

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 1908

JUDGMENTS

The Sporting News is correct in its theory that the American association and Western League will continue when it comes to life. It only requires when has often been said that the last but one end to the sport elsewhere. In base ball and that is evident elsewhere. It's the same old story, only with the old off, and as this is a little age it will possess at least one virtue to command it and that is the "eternal fitness of things." The course pursued by the common houses of the American association and Western League, Cantillon-Tebeau, leads on as inevitably to ruin as the "path of glory" lead to the grave. It has taken time for the corrupt power that has dominated the Western League to prove to itself and to the outside world its suicidal influence, but if the lesson be taught so that it need not be learned again, the cost will be considered small indeed. Whether the present Western League disintegrates at the end of this year or not and a new league is formed with W. A. Rourke as the leading spirit in its organization with clubs in such cities as Omaha, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City and perhaps Milwaukee, or whether the present league is expanded by the addition of two more teams this year is not so much the question as that the methods by which the league has been controlled have brought upon themselves the reproach of all decent officials of the game and challenged the contempt of the public which supports the game. It is doubtless the latter fact, more than the first which has brought the Cantillon-Tebeau regime to a realization of its own folly. If the sale of Des Moines is genuine it may be accepted as one evidence that the medicine is taking.

In all the press work so ardently exerted in behalf of the New York Giants these days, there is one bright side that is that the McGraw spirit has been awakened. Elsewhere does Tebeau himself and through Roger Breckinridge and various other members of the team, declaring that the Giants will win or come second. And, when the spirit of McGraw, like the spirit of '76, is aroused, look well to your guns! Seriously, though, the bell-like manager is having a difficult time convincing sober minds that his bunch is nearer to winning the flag this year than last. It still looks like the Cubs on the lot, with second place between the Pirates and Philadelphia. But we are willing to let Tebeau come as far as he can.

Vale and Harvard have the distinction of being excluded from the anesthesia pronounced by Cambridge and Oxford against American college athletics. And, just for that, Fair Harvard is going to lose the meeting of the Intercollegiate Athletic association. It beats all how mean some boys can be.

The Omaha Rod and Gun club did a lot of good last season, and can do a lot more this year. Even sportsmen who do not belong to the club are benefited by its existence and the protection it gives to the fish and birds at Cut-Off lake.

McAfee says Waddell's value cannot be estimated by a base ball fan or sporting writer; "you have to go against that guy with a bat to realize him." That's what Connie Mack evidently thought and often did like doing.

One thing is certain. No one will be surprised if Tebeau pulls a rabbit of some sort out of the bag. This is one thing about Connie George that is really nice; he can always be depended upon to turn some sort of a trick.

Continent against spring shooting and premature fishing is getting stronger every day. Sportsmen are beginning to see the wisdom of the crusade started many years ago by men who were called cranks then.

Craighead has a place on the Nebraska schedule this year. If the shooting made by the team at St. Louis last year is a criterion, the Craigheads have hooked up with a worthy foe in the Omaha squad.

Dee Moises may be reasonably certain of one thing this year: The players will be there long enough to learn the way from park to the boarding house. That's more than lots of them did last season.

Marry Puffin will still sign a pay check for himself to the tune of \$100 a year. Harry would have been a reporter a long time before he would have taken down that much. Maybe a thousand years.

The time may or may not have arrived for a reorganization of the Western League, but there is no question of the opportunity of every fellow telling his right name. This gum shoe guy is old.

It's a pity that as good a ball town as Omaha has to be at the mercy of such men as Tebeau and Cantillon. Rourke has the sympathy of the base ball world.

Does it help any to think that all this talk is just making it easier for Tommy Doug and Jack Johnson to get money without working?

The Omaha High school basket ball team has made quite a record for itself, showing that the boys only needed a little encouragement.

Frank Gotsch, no less than Tommy Burns, is finding the lemon crop inexhaustible and he doesn't have to go over the seas at that.

Fa's High school for base ball players will open for the summer term in just about four weeks.

Why not call it the Big Six and be happy.

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OUR PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS

Will They Boycott the Open Championship?

THIRTY OF CLAN ESTABLISHED

Talk in that Vein Through Dismissal—With Treatment at Myopia Three Years Ago—The Pioneer Experts.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—There is but one golfer who is a bird of passage with success in the pursuit of his trade. He is Joe Lloyd, who since 1897 has been professional at the Essex County Country club, Manchester, Mass., in the summer and at the Pan Golf club, France, in the winter. Probably thirty or forty go to their old homes in Scotland or England every winter, say one-third of the resident British pros take such a trip each year. They are on the sea now, the unwilling to go across last fall, and thirty of forty more have good jobs on winter resort links. To the others, the stay at home, this is the non-playing season, but they keep busy getting up new stock for their shop. In the east there is an occasional opportunity for a game, even though a red bull has to be used over snow, and if the professional is also greenkeeper there will be plenty to do as spring approaches. The clubs that let their professionals off in the winter and do not put them on board wages are few in number. There are probably 40 golf professionals in this country who have no means of living except by the game and of this total probably fifty are of American birth. There are 35 clubs in the United States Golf association, so that this tally does not include club makers or assistant professionals.

Talk of the Boycott.

The burning question now among the playing professionals is whether it will do them to boycott the national open championship at the Myopia Hunt club, near Boston, on August 27 and 28. There has been a feeling of resentment against Myopia on the part of some professionals since the open championship there in 1892. This set and they would never recur to the idea, but their ground of complaint had been that they were treated with scant courtesy in not being permitted to enter the clubhouse when in the possession of the professionals' shop, and the dressing accommodations were scant. At the two earlier open championships at Myopia the professionals had no complaints to make, and the trouble the last time seems to have been due to a non-appreciation of the increased attendance at the tournament of professionals not entered to play and of others interested in the game as a business.

As things are the open championship carries the largest and most devoted class of followers of any tournament, so that arrangements must be made to let them buy food and refreshments in comfort while talking over the day's great shots. A little care in this respect will change the views of the professionals toward Myopia.

Myopia is not a golf club, and the golf committee may at no time usurp the place of the house committee. It is a hunt club

that through courtesy opens its field to some other amateur pastimes, but the members of the house must always be served first.

A national championship is superior to any other, by which is meant that a professional would be foolish to ever play away because of prejudice against his manager or the course. It would be a case of biting the nose to spite the face, for whoever thinks he may win or take a place at Myopia has too much to gain to throw away the chance by yielding to a feeling of resentment. The titleholder, Archie Ross, is a Bostonian, which is another reason for all to enter to meet him on his native health.

British Idea of Situation.

These considerations of the design and opinions of our professionals and their status in the community have been prompted by this paragraph in a late copy of Field, which reads:

"The Americans do not appear as yet to have evolved a golf professional to their satisfaction. They have sent the old country a number of golfers, but the game has not been made clubs of successful hard work, and the professional still remains with us as an article of export. It is a curious fact that the golfers of the United States go to Europe to fill appointments in the United States are mostly taken either from St. Andrews or Cumbria. The only real exception to this rule is the Scotch professional for America. The veterans of the professional ranks of H. H. Barker of Huddersfield, who quit that district about the age to fill an educational position in America, and the Scotch professional who is still with us, is the Scotchman of the "Golf and the Game," the author of the "Golf Handbook," teaching them the art of swinging the club. 'Dad is I da.' At any rate, the Scotch professional is the best for America. Last week Stewart Macpherson, amateur champion of Scotland, left for America to take up a professional appointment, and it is to be hoped that he may be followed by many more Scotch professionals attached to American clubs as are attached to clubs either in England or in Scotland.

It is with the Scotch professionals that the American golfers are to be compared. The Scotch professional is a testimony at least to his value as a player and teacher. It also shows however that the American golfers sets above the mere amateur who is connected with the game and his desire to pay high salaries for the most skilled and attractive professionals. So attractive indeed has this remunerative side of the game become to players on this side that many amateurs have relinquished their business and professional careers for the more profitable golfing career among the professionals of the United States. True to their character of chivalry and generosity the Americans are willing to spend any amount of money in perfecting themselves in the game.

English Professionals Plenty.

As a fact the proportion of Scotch over English resident professionals is not so great as this paragraph would indicate, while North Berwick and Troon have as many representatives here as Carnoustie. There is no doubt that the occupation has proven remunerative to those who are of sturdy habits, but the greatest success has come to those who have always been professionals—it is exceptional that the amateur who comes out to be a professional ever stays over a couple of seasons or scores a hole-in-one. Mr. Barker is doing very nicely at Dundee City, and as he has only been here since the fall it is not too soon to consider him in this article. The competitor of the amateurs who have thrown up the sponge and returned to their native lands has been the lack of social life there. The society they wanted would not have them and that they could have was disastrous. Besides, when it came to playing they were held safe by the professionals "head of the boss."

An American born professional has yet to win our open championship, but they

have been "in the money" more than once. In minor tournaments and as match players they have of late revealed that if not the best in the class they are getting very close to the class of our best resident professional players and teaching on other links in the same field for practice. It may be that there is not an American professional as good as the Scotch, but the Scotch are pre-eminent in the game. The Tees,彬斯 and Travers are among the world's amateurs, but as teachers, keepers of greens and of clubs shops the Americans are well satisfied with their honored experts. In personal conduct and business rectitude the American professionals are as a class quite the equals of the Britches. Golf has done good to the nation in two ways: It has enhanced our population by a vigorous and healthy accession of newcomers from Britain, for if the first generation sometimes holds aloof the second becomes amalgamated with us, and it has created a new occupation for the Americans. Most of the work in the open. These are estimates of the good wrought by the game, but from one standpoint, that of the professional. The value of the game in other ways to the nation opens up a vista of economic and social considerations.

Money in It for Some.

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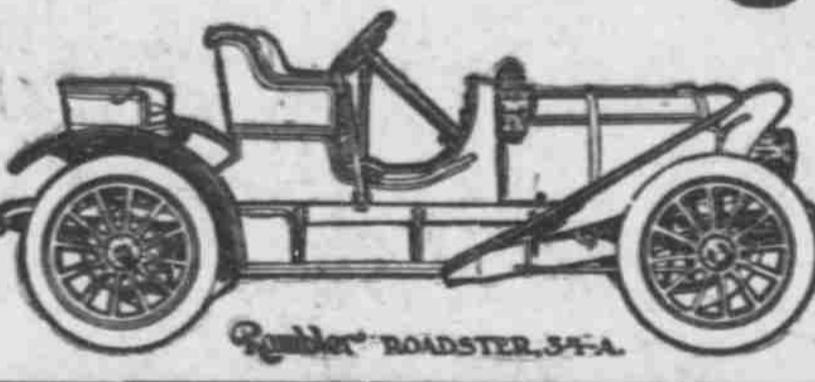
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In this country as well as being the initiative of the titanic event. A word may be said of the field as it bears on the pastime as a wagon carrier. Horace Rawlin, an English lad in Davis' shop, won with 175 and Willie Dunn was second with 151. The others were James Foulis of Chicago, W. F. Davis, Willie Campbell, John Patrick of Toledo, John Harland, Sam Tucker, John Reid of Philadelphia and Will Norton, Lakewood.

Dunn is beginning again in England and John Patrick, after bringing over three months and starting them on the high road that has led to success, struck a wide path and paid off handsomely. Willie Dunn has the country at his feet and money rolled to him in big wads. One of the first courses he laid out was forgotten one in the inner field of the Morris Park race course, and that of the Ardley club, to form which great forest trees were ruthlessly laid waste, was probably Dunn's most formidable task. He had the good judgment of a civil engineer, although he only worked by rule of thumb, and it must be said of Dunn that his ideas were progressive in course building. Dunn lost his grip in the last years of his American career and went back to England last year to become professional on the Isle of Wight. He is best remembered by the pioneer courses and some fine matches, notably with Willie Davis, Jr., and also as the sponsor here of a number of professionals still prominent, such as W.

Way of Cleveland, Bill Tucker of the Ardley club and John and Seymour Dunn, the latter now at the Wykagyl Park.

Dunn is beginning again in England and from Edward W. Holden, a partner of the Ardley club, he has been given a belt to the wheels for practice. Willie Dunn has baled over 200 tons of hay, sawed 20 cords of wood and cut tons of tobacco leaves this winter.

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