

NOW THAT MINOR LEAGUE OFFICIALS HAVE WHAT THEY WANT, THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO ACT

FREEDOM SO EASY SOME MINORS FEAR BIG LEAGUE TRICK

Unanimous Vote to Cast Little Fellows Adrift, After Al Tierney Makes Regular Patrick Henry Speech, Looked Upon With Suspicion

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

New York, Jan. 18.

THE major leagues knocked off work last night, the magnates and scribes departed for their native boroughs, leaving nothing but a bunch of bewildered minor leaguers having their first taste of freedom and not knowing what to do with it.

Late Thursday night the magnanimous magnates, of pure kindness, conceded every point to the smaller fellows, and even gave them more than they asked. This caused such consternation and surprise that no one can think coherently on the subject, while every one is seeking a colored gentleman in the woodpile. It was too good to be true, and thereby hangs this tale.

Al Tierney, pilot of the late Three I League, made a thrilling address to the magnates in joint session Thursday night. Al was in great shape and put on a regular Patrick Henry oration. He almost brought tears to the eyes of his audience as he told how the minor leaguers have been struggling for years, limping along and bearing their losses in silence. He showed how some of the circuits sank for the third time never to arise and others that should have taken the count. He made a plea for the abolition of the draft and asked the magnates to please pay \$7500 for players they desired, and if they failed to make good they could be returned for \$2500 each. Al didn't give the minors the worst of it, providing a sure profit of \$500 on each sale.

Tierney was interrupted by one of the magnates, who said: "Suppose the major leagues divorce themselves from the minors and allow you to go your way alone? We would respect your contracts, territorial rights and things like that, but everything else will be in your own hands."

Tierney was astounded. "If you do that, gentlemen," he said, "you will send us away the happiest men in New York. We want our freedom. That's what we want. Please give it to us and make us happy."

Before the delegation left the room sixteen big league moguls had voted unanimously to make the boys happy. The suggestion made in a joking way was adopted and the minor league delegates notified a few minutes later.

THIS was too much for the followers of Tierney. The action was too sudden. "What's the trick?" asked one. "Are you going to start a minor league of your own? There's something funny about this deal. What's the idea? Will you please put that stuff in writing, so we know where we stand? Then we will take action, but in the meantime let things go along as they are."

National League Adopts New Plan to Handle Salaries IT TOOK four hours of labor behind closed doors for the National League magnates to step on that \$11,000 salary limit and reach a new agreement on 1919 expenditures. The salary limit was a joke from the start, but no action was taken to correct it until every one began to ridicule the idea. Then a new deal was asked for and the cards shuffled again.

No one knows what happened in that secret session, but it is believed a retrenchment policy was passed and the various club owners asked to be as careful as possible in handing out contracts. It is the idea to cut down salaries to the 1912 standard before the Federal League started to bid for the stars. Salaries are bound to drop, but it will take several years to accomplish it. Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker, Eddie Collins, Walter Johnson, Grover Alexander and others are near the end of their strings, and the new men will not have an opportunity to grab five-figure salaries. That's what the magnates are working for, but they must wait until an opportune time comes to put it through.

It is known that all of the National Leaguers are satisfied with the new deal, and even New York and Chicago believe they can pull through without paying fines—if there are any fines to pay. Thus the best of feeling prevailed when the bosses adjourned.

Had the National League adhered to the salary limit it would have been a great thing for the American League. The Johnson circuit has more individual stars, more money is paid in salaries, and the old league would suffer. The fans will not stand for cheap baseball in one league when they can see high-salaried, sensational players in the other. Strange as it may seem, every American League team has a star. In Detroit there is Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker in Cleveland, Eddie Collins in Chicago, George Sisler in St. Louis, Walter Johnson in Washington, Frank Baker in New York, Babe Ruth in Boston and Scott Perry and George Burns, Athletics.

ALEXANDER, Knoff, Herzog and Cavath are about all the Nationals can offer, but when Herb Gowdy returns Boston will have the greatest dining card in the country.

All Clubs Benefit by Three-Cornered Deal THERE were few deals at the meeting, but the biggest one was held until the adjournment. The Red Sox, Washington and Detroit engineered a three-cornered trade with all details secret. The three clubs benefited by the transaction, for Vitt, of Detroit, and Gene Dumont, of Washington, go to the Red Sox; Janvin to Washington, and Chick Shorten of Boston, Slim Love and Eddie Almsmith to Detroit.

Vitt will be a welcome addition to the Red Sox, for Frazee's team has been weak at third base since the departure of Larry Gardner. The former Tiger will give Boston a great infield, with Melvin on first, Barry or Sheehan at second and Scott at third. The New Englanders stand out as possible pennant winners at this writing.

Janvin will strengthen the Washington club, as Johnny Lavan still is in the navy and says he intends to stick. "That left a big hole at shortstop, and Janvin will fill it satisfactorily."

Detroit gets three men for its third baseman, and they should come in handy. Shorten is a great outfielder, but his arm is a little weak. He runs the bases well, is an excellent batter and fields his position like an expert. Eddie Almsmith still is a good catcher—something Hugney Jennings has needed for a long time. Slim Love is doubtful. He looks good one day, but always has a relapse. He is an inward-outter—mostly out.

Connie Mack horned in on one of the transactions, getting a young person named Kinney, who is said to be a pitcher. Nothing much is known of the newcomer, but he throws with his left hand, is a lanky guy and strong as a horse. Perhaps he will deliver for the A's. That's how he does, any way.

SOME of the dopsters said last night that Dumont probably would join the Athletics in a short time. France has enough pitchers and Connie Mack always has been sweet on the Washington hurler. As Connie never talks, we are forced to make a guess on this deal.

Phils and Cards May Map Out Trades THE Phils probably will have some news to divulge in a short time, for President Baker and several of his brother magnates had some confidential talks in the corridors of the Waldorf and Biltmore. Baker and Branch Rickey were together quite a little, and it might be that some trade will be put through.

It is known that there will be several new faces on the Phillies this year, but no announcement will be made until after Jack Combs gets on the job. Jack is expected here Monday and it will be up to him to select his ball club. President Baker has done some missionary work, but nothing will be done unless it is approved by the new manager.

Combs is a pretty shrewd baseball man and the chances are that he has done some deep thinking at his home in Palestine, Tex.—wherever that is. He may have some suggestions which will help the club, and Baker will give him free rein. The Phils need some new players, especially in the pitching department, and many applicants are being considered.

Miller Huggins failed to put through anything startling, although he conferred several times with Leo Pohl, of Cleveland. Bobby Roth was not disposed of and the chances are he will remain with the Indians. He and Manager Pohl do not agree on anything, but Bobby is too good a player to be kept on the bench, so he will be in the lineup until some deal is made to send him away.

THE magnates seemed worried about the report that a heavier war tax would be inflicted this summer. If such is the case, the only thing left is to raise the price of admission, and the owners are loath to take this step. Everything else has advanced, however, so why not baseball? A committee is working on the problem and will confer with the officials in Washington.

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



LITTLE LEAGUES GET THE FEVER Golf Now Is in Reach of All Sport Lovers

Managers of Many Minor League Clubs Planning Popular Scotch Pastime No Longer Can Be Termed a Rich Man's Game

DELAWARE CO. TO PLAY YOUNG PEOPLE PLAY

Gold weather will be with us for at least two months or more, but will have to effect in the meantime of dampening the ardor of the optimistic baseball fan, and already those officials who guide the destinies of a score or more well-known minor and semi-minor leagues which hold forth on Saturday afternoons and holidays are preparing for the coming season. They claim the sport is coming back with all the vigor of before the war and while there were only about a half dozen organizations in the field last season, fully three times that number will be seen in action by April 1. The fans are anxious to let loose their enthusiasm for the national pastime, and as a big majority of the American troops will be home by that time there is every reason to believe that this healthy hobby will be the same once more in its native land.

Delaware County to Start J. Horton Weeks, Esq., founder and president of the Delaware County League, has sounded the call for a meeting of that organization to be held on Saturday, January 25, at Chester. It will be preceded by a dinner tendered by President Weeks, with managers of former clubs and league officials as guests. At this gathering the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the 1917 pennant to Peard's Park's champion Chester club, which defeated Ephraim in the play-off series, and to the leading players. The regular season will be held in March, and a writing a four-day circuit looks assured, comprising probably Chester, Ephraim, Media and the Union League.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again. President J. A. Newell will call the managers together in the near future and a six-club circuit will be formed with these teams already assured: Treasler Hill, Lansdowne, Union Heights, Media and Highland Park.

Manufacturers, in Dine When the baseball season ended last year there was much discussion among the teams of the Manufacturers' League as to whether it would appear in 1919. President Paul G. Brumfield advised that the league would be held in the fall, and the yearly banquet be called off, claiming that it was unjust to many of the league players fighting for their country "over there."

Now that the war has ended and the fall season is drawing nigh, President Brumfield has decided it would be a fitting time to hold a belated celebration and present the usual trophies to the C. I. L. champions. The affair will be held within a fortnight, and he hopes to secure in the meantime the possibilities of the circuit for the season of 1919.

Sun Ship Withdraws Announcement was made by Secretary Maclach of the Delaware River Shipyard League, that on the afternoon that Sun Ship had decided not to continue further competition in the organization. The withdrawal of Sun Ship came as a complete surprise and leaves the league with five clubs. An effort is being made to persuade Merchants Ship to take Sun's place.

New York Ship has arranged to play in Philadelphia, at the Camden Army Navy Club, at the Camden Army Navy Club, at the Camden Army Navy Club, at the Camden Army Navy Club.

Central Takes Lead Breaks Tie for First Place by Defeating Speedboys Central High School gained a stronger hold on first place when it defeated West Phillie yesterday by the score of 31 to 14. The game was witnessed by one of the largest crowds ever seen in the West Phillie gym.

Central High, by keeping the ball in its possession for most of the first ten minutes of play, secured a lead of ten points before West Phillie had registered. The close guarding of the Central and Gold players held West Phillie's offense to a mere 14 points during the first half, which ended 21 to 6.

NATIONAL REGATTA MAY BE HELD HERE

Schuylkill Navy Also After Middle States Races. Vesper Club Plans Active Season

MULLER NAMED COACH

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK COLLEGIATE officials have announced a campaign of economy in which all sports and especially rowing will be cut to the limit, but the Schuylkill Navy is expending every effort to make the 1919 rowing season, from a local standpoint, the biggest in the history of the game.

The representatives of boathouse row have been instructed to go after the national regatta with a strong mind and hand. The local rowing bosses have been assured the assistance of New York, Baltimore and Washington officials, and the outlook for securing the national events is exceptionally bright.

Local enthusiasts are sure of seeing their regatta, the American Henley, the Schuylkill Navy and the People's regatta all will be held over the stretch on the Schuylkill, and an all-outgoing 1919 regatta will be held at Atlantic championships decided here.

Lehm to Lead Vesper The Vesper Club has been active in arranging plans for the coming season, and at a recent meeting elected Fred G. Lehm to lead the oarsmen. Frank Muller, once known as the best bow oar in America, will have charge of the coaching.

The Vesper live wires have arranged for the purchase of five new boats, and the old shells will be refitted and re-modeled for the coming races. A booster's committee has been selected with the purpose of arousing greater interest in the game in this city.

The Vespers have an abundance of new material. With Ringling, Flynn, Hanna and Alter as the veteran contingent, Coach Muller intends to build up a junior eight from the oldtimers and the new material. Ringling will start in all the sculling events.

Jack Kelly Breaks Leg Lieutenant Jack Kelly, the best oarsman turned out by the Schuylkill Navy in 1918, will not start against Muhlenberg tonight when the Red and Blue plays its second game of the season in Wayhightman Hall. Coach Lou Martin caused no little comment among the undergraduates yesterday when he announced the line-up of the Penn team for the game tonight. Joe Mitchell, whom all thought would be replaced by Kelly, will be in the line-up.

Muhlenberg Five Should Prove Easy for Veteran Red and Blue Team

McNICHOL WON'T START Despite rumors to the contrary, Danny McNichol, just recently returned from Camp Dix, will not start against Muhlenberg tonight when the Red and Blue plays its second game of the season in Wayhightman Hall.

The Vesper Club has sixty men in the service, about half of them are in the usual number of entrants will be turned out. An attempt will be made to induce the old stars to take up active training.

PLAN BOXING BILL Prominent Men Sponsor Measure for Federal Rule New York, Jan. 18.—Championed by a notable array of Americans, both in military and civil life, including General Leonard Wood, former chief of the Army, and General Hugh Crowder, who has organized and caused to be incorporated into the National Amateur Athletic Union, a bill for a national law for the government of boxing in the United States.

These plans include the drawing up by former President William H. Taft of a national law for the government of boxing in the United States. The bill is intended to establish a national championship, the winner to compete for national titles, reclassification of boxes, with a scale of weights and rigid rules for contests; action looking to the repeal of all State laws prohibiting boxing, and the American people take a lively interest.

Germtown F. 45; Ridley Park, 14 The Germtown Friends School basketball team defeated Ridley Park 45 to 14 yesterday by the score of 24 to 15. With three minutes to go the teams were deadlocked at 18. Germtown then scored from midair and sealed clinched matters with two successful shots. Summerville captured the contest, Robertson featuring.

Friends' Guild, 24; Dorsett B. C., 8 Friends' Guild defeated Dorsett B. C. 24 to 8 yesterday by the score of 24 to 15. With three minutes to go the teams were deadlocked at 18. Friends' Guild then scored from midair and sealed clinched matters with two successful shots. Summerville captured the contest, Robertson featuring.

Brown Prep, 33; Tome School, 29 Brown Prep defeated Tome School 33 to 29 yesterday by the score of 24 to 15. With three minutes to go the teams were deadlocked at 18. Brown Prep then scored from midair and sealed clinched matters with two successful shots. Summerville captured the contest, Robertson featuring.

George Simpson Some Bowler The wonderful work of George Simpson on the Loder composing room in one of the greatest games in the Curtis Bowler League last night.

Scraps About Scappers Willie Jackson and Jack Russo, formerly of New Orleans, will be the contestants in the final bout at the National A. A. tonight. Both boys have trained for the coming battle and will enter the ring confident of victory.

Olympia A. A. Broad and Baldrick Monday Evening, Jan. 19, 1919. Victor Ritchie vs. Jimmy Mendon. Phil Brennan vs. Leo Leonard. Johnny Murray vs. Frankie Corvati. Benny Valger vs. Whitey Fitzgerald. Willie Jackson vs. Jack Russo. Tickets at Donaghys, 33 S. 11th St.

Dick Stolt vs. Harry Boyle. Artie O'Leary vs. Larry Hansen. Lew Tandler vs. Young Brown.

BASKET BALL Pennsylvania vs. Muhlenburg. Weichtman Hall, 330 and 340. This (SAT.) EVE., JAN. 18, 1919. Fredling vs. Hunsberger. High School vs. Reservoir. (Including War) Tax! 50c. Sec. 13-10.

PALACE RINK 39TH & MARKET Roller Skating, Dancing, Cabaret EVERY APT. 230. EVENING 7:30

SUITS AND OVERCOATS \$1.80 REDUCED FROM \$30, \$25 AND \$20. PETER MORAN & CO. S. E. Cor. 9th & Arch Sts. Open Monday and Saturday evenings until 11 o'clock.

PASSING THE BUCK

By CLUNNINGHAM

DEFERRED and since the late war occasionally one listens to some chatter of some of the old army games. Now there may be a doubt under the hats of some as to just what the ancient military pastime consists of and the why and wherefore of all this. Then, relax, within the arms of the rocking chair by the window, because we're here to tell you.

ATZA BOY, AMBROSE! I PERTAINING to and partaking of the antique sport of soldiers the pillow is often informed that every one wins and nobody loses. Like getting two tens for a five and leads him and tails lose. Kinda hard to keep the thread of the story. Things kinda mix up, like. To be real frank and with nothing up the sleeves but suited cuffs, the old army game is nothing but PASSING THE BUCK.

OTHER words, shift the responsibility. Now, after years of experience, the army guys had that system trained to come at a whistle. Say, for instance the major general's horse steps in a mud puddle and some goony splashes over the notable's heels. The M. Gen. sends for the colonel and wants to know what the puddle was doing in the middle of the road. Col. gets sore and says he can't understand why the major let that puddle go there.

JOHN PRIVATE IS THE HUMAN SHOCK ABSORBER

ORDERLY, NOTIFY THE MAJOR TO REPORT! MAJOR gets a howling and the Major passes it on to the Captain and so on down the line. Captain to Adjutant; Adj. to First Lieutenant and from there to Second Lieut. The 2d Lt. slams the Sergeant and Serge pants the Corporal and the Corporal puts the saddle on the private. That's why they call

THEM BUCK PRIVATES JOHN PRIVATE hasn't any one to slip the hooks to, so he fixes the puddle and is put on kitchen police for two weeks.

IT'S A GREAT LIFE

THE BUCK

One of the best battles of the season is down in the American League for Monday evening when the St. Columbia River forces the Athletics. The Athletics are going at it as usual. The Athletics will win in all probability.

Billie Mergenwerk, the dean of basketball, will be the first to take the field in the final bout at the Olympia A. A. tonight. Both boys have trained for the coming battle and will enter the ring confident of victory.

Other Cage Results East Park defeated the Schuylkill Navy Club on the latter's floor last night by the score of 19 to 14. Keller's play featured. Telford scored in the fourth quarter, 20 to 16. Five points were a hotly contested game from 81 through 16.

Goals From Every Angle The Delaware River Ship League is down to five clubs, due to the withdrawal of Sun Ship from the organization. The other berth was tendered the Merchants Ship and the club is back in college. The Schuylkill, the Bloomfield High school is certain, and the athletic association has never been in such excellent financial shape.

Crane Bill Scott, the Buffalo middleweight, is anxious to meet Jimmy McTigue in the ring. The Buffalo middleweight is training daily at Jack O'Brien's gym and he thinks that he can take the best of him.

Young Brown and Lew Tandler are on edge for their six-round battle. They take place in the final bout at the Olympia A. A. tonight. Both boys have trained for the coming battle and will enter the ring confident of victory.

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