

BASE BALL SITUATION



AY by day the prospects for the newly organized Western Base Ball association assume a brighter aspect. Reports from Omaha, St. Joe, Des Moines, Rock Island, Moline, Peoria, Quincy and Jacksonville indicate that there is a lively interest in base ball and in the new association in those towns. A definite organization has been effected in each association town, and many players have been engaged.

It is expected that the association base ball season will open about May 5, the intention being to play ball four months. There is to be a meeting in Des Moines February 20, when the schedule will be arranged and all other preliminaries attended to.

Matters in Lincoln have been delayed somewhat owing to the absence of Mr. F. W. Little, who has been in New York. Applications have been received from considerably over 100 base ball players for positions on the team, and it is plainly evident that eleven very good men can be secured for the \$800 limit. There is a slight difference of opinion as to the meaning of the limit clause adopted by the association. Dave Rowe, the president of the association, maintains that under the rules of the association, no club can pay more than \$800 for the players and manager. Some of the influential fans of this city believe that the club ought to be allowed to pay a manager extra, holding that the \$800 limit is only for the players. It is the intention, as is doubtless well known, to get a player-manager—some good ball player who is able to play with the club and manage it at the same time. This kind of men come somewhat high and it is argued that it is no more than right for the club to have the privilege of paying the manager a salary for managing the club, outside of the \$800 limit. Lincoln has maintained all along that \$800 is too small. Tom Hickey went to Chicago in favor of a \$1000 limit, but he found himself in a minority.

This difficulty will be bridged, however, and it is probable that a manager will be selected before another week passes. Nothing will be done in the way of hiring individual players until a manager is found, it being thought preferable to let the manager select his own team as far as possible. The names signed to some of the applications for places indicate that things are not as they used to be, as regards base ball salaries. Men are applying for \$75 jobs with ill concealed eagerness who used to command \$200 and \$300. The "I-own-the-whole-earth-and-the-fullness-thereof" air that used to be the distinguishing characteristic of the ball player's demeanor is now scarcely noticeable. The boys have come down off the perch.

A week ago negotiations were in progress with California parties looking to the transfer of one of the coast clubs, manager and all intact, to this city; but now that it seems probable that the Pacific coast league will be re-organized the bottom has fallen out of this project.

Emment Rogers, Jack Roach, Kid Fear, Billy Truffley and Charley Hoover, are among those who want a place on the team.

Ollie Beard, Charles Abbey and several other well known managers have submitted propositions.

Just as soon as Mr. Little returns, which will probably be to-day, or Monday, some definite action will be taken.

Assessments on the capital stock of the local association have been promptly paid and there is a great deal of interest in base ball among Lincoln people generally. With any kind of a decent club Lincoln will have a prosperous season, and there is no doubt but that the club will be a strong one. Mr. Hickey has heard from most of the association towns and he reports a very satisfactory condition of affairs.

Ed Young, who in base ball knowledge, doesn't have to knuckle down to anybody in town, has gone over the field carefully, and he is much pleased with the outlook. "There isn't a club in the association but will play the whole season," he said. "Every team will be amply backed, and we can go ahead with confidence that there will be no changes."

The fact that Dave Rowe was elected president of the western association does not cause any special enthusiasm in this city, where Dave Rowe and his peculiar tactics are well and unfavorably known. There were some queer things in connection with the Lincoln club two years ago under his management that will probably never be satisfactorily explained. Why the Lincoln club should have won every game for a long period, and then suddenly slump and lose right along is a matter that is shrouded in mystery, although there are persons who think Rowe assisted fate in the games. At any rate Dave Rowe is a good deal of a trickster, and it would have been a good thing if some other had been selected as president of

the association. But Rowe with his great and irrefragable record as a first class hoodoo can hardly juggle the western association into a flat failure. The organization seems to be bound to be a success. Rowe will probably not have very much to do with it.

The directors of the Rock Island-Moline base ball association have held a meeting and started to raise \$2,500 by subscription. It is expected that this amount will be easily secured by February 20. Much interest has been manifested in the new western association and it is stated that the Rock Island-Moline club will have ample backing. Harry Sage may be selected as manager. Lynch, Rock Island's former short stop, and William Zeis, catcher, will probably be signed.

The St. Joe club has a live manager, and is already pretty well organized. Some players have been signed.

Joliet felt very much disappointed at not being able to get into the western association, and it is stated that Joliet, Burlington, Dubuque and Galesburg will be at the next meeting of the association trying to get in, and praying for a twelve club league.

NEWS NOTES.

Items of Interest Gathered During the Past Week.

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Tourist rates to Florida via the Missouri Pacific route on sale now. City ticket office 1201 O street, Lincoln, Neb.

FADS OF THE FAIR

All sorts of variations of the mutton-leg sleeve still maintain. Every dress-maker improvises her own most novel successes. The tight sleeve fitting the elbow, and met there with an enormous puff dropping from the shoulder, is almost invariably formed of two materials the upper part silk, brocade or velvet. Many modistes drape the drooping chateleine puff. Just a few of the quaint 1840 sleeves are shown tucked in snugly about the arm at the top and flaring out excessively toward the elbow. All manner of empire sleeves with a single or a double puff at the top is very advantageous for remodeling handsome dresses. An effective sleeve for a dressy toilet drapes in a puff at the top, and falls thence in a deep frill of lace caught up on the inside of the arm. The Marie Antoinette model has lace frills falling from the elbow, and the Venetian sleeve has a slashed puff at the top showing glimpses of the contrasting color. The effect is obtained by lining the puff itself with satin, and draping it on a close sleeve beneath.

The latest novelty in neck gear is a long scarf of black ribbon about two fingers wide, finished on each end with a deep ruffle of cream white lace. This scarf is put around the neck from the front toward the back, crossed there, and brought back in front to tie again in a big bow with ends that come to the bottom of the waist, and it is intended to be worn around the throat under the coat. When the coat is unfastened the effect is very jaunty.

The Venetian gondola is among recent designs selected for a lace pin. A row of small diamonds on a bar of gold is arranged to represent the water. An oblong pearl gives the shape of a boat. A pavillion surmounted with a dome having lace curtains in blue and white enamel is elaborately studded with rubies, olivines and diamonds.

A queer if not meritorious design for a brooch is an elephants head and face, the latter composed of a large pink pearl. The spreading ears are tinted enamel to match the head. The tusks are done in white enamel mounted with gold. A crown studded with diamonds and olivines add a fantastic beauty to the whole.

A pretty lace pin now in great demand is fashioned after a grasshopper. The body is formed of green enamel and gold. For the eyes there are two minute rubies. The piece is studded elaborately with diamonds.

Screw ear-rings, set with either an emerald or ruby, and surrounded with small diamonds, are again widely in vogue. More elaborately designs are chosen, however than hitherto. The circular pattern is being extensively worn.

The popular sword hair ornament is just now mounted with a combination of colored diamonds, embracing lemon brown, green and yellow stones.

A bunch of hyacinths in white enamel, each flower having a diamond center, is a new lace pin.

A pretty necklace is set with pearls of uniform size and has between each link a diamond set in chased gold.

A link button which is quite in vogue is made from equal parts of silver and gold with a diamond center.

A miniature butterfly in tinted enamel, the wings embellished with precious stones, is a late arrival as a tie pin.

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may be made glorious if you spend it in California. And a round trip ticket to San Francisco via the Burlington Route will best bring about the transformation. It costs \$65.50 only, and may be purchased at the B. & M. depot or city office, corner O and Tenth streets, where full information regarding routes, etc., may also be obtained. GEO. W. BONNELL, C. P. & T. A.

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