

BASE BALL GOSSIP OF WEEK

Omaha Bill Wrestling With Hard Luck Against the Field.

NEW PLAYERS MAY BRING A CHANGE

Thornton and Kelly Expected to Add Strength to the Team and Enable It to Escape from Last Place.

Plugging along. Josh Billings once remarked that when a man started to go down hill it seemed as if everything was greased for the occasion. And Papa Bill Rourke is willing to stand up and say "amen" to this. He has more than proved it since the present base ball season opened, and bids fair to go through to the end sitting up evidence in favor of the affirmative. Bill's band of warriors has gone from one hard luck episode to another with a sickening regularity, and emerges from one wave of disaster only to be engulfed by another. But right here's where the change comes. No man in the bunch has lost his courage, and every time the dip has been taken it has been against the protest of the entire band. Just at present the team is in as good a playing condition as it has been this season, the acquisition of Thornton and Kelly at short notice much to bring it back to its old form, and the teams that have been doing so well at Omaha's expense are likely to have their fun cut off short. Everybody knows what Jack Thornton can do, and Kelly gives all exterior evidence of being a ball player, so there will very likely be something doing from the Omaha end of it from this time out. We may not win the pennant, but it's going to keep Des Moines and Denver both jumping to hold us in the bottom hole.

Messrs. Burns, Packard and Sexton all got together at Denver during the last week and proceeded to deny totally and in each item the sundry and divers reports, rumors, interviews and hot-air yarns with which their names have been connected during the fortnight previously, and especially did they deny any intention, expressed or implied, of the Western abandoning the fight in Milwaukee or Kansas City. Hugh Duffy chimes in from Milwaukee, promising to "hold her nose" again in the battle of the last gallop's ashore, or words to that effect. He is as heroic as Leonidas and James FitzJames both put together, and almost as chary in his expressions as the late James J. Corbett. One of the few things in the deluge of denials that is of interest is the statement by Messrs. Burns and Packard that they do not own and control a majority of the clubs in the Western league. Nor has there been any further attempt to turn the Omaha franchise over to Bobby Lowe or any other club. All of which indicates that in degree the Rocky Mountain magnates are returning to reason in a degree. But their assertions that the American league is on the point of dissolution, and is certain to abandon the disputed points, seems to be founded on mere hope. The stubborn fact is that the American is in better shape than it was last year, and the Western is not.

Whatever the reason, the batters of the Western league are making the showing they did last year. When such pitchers as Owen, Brown, Welmer, Gibson and Adkins were officiating in the league the batting list was as full of .300 hitters as a dog is of fleas. With these acknowledged stars out of the game, the list of sluggers has dwindled until only ten of them have the mark. Nine others are hitting close to .300, but outside the money. Here are the ten leaders: Fleming, Colorado Springs, left field, .368; Duffy, Milwaukee, center field, .347; O'Leary, Des Moines, shortstop, .343; O'Neil, Milwaukee, right field, .333; Fohl, Des Moines, pitcher, .328; Thornton, Omaha, first base, .321; Congalton, Colorado Springs, right field, .318; DeLahanty, Denver, second base, .311; McConnell, St. Joseph, catcher, .308; Wright, Peoria, pitcher, .307.

That isn't a very formidable list of sluggers, is it? Have the batters lost the real thing in the way of pitching and not recognized it? Even the great George Alonso Stone, who hit .300 last year, is now batting thirty-third in the list, with a percentage of .274. It's pretty hard to say what.

One week from Tuesday Presidents Johnson, Fullam and Powers will meet at Saratoga to complete the draft of the national agreement which is to cover all base ball operations. That this agreement will be ratified is a foregone conclusion. It is assumed that it will be in all essential regards a model document for the government of the game from the manager's point of view, and as such will be of great service to the game. Even with the slack control of the present year the improvement over the condition of anarchy that prevailed last season is so marked as to indicate what may be expected when the time comes that the player's will is not the absolute law of the diamond. When it gets to the pass that a player can hold his place only by doing his best the game will be the gamier and the honest players will be none the losers. For two seasons the rowdies have defied suspension and the black list because of the demand for players. An agreement between the leagues will put those fellows on a different basis and may induce them to behave. At any rate, they'll either play ball or get out of the game.

CURES WEAK MEN FREE.

Secure Love and Happy Home for All. How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, and enlarge small, weak organs to full size and vigor. Simply send your name and address to Dr. J. C. Farnsworth, 1111 Broadway, Detroit, Mich. and they will gladly send free receipt with full directions, so that any man may cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer and the following extracts taken from their daily mail show what men think of their generosity: "Dear Sir: I have accepted my sincere thanks for your recent date, and I have given your treatment a thorough try, and the benefit has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy, and you cannot realize how happy I am." "Dear Sir: Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor were completely restored and enlargement is entirely satisfactory." "Dear Sir: Your was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed and can truly say it has been a weak man. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor." All correspondence in strictly confidential, mailed in plain, sealed envelope. The receipt is free for asking and they want every man to have it.

the time Buck had made up his mind that he had enough of the Millionaire, and with a profusion in his promises to return, he next showed up in an Oakland uniform and has been playing regularly on Pete Lohman's team ever since. Dunder's absence will weaken Denver materially, for neither Radcliffe nor Schiebeck can equal him as a player.

The statistics for the Omaha's team performance during the last week indicate a general improvement in fielding and an equal slump in hitting. The figures are: FIELDING AVERAGES.

Table with 5 columns: Name, PO., A., E., TC., Av. Last Wk. Rows include Kelly, Thornton, Miller, Carter, Welch, Sanders, Genna, Shupert, Henderson, and Hickey.

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RACE OF THE TRI-CITY LEAGUE

Ideals and Originals Are Fighting for First Place and Making It Interesting.

The pennant race in the Tri-City league has reached a point of much interest and has practically settled down between the Ideals and Originals, with the Ideals slightly in the lead. The Originals have combined the same traits in their team and are second in the pennant race, with little chance of being headed and an even chance of finishing at the head of the league. Those hitting over 300 in the various teams are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: ORIGINALS and R. JETTERS. Rows include Howe, Bradford, Scully, Doreca, Lynch, and Joe Smith.

MID-WEST TENNIS TOURNEY

Play Begins Monday at Field Club with Promise of Good Crowd.

Tomorrow will begin a week of tennis and of the week which is above all others the acme of enthusiasm and real playing in Omaha. It is the opening day of the middle-west tournament, which will bring together the representative players of at least five states. Everything is in the best of preparation for the tournament, which will live up to its promise of being the best and most successful of any ever held in Omaha or in any other city in the middle-west. As great as there ever was, the courts are a little finer and the players just a little better than ever before. The names of the players who will play in the tournament show an unusually large number of strong men for any tournament outside of the east or Chicago. Most of them have long records of many victories to look back upon and all of them are still playing in their strongest form.

The prizes, too, are very fine. In valuation alone they are as good as any given for any tournament except the largest of the eastern ones, where money has ceased to be an object. Following is a complete list of the prizes arranged for: Challenge cup, singles (won three times), \$150; First prize, singles, loving cup (to be held permanently), \$50; Second prize, doubles, silver-mounted cut glass pitcher, \$25; Challenge cup, doubles, two loving cups, valued at \$50 each, \$100; First prize, doubles, one cut glass punch bowl and one silver decanter, \$25; Second prize, doubles, two silver brooches, \$20; First prize, singles, consolation, cut glass pitcher, \$15; Second prize, singles, consolation, silver-mounted carving set, \$12; First prize, doubles, consolation, two silver punch ladles, valued at \$16 each, \$32; Second prize, doubles, consolation, two silver pins, valued at \$8 each, \$16; Total, \$500.

The tennis committee at the Omaha Field club have been giving particular attention the last week to the completing of the details for the entertainment of the out-of-town players during the tournament, and they are assured one of the "rightest" times possible. With the exception of Thursday night something is arranged for the amusement of the players for every night of the week and the committee declares that Thursday night will not be left open. On Monday the players will be initiated into the mysteries of the subtleties of the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben; Tuesday a duck drive is scheduled and then there will be the regular dance on Wednesday evening; Friday night and smores will be given and on Saturday night and the second dance is on Saturday night.

To the old Omaha Lawn Tennis club due the credit of starting the interstate tennis event, which is now held annually at the Omaha Field club. In previous years the meet was termed the Omaha Interstate tournament, but now bears the more dignified name of The Middle West championship. All these events have been held under the auspices of the United States Lawn Tennis association and many players of national repute have taken part in the contests. The following is a summary of the tournaments: 1895-Singles champion, De Roy Austin, Omaha; runner-up, W. H. Williams, Kansas City. Mo. Double champion, C. H. Young and E. J. Hart, Omaha, Neb.; runner-up, J. R. Farnsworth and H. T. Nicholson, Lemars, Ia. 1896-Singles champion, L. H. Waldner, Chicago; runner-up, H. W. Sigurd, Chicago. Double champions, L. H. Waldner and W. W. Slousser, Chicago. 1897-Singles champion, J. W. Carver, Chicago; runner-up, Frank Hakkell, Omaha. Double champions, J. W. Carver and L. H. Waldner, Chicago; runner-up, W. S. Bond and W. H. Carver, Chicago. 1898-De Roy Austin, Omaha; runner-up, J. R. Condee, Chicago. Double champions, De Roy Austin and C. C. Cutting, Omaha; runner-up, R. W. Condee and J. R. Condee, Chicago. 1899-Singles champion, N. A. Webster, Omaha; runner-up, C. H. Young, Omaha. Double champions, C. H. Young and H. T. Clarke, Jr., Omaha. 1900-Singles champion, F. R. Sanderson, Galesburg, Ill.; runner-up, Earle Farnsworth, Grand Island, Neb.; Double champions, F. R. Sanderson and E. R. Sanderson, Grand Island and Lincoln. In looking over the above names it will be seen that many famous men have appeared on Omaha courts. H. W. Slousser was champion of the United States in 1888 and 1889, W. S. Bond in 1888 ranked third

among American players, J. W. Carver in 1890 and 1892 held the western championship in Omaha, and J. A. Ryerson while L. H. Waldner is now the holder of the same title with Kreigh Collins. It will also be remembered that this latter team gave the Doherty brothers such a close run in the championship round in the national double last year. These interstate events have been a great success and Omaha players always look forward to witnessing the skill of the visitors when they appear on the Field club courts every August. The tournaments of 1884 and 1885 were managed by George E. Havestick, those of 1891 and 1897 by C. H. Young, while the tennis committee of the Omaha Field club insured the success of those held in 1901 and 1902.

GOLF ENTHUSIASM IS GROWING

Omaha Courses See Fresh Accessions and Better Playing Each Week Now.

Golfing interest in local circles is still increasing despite the lateness of the season and the accessions to the game are ten and twelve a week at the Field and Country clubs combined. The average strength of the players is increasing too, despite the increase in new players and the number of players that are making the round at the Country club in under 90 is above the fifty mark, while there are twenty or thirty that have equal or low records over the Field club course. Such matches as the one with the two Des Moines club for the last two days of the week just passed are also adding greatly in the interest of the players and indirectly in the character of their play. Competition was rife at both clubs for places on the teams and for the whole week preceding the matches the various players spent all of their spare time working on the links and trying to improve their play. Many low scores were made in practice and, when the matches were played, the results of the extra practice were quite apparent.

The Country club is planning to acquire more ground next year for the course if possible. The course at present is not as long as the regulation course, but all that can be done to lengthen it on the ground they now have has been done and more ground is necessary to increase its length. With an addition of ten acres this could be done very readily.

The attempt on the part of the Field club to interest the women of the club in golf has met with only fair success so far. A few of the members have taken up the game and the interest that they display is great. But their number is still small and an attempt is being made to continue to interest more. The weekly contests have proven an encouraging feature and the McMillan cup had given added interest to the game among those playing. All of the matches for the women, so far, have been played over the first nine holes, but in time the play will be extended over the entire eighteen hole course. At present nine holes is quite sufficient for the purpose to lay through the entire eighteen without wearing themselves out entirely and many would not attempt to go around more than the nine holes if the matches called for it even.

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QUAINT FEATURES OF LIFE

William Sigmet of McKeesport, Pa., almost forgot (he does not advertise) to mention that he had gained unusual prominence because of a report that the president, on hearing of his name, sent a check for \$100 to the little one. Mr. Sigmet says no check has been received and he adds that should he be blessed with any other branches of the family the scriptures for names. He is a mill worker, 35 years old, and has been married three times. Of his twenty children fourteen are alive.

The newspapers of Oklahoma are severe on storekeepers who do not advertise properly. The following shows the method of attack: "A donkey stepped into a store and the proprietor approached the beast and asked: 'What are you doing here? You know this is no place for a donkey.' 'I am here,' said the donkey, 'because I saw your advertisement in the paper and it surrounds my pasture. I know you too must be a donkey or you would place your advertisement in a paper where it would be read by people, not donkeys. Being lonely today I thought I would be neighborly and make a fraternal call.'"

One of the popular fads in Newport at present is "munching," which means merely eating very slowly. Munching is one of the numerous preventives of growing avoirdupois, and as it has the recognition of King Edward it is naturally increased with much favor in Newport. The theory is that every particle of food must be chewed slowly and carefully until no solid material remains to be swallowed. Slow eating is merely carried to an extreme by the new treatment. A London society threatened with too much flesh is to be chewing very long and very thoroughly and American converts to the system are already numerous. Its effect is said to be noticeable at dinners, which have come to be known as munching parties and are much less vivacious than they were when eating and drinking went on rapidly. Persons who eat slowly also eat much less than those who eat rapidly.

The society women of Missouri have invented a new diversion, a "progressive" driving party. It was the happy idea of Miss Rosamond Guthrie of Mexico, Mo. The guests at Miss Guthrie's party started from her home, a couple in a buggy, after driving ten or fifteen minutes, all the buggies stopped, and each gentleman got out and climbed into the buggy just ahead of him. This was kept up evening. The changes of partners were interspersed with refreshments at four different residences, the entire party being fed sandwiches and olives at one place, frappe at another, chestnuts and pickles at another and orange ice and cake at the last. Seventeen young women and seventeen young men participated in this unusual diversion.

Mrs. Margaret Bean, aged 84, residing at Webster, Miss., has regained the use of her limbs suddenly after she was taken away from her about fifteen years ago. At that time she was struck by lightning and ever since has been a helpless invalid. Upon awaking the other morning she felt a great deal more refreshed than on previous mornings. It seemed to her that she was much stronger. Her hitherto feeble, shaking hands had suddenly become strong and firm. Then she got out of bed and stood erect for the first time in fifteen years. Her joyful cries brought her daughter in haste to the room.

Having more faith in busines than in banks, Mrs. Augusta VanClerk placed \$7,300 in cash in her favorite depository while traveling near St. Paul and lost it. Mrs. VanClerk is about 65 years of age. She was bound in Pierz, Minn., to visit her son-in-law. Before leaving she concluded that the safest place for her \$7,300 was in a bundle which she wore. When within thirty or thirty-five miles of St. Paul Mrs. VanClerk left her berth to finish her toilet in the dressing room. Her bundle was in its usual place, but a few moments later she discovered its absence and knew that it must have fallen onto the right of way. The train was just then entering the station. The woman was distracted. Mrs. VanClerk was advised to inform the Rock Island superintendent at Minneapolis of the loss. This was done by wire, and an answer came back that a crew of trusty men would be dispatched upon speaders along the track in search of the treasure.

IT IS A MISERABLE THING TO LIVE IN SUSPENSE. It is a spider's life. If you are not sure about yourself—if you do not know from what disease you are suffering, cut short the awful uncertainty by getting the opinion of expert specialists. The consulting physicians of the Cook Medical Co. are skilled and up-to-date in the diagnosis and treatment of all diseases peculiar to men and women, blood, skin and nervous troubles. Cured, no matter how chronic or obstinate in 5 to 30 days. We often cure by a single treatment. PROSTATIC TROUBLES. We permanently cure ANY CASE in 5 to 20 days. NERVOUS DEBILITY. Cures quick and radical, in 30 to 60 days, by our own famous method. LOST VITALITY. TIME OF CURE, 10 to 60 days, by our original, very simple remedy. We have an exclusive right to this treatment. It is prepared specially from newly discovered plants of Africa. BLOOD POISON. Radical cures in 60 to 90 days. We remove every vestige of poison from the system without aid of mercury or potash. VARICOCELE. Cured in from 2 to 10 days safely, without cutting, danger or detention from business, by our own external absorptive process. STRICTURE. Cured in 5 to 15 days, without cutting, stretching, pain or loss of time. It is a marvelous cure. RUPTURE. Cured in 20 days, no matter how aggravated the case, by our NEW METHOD CURE, without pain, operation or detention from business. Don't Delay. Come Today. WE MAKE NO CHARGE for a friendly talk or correspondence. Come to us in the strictest confidence. We have been exclusively treating private and special diseases of men for thirty years. Nothing science can devise or money buy is lacking in our office equipment. We will use you honestly, treat you skillfully, and restore you to health in the shortest time, with the least medicine, discomfort and expense practicable. We guarantee to cure any case we undertake. If you cannot call, write for our home cure.

TESTIMONIAL Her Grand Hotel, Omaha, July 8, 1903. Cook Medical Co., 112 South Fourteenth street, Omaha, Neb. Gentlemen—In answer to your question as to my improvement, I wish to state that I am fully cured. There is no trace of my old trouble to be seen, and I feel perfectly healthy in every respect. I am attending to my work every day; something which I had not been able to do for several months before coming to you for treatment. I can heartily recommend you to all who suffer in a like manner as myself, and will be glad to give them my experience. Yours truly, EDWARD DANIELS. TESTIMONIAL Mondamin, Iowa, July 2, 1903. Cook Medical Co., 112-114 South Fourteenth street, Omaha, Neb. Gentlemen—Complying with your request to write to you describing my condition after taking the last month's treatment, which I received at your office, I write the following: There is no evidence of any further trouble as regards highly strung and loose, which I have been experiencing for years. That part is cured, and I believe it is permanently cured. The piles bother me somewhat still, but I am much improved, and I know that I shall soon be entirely free of them. I will let you know when I need more treatment. Yours truly, AXEL ERICSEN. OFFICE HOURS—8 a. m. to 5 p. m. SUNDAYS—9 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.

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