



BASEBALL SEASON OPENS.

Great Crowds in Several Cities Attend the First Games.

Immense crowds thronged the big league ball parks for the opening games of the baseball season Wednesday. The Cubs played to 16,000 people in Chicago and over 11,000 fans watched the Sox at Detroit. The Cubs won, 3 to 1, and the Sox lost, 0 to 2. Pittsburg won from the Cincinnati Reds and the Boston Doves trimmed Philadelphia. The only other American League game was at St. Louis, where Cleveland won, 4 to 2. Baseball got a banner start on what seems to be its most prosperous year.

The largest crowd that ever witnessed the inauguration of a baseball season in Cincinnati was out to see the Cincinnati and Pittsburg teams play. The Pittsburgs secured a lead in the first inning and gradually increased it through timely hitting and Fromme's wildness. Cincinnati had men on bases in nearly every inning, but was unable to get one of them home. The Pirates scored three runs before one of the largest crowds ever assembled in Washington Park. Indianapolis, champions of the American Association, defeated Toledo in the opening game. Opening the season at St. Louis with Cleveland, before one of the largest crowds that has ever witnessed a spring game, the St. Louis baseball team went down to defeat by a score of 4 to 2.

Standing of the Leagues.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.					
W.	L.	W.	L.		
Chicago	1	0	St. Louis	0	1
Pittsburg	1	0	Phil'd'phia	0	1
Boston	1	0	Brooklyn	0	0
Cincinnati	0	1	New York	0	0

AMERICAN LEAGUE.					
W.	L.	W.	L.		
Detroit	1	0	Phil'd'phia	1	1
Cleveland	1	0	Washington	1	1
Boston	1	0	Chicago	0	1
New York	1	1	St. Louis	0	1

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.					
W.	L.	W.	L.		
Indianapolis	1	0	Columbus	0	1
Louisville	1	0	Kan. City	0	1
Milwaukee	1	0	St. Louis	0	1
Minneapolis	1	0	Toledo	0	1

Results of First Games.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.			
Chicago, 3;	St. Louis, 1.	Cincinnati, 0;	Pittsburg, 3.
Boston, 9;	Philadelphia, 5.	New York-Brooklyn, rain.	
AMERICAN LEAGUE.			
Detroit, 2;	Chicago, 0.	St. Louis, 2;	Cleveland, 4.
Philadelphia-Boston, rain.	Washington-New York, wet grounds.		
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.			
Milwaukee, 9;	St. Paul, 5.	Kansas City, 0;	Minneapolis, 2.
Indianapolis, 4;	Toledo, 2.	Louisville, 6;	Columbus, 1.

\$2,000,000 AS BIRTHDAY FAVORS.

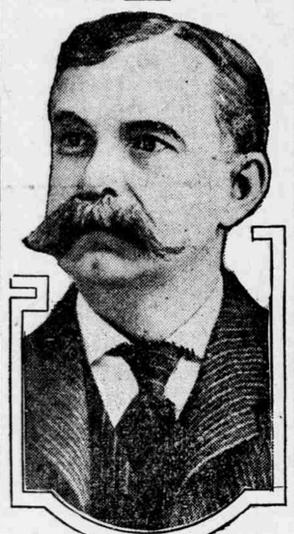
Five Heirs Get Fortune When the Youngest Becomes of Age. A birthday party, having as favors shares in a \$2,000,000 bequest, was held the other evening at 537 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, Cal., the home of Miss Ellen Elliot, in honor of her 18th birthday anniversary. When Mrs. Edward Elliot died several years ago it was generally understood that she left a large fortune in trust, to be distributed among her five children when the youngest became of age. The five children equally sharing the \$2,000,000 estate are Miss Ellen Elliot, Mrs. Clover Noyes, Mrs. Nina Workyns, John Vischer Elliot and a second son, now residing in the East.

Boyles Indicted in Cleveland. An indictment, charging child stealing and harboring a stolen child, was reported at Cleveland, against James H. Boyle and



Mrs. James Boyle. Mrs. Boyle, who are under arrest at Mercer, Pa., on the charge of kidnaping Willie Whittia of Sharon, Pa.

J. A. PATTEN, SAID TO HAVE MADE FORTUNE IN WHEAT.



James A. Patten, who is said to have gained a fortune out of the recent rise in May wheat, has been conspicuous for several years as a daring and successful Chicago board of trade operator in wheat and corn. He has been in the board of trade business since 1878 and previously served four years as an employe of the State grain inspection department in Chicago. Mr. Patten lives in Evanston, Ill., and was mayor of that city four years, besides serving two terms as alderman. He was born in Dekalb County, Illinois, in 1852, and as a boy worked in a country store and on a farm.

BLACK HAND SLAYS MERCHANT.

Italian of Tampa Shot Down by Two Hidden Assassins. The assassination of Giuseppe Ficarotta, a wholesale grocery merchant, and one of the most prominent and wealthy members of the Italian colony in Tampa, Fla., added the third to a series of murders which have been charged to the Black Hand there during the present year. Ficarotta was going to his home from his place of business at a late hour and was shot by two men from ambush with shotguns loaded with heavy slugs. He was instantly killed and the assassins, dropping their weapons, fled. Ficarotta's two young children, a boy and a girl, were with him at the time but neither was hit. Ficarotta's relatives say they know no cause for the murder. He was a member of the city council of West Tampa and prominently connected with the leading social and fraternal organizations of his people.



Battling Nelson has been matched by Promoter McIntosh to meet Jimmy Britton in Australia some time next fall.

Directors of the California Jockey Club still seem to be hoping against hope that they can successfully combat the present law against betting on races.

The death is announced at Berlin of Gen. Count Egbert Hoyer von Asseburg, who was president of the German committee of the Olympic games. He was 63 years old.

David Bruce Brown, a New York boy, covered himself with glory by lowering the world's amateur record for the mile to 33 seconds flat in the automobile race on the Daytona Beach.

John A. Elliott, president of the Minnesota-Wisconsin League, will inaugurate a movement among the minor league presidents and managers to eliminate the "farming out" of players by the larger leagues.

The Lincolnshire (England) handicap of 1,500 sovereigns for 3-year-olds and upwards, the first big race of the season, was won by A. C. Madaras' Duke of Sparta. Sol Joel's Arranmore was second and F. Stern's Longcroft third.

CASTRO IS EXPELLED.

Ignominiously Ousted from Island of Martinique by French Governor.

Protesting to the last that he was seriously ill, and hissing curses upon the French and United States governments, Cipriano Castro, once dictator of Venezuela, was carried, half clad, on a stretcher through the streets from his hotel in Fort de France, Martinique, to the steamship Versailles, a distance of more than a mile, Saturday evening and thrown aboard the steamer, which immediately pulled away from the dock and will not touch land until she ties up at St. Nazaire, France.

Official notice was served on Castro Saturday morning of the decision of the French government that he must leave the island within nine hours from the receipt of such notice and that the commissary of police at Fort de France had been charged with the execution of the order. The ex-President was furious. Calming himself, he declared to the chief of police that the state of his health was such as to make it impossible for him to leave his bed. The government thereupon called in Dr. Bouvier, who examined him for one hour, from 11:15 to 12:15. The doctor was accompanied by the commissary of police. The doctor declared that the former President of Venezuela was sufficiently strong to travel, and that he could take the French steamship Versailles, due there the same afternoon.

Castro protested. He declared that he suffered from intolerable pains in the abdomen and the kidneys; that he was without funds to meet his traveling expenses from Fort de France, his money being deposited elsewhere than in Martinique, and that he could not embark on the Versailles. Castro demanded sufficient delay in order to make it possible for him to leave for Santa Cruz de Tenerife, in the Canary Islands. The Canaries are Spanish territory.

All of his protests were ignored, and he strove all day to find some excuse for remaining which would satisfy the colonial government.

DEATH TAKES HITCHCOCK.

Former Secretary of the Interior Expires in Capital.

Former Secretary of the Interior Ethan Allen Hitchcock died at his home in Washington early Friday. Mr. Hitchcock had been ill for some time, and his death had been expected for several days.

Ethan Allen Hitchcock was born in Mobile, Ala., Sept. 19, 1825. He attended private schools in Nashville, Tenn., and then entered a military academy in New Haven, Conn., graduating in 1855. He moved to St. Louis, Mo., and engaged in mercantile business until 1860, when he went to China to enter the commission house of Olyphant & Co., of which firm he became a partner in 1866.

He retired from business in 1872 and spent two years in Europe. He returned to the United States in 1874 and was president of several mining and railroad companies. In 1897-8 he was Minister to Russia and was made the first Ambassador to that country in 1898-9. He was appointed Secretary



ETHAN A. HITCHCOCK. of the Interior by President McKinley Dec. 21, 1898, and reappointed May 5, 1901, and remained by request of President Roosevelt and was reappointed by him March 6, 1905. He resigned March 4, 1907.

Spain to Rebuild Its Fleet. The Spanish cabinet has decided definitely that the Spanish fleet shall be reconstructed. The work will be entrusted to British firms.

TAFT IN TARIFF PLEA

President, in Message, Asks Congress to Revise Philippine Revenue System.

PAYNE BILL FORCES CHANGE

Recommendations of Secretary Dickinson and Gen. Edwards Are Transmitted with Act.

The President sent to Congress a special message in relation to the Philippine tariff. The message transmits recommendations by the Secretary of War for a revision of the Philippine tariff so as to permit as much customs revenue as possible for the islands and at the same time to extend to the islands the principle of a protective tariff for its industries.

Under the conditions which will arise from the enactment of the tariff bill pending in Congress, which provides under certain conditions for free trade between the Philippines and the United States, the revenues of the island will be considerably affected, and numerous protests have been received here on this account. The proposed amendments to the bill are to interfere as little as possible with these free-trade conditions and at the same time permit collection of ample revenue. The message and accompanying letters of recommendation from Secretary Dickinson and General Clarence R. Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the War Department, with a copy of the proposed act, were submitted to both houses of Congress shortly after they convened.

General speaking, the bill submitted by the President makes a slight increase in the rates of duty now provided in the Philippine tariff, but its framers say its tendency is to insure, as far as practicable, the benefit of the Philippines market for American manufactures and products. The bill makes some additions to the free list. There will be an increase in internal-revenue duties, by which it is hoped to make up the loss which the Philippine Islands will sustain by the operations of the free-trade provisions in the pending Payne tariff bill. The internal-revenue laws for the Philippines are enacted by the Philippine assembly.

President Taft's Message.

"To the Senate and House of Representatives: I transmit herewith a communication from the Secretary of War inclosing one from the chief of the bureau of insular affairs, in which is transmitted a proposed tariff-revision law for the Philippine Islands.

"This measure revises the present Philippine tariff, simplifies it and makes it conform as nearly as possible to the regulations of the customs laws of the United States, especially with respect to packing and packages. The present Philippine regulations have been cumbersome and difficult for American merchants and exporters to comply with. Its purpose is to meet the new conditions that will arise under the section of the pending United States tariff bill, which provides, with certain limitations, for free trade between the United States and the islands. It is drawn with a view to preserving to the islands as much customs revenue as possible and to protect in a reasonable measure those industries which now exist in the islands.

"The bill now transmitted has been drawn by a board of tariff experts, of which the insular collector of customs, Col. George R. Colton, was the president. The board held a great many open meetings in Manila and conferred fully with representatives of all business interests in the Philippine Islands. It is of great importance to the welfare of the islands that the bill should be passed at the same time with the pending Payne bill, with special reference to the provisions of which it was prepared.

"I respectfully recommend that this bill be enacted at the present session of Congress as one incidental to and required by the passage of the Payne bill."

"WILLIAM H. TAFT."

ACCEPTS THE INCOMPLETE DOG.

Young Woman Relents and Pays Express on Animal Maimed on Way.

About 100 persons went to the office of an express company in Wooster, Ohio, the other day, ready to purchase a three-legged dog advertised to be sold at public auction by the company to secure 25 cents charges. The buyers were disappointed, as the agent of the company announced that the animal would not be sold. The company had settled with the shipper and the young woman consignee had paid the charges. The dog when shipped was found, but made its escape, and when recaptured had lost one of its hind legs. When the young woman to whom it was shipped saw that it was minus a leg she refused to accept the puppy. Then the company, to secure its charges, advertised the dog for sale at public auction.

ERROR MAY COST \$50,000.

Adopted Daughter of Man Who Died Intestate Likely to Lose.

Because of an error in her adoption papers, Gladys Wallace, 11-year-old foster daughter of William Wallace, a Waterbury, Conn., merchant who committed suicide recently, may lose all rights in his \$50,000 estate. If the error can be rectified, Wallace's property will go to the child. He was a widower and died intestate. Gladys, the daughter of Frank E. Strong, was adopted in 1899 in the Probate Court. Judge Lowe neglected to have the papers signed by the girl's mother, although the Connecticut law requires the signature of both parents. Now two sisters and other blood relatives of Wallace claim the child has no standing as an heir.



CHICAGO.

The usual indexes of commercial activity continue to mark progress, although some branches are yet burdened with a surplus of idle capacity. It is highly encouraging to note the sustained rise in payments reported through the banks, together with the absence of heavy defaults in the failure record.

While erratic weather has prevailed Easter trade exhibits a gratifying aggregate in the leading retail lines, the absorption being exceptionally good in apparel, millinery, footwear, novelties and household wares.

High prices for some necessities have not obstructed the increasing purchasing power, and stocks of seasonal merchandise undergo the normal reduction here and at interior points. Demands entered by the wholesale branches make a fair showing, reorders being frequent for light weight textiles, clothing and fancy goods, and the forward bookings disclose gain over this time last year for autumn and winter staples, selections being more extended against tariff contingencies.

Near-by visiting buyers again appeared in the markets in large numbers for sorting up needs to be promptly shipped. Road salesmen send in cheering advices from the West, the outlook being regarded quite hopeful.

Mercantile collections are prompt on country bills, and less complaint is heard as to city settlements. Money is yet favorable in cost to borrowers, and this creates more disposition among buyers to secure the best discounts for cash purchases.

Further investment of capital is seen in improvements for business purposes, while the market for real estate and permits for construction denote extending enterprise here and at various places within the Chicago trade territory.

Bank clearings, \$254,340,884, exceed those of corresponding week in 1908 by 18 per cent, and compare with \$236,080,138 in 1907.

Failures reported in the Chicago district number twenty-one, against twenty-one last week, twenty-nine in 1908 and eleven in 1907.—Dun's Weekly Review of Trade.

NEW YORK.

Trade, crop and industrial reports are still very irregular, but the underlying tone of business generally is slightly more optimistic. All present or future favorable occurrences, however, cannot disguise the fact that some lines of industry are still very much depressed; that the first crop report of the year—that made by the government of winter wheat—is a poor one, indicating a short crop; that buying is still hampered in some sections by unfavorable weather or by the reduced purchasing power of the public, and caution and conservatism still govern commercial operations to a large degree.

Easter trade at retail is classed as fair to good in most parts of the West, fair at the East, but below expectations at the South, and rather poor in Texas, where drought conditions hold back buying demand. Some slight expansion is noted in filling in orders by jobbers, but trade in this line is distinctively of a between-seasons character. In wholesale lines there are indications of more confidence in buying for fall.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending with April 8 were 227, against 204 last week, 254 in the like week of 1908, 194 in 1907, 161 in 1906 and 196 in 1905. Canadian failures number 38, which compares with 23 last week and 28 in the like week of 1908.—Bradstreet's.



Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$4.00 to \$7.15; hogs, prime heavy, \$4.50 to \$7.37; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$6.00; wheat, No. 2, \$1.34 to \$1.36; corn, No. 2, 64c to 66c; oats, standard, 51c to 53c; rye, No. 2, 70c to 81c; hay, timothy, \$8.00 to \$13.50; prairie, \$8.00 to \$12.00; butter, choice creamery, 25c to 28c; eggs, fresh, 15c to 20c; potatoes, per bushel, 95c to \$1.04.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$7.40; hogs, good to choice heavy, \$3.50 to \$7.45; sheep, good to choice, \$2.50 to \$6.15; wheat, No. 2, \$1.35 to \$1.36; corn, No. 2 white, 65c to 66c; oats, No. 2 white, 51c to 52c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.85; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.35; sheep, \$3.00 to \$6.25; wheat, No. 2, \$1.41 to \$1.43; corn, No. 2, 65c to 66c; oats, No. 2, 52c to 53c; rye, No. 2, 70c to 80c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.10; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.75; wheat, No. 2, \$1.37 to \$1.38; corn, No. 2 mixed, 68c to 69c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 54c to 55c; rye, No. 2, 82c to 84c.

Buffalo—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.00 to \$7.35; hogs, fair to choice, \$4.00 to \$7.55; sheep, common to good mixed, \$4.00 to \$4.75; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$8.15.

New York—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.65; hogs, \$3.50 to \$7.20; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.75; wheat, No. 2 red, \$1.33 to \$1.34; corn, No. 2, 74c to 75c; oats, natural white, 58c to 60c; butter, creamery, 25c to 28c; eggs, western, 17c to 21c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, \$1.31 to \$1.33; corn, No. 2 mixed, 66c to 68c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 56c to 58c; rye, No. 2, 64c to 80c; clover seed, \$5.60.

HIGH TARIFF VICTOR; PAYNE BILL PASSES

House Refuses to Listen to Protest of Women on Increase on Gloves and Hosiery.

LUMBER TARIFF UNDISTURBED

GI, However, Is Placed on Free List —Vote of 217 to 161 Passes Measure.

The Payne tariff bill, almost without a scratch, was accepted by the House of Representatives in Washington, with a vote of 217 to 161 Friday night.

It was almost a pure party vote, Congressmen Broussard, Estepinal, Pujo and Wickliffe, Democrats, of Louisiana, who have been with the Republican leaders on almost everything, voted with the Republicans on the final roll call. Justin of Tennessee was the only Republican to go into the Democratic camp on the final vote.

The final days work on the Payne bill proved a series of victories for the Payne Ways and Means Committee. Every feature of the document that was finally accepted had the approval of the committee. Much of this, however, was due to the efforts of the committee to avoid threatening defeats. This was particularly the case in the rates on oil, barley and barley malt.

Committee Submits to Free Oil.

The committee had fought bitterly against putting oil on the free list, but gave up the fight Friday, and it was on Chairman Payne's motion that all duties on oil and oil products were stricken off.

On barley and barley malt the committee had fought against an increase, and in its first fight triumphed. But the votes of the barley men were needed to save the committee's stand on lumber and hides, and the barley and malt rates were increased.

No changes were made in the hosiery and gloves schedule, although the Democrats included this in their motion for a recommitment. It was buried there, however, with a long list of other Democratic demands, including an income tax.

The other changes in the bill, which were made during the last four days by the committee of the whole, were accepted by a viva voce vote. This included putting tea and coffee on the free list.

House Packed.

The House and the galleries were packed for the last day of the fight, and during most of the voting the buzz of conversation almost drowned out the call of the roll. When the subject under vote was particularly uninteresting and no one seemed to pay any attention, the House seemed like a cross between a boiler factory and a session of the D. A. R. Time and again Speaker Cannon almost splintered a gavel in getting the members to listen to the roll calls.

It was a good natured battle, although at the outset there was a storm of parliamentary debate over the methods of procedure. When it got under way, however, things moved more smoothly. There were ten roll calls in all, four on the lumber schedules, one on barley malt, two on hides, one on oil, one on recommitment and one on the final vote. With the exception of the last two, the party vote was badly split.

Illinoisans for Free Lumber.

The first question which was voted on was a motion to put lumber on the free list. Fifty-four Republicans went over to the Democrats on this, and thirty-five Democrats reciprocated. This brought the result to 184 for free lumber to 198 against. Three other free lumber propositions containing minor changes went down to defeat in turn, by votes of 180 to 200, 133 to 244 and 153 to 228.

Then came the barley and barley malt issue, in which the increased rates—already approved by the committee—were put into the bill. Here again party lines were broken. Then came the vote on free hides; eight Republicans joining the Democrats for free hides. On the oil vote, two Illinoisans, both Republicans, voted against free oil.

TABLE GOES ON RAMPAGES.

Family Heirloom a Mystery to Its Owner's Friends.

A table of ancient vintage, walking around a room and cutting up capers like a jumping-jack, is one of the curiosities of the twentieth century that is well calculated to drive the cold chills up and down one's spinal column on a midsummer day or to bring the perspiration to the surface in the teeth of a raging blizzard. The table is the property of Mrs. William S. Williams of Allen, Wisconsin County, Maryland, who declares that on a number of occasions, especially after there had been a death in the family, she has seen the heirloom jump around like a man who has dropped a brick on his toe. There is not a neighbor of Mrs. Williams who doubts her veracity for a moment, and, if it did, she says that she can call in witnesses to substantiate her claims for her pet. She hopes that the table will stay in the family for many generations to come, and probably it will, for there are very few persons in this world who would care to take the responsibility of looking after a table that periodically goes on a rampage.