAGONER
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CAMBRIA A. C.—Burns & Foener, Mgrs.
Kensington Ave. & Somerset St.
Tuesday Afternoon, Jan. 1.
Frankie Callahan vs. Johnny Clinton
Frankie Carey vs. Tommy Leonard