

BASE BALL MATTERS DULL

Nothing Doing in regard to Matters People Want to Know.

WESTERN LEAGUE CIRCUIT STILL OPEN

Deaver Meeting Postponed and Managers Gather at St. Joseph to Consult in regard to Next Move.

Nothing Done

That is the present status of affairs in the world of base ball. During the week a meeting was held at Buffalo, the ostensible object of which was to adopt uniform playing rules. Much debate was had, and a slight modification was recommended for the rule in regard to strikes and balls. The most notable feature of the meeting was the admission to full fellowship of delegates from the American association. After denouncing these men as outlaws and proposing the ban of excommunication against them, it must have afforded Pat Powers immense satisfaction to sit in the same meeting with them. But Pat is doubtless a philosopher—all truly great men are—and knows when he is licked. In talking about matters Western league managers and owners he could not understand how these American delegates happened to be present, and then naively added: "They must have been admitted as representatives of an independent league." To a man up a tree, it would seem so. Surprised over their admission will not be very widespread, though, for faith in Pat Powers' alleged authority to bind and loose is not very deep outside of certain quarters, and even there some skepticism exists. In any event, the meeting is not likely to be long remembered, nor have any direct effect on the course of base ball, for at his first opportunity Ban Johnson declared that his league would not be bound by the rules adopted there, and Thomas Jefferson Hickey said "mea toos."

These gentlemen being the representatives of the only two independent leagues operating between the Rocky mountains and the Atlantic coast, it is probably all off with the Buffalo code. No, gentle reader, it is not a mistake to refer to the two Americans as the only independent leagues. The National, so long lovingly referred to as the "big" league, is rapidly going the way of other "big" things in this country, the "big fellow" for example. Van Brunt of St. Joseph entered the field the National league managers laughingly told him to go. They wouldn't listen to him, and invited him to go his length. Well, Ban Johnson put the "big" league on the spot, and didn't half try. He simply went and organized his teams in the cities selected, played ball, made money and now serenely faces a world that frowns on all base ball leagues but his. In the interim the "big" league is split in the middle, four clubs against four clubs, an effort to elect a president is tied up in court and the whole affair in such confusion that it is almost complete reorganization must take place before any business can be transacted. So the National is a long way from being independent. When Tom Hickey was president of the Western league he had no hesitation in asking its members to join the National Association of Minor Base Ball Leagues, of which P. T. Powers is president. When Tom Hickey became president of the American association he refused to acknowledge longer the suzerainty of Mr. Powers, declining to be a member of that league. The American association was immediately denounced as an outlaw organization, its sole offense being its refusal to enter the minor league fold. Mr. Powers wanted his Eastern league to be considered the real thing, and was supported in this by Mr. Tim Lincecum, who was president of the New England league, who furnished Mr. Powers with a very instructive and, in some ways, amusing compilation from the census of 1900, to show how absurdly fallacious were the Hickey aspirations to major league honors. But Hickey declines to be classed with the minor leagues, and, therefore, is declared an outlaw by the power of Powers. Up to date Hickey is several paragraphs in advance of the procession led by the president of the Eastern league, who will, therefore, be easily beaten. That Bee is quite correct in calling Ban Johnson and Tom Hickey the only independent base ball presidents in the eastern half of the United States at present. Al Spalding may be somebody in this class, but Pat Powers never will.

Another feature of the week was the postponement of the Western league meeting which was to have convened at Denver last night. This was put off one month. No very deep research is needed to develop the reason. When the Kansas City meeting adjourned, the circuit was left incomplete, and so far as surface indications go no great progress has been made toward filling the gaps. It is now certain that neither Milwaukee nor Indianapolis will go out and show Pete a time. Then on February 29 and 27 there will be two shoots in progress, one at Hastings, Neb., and the other at Glidden. A large attendance is promised at both. The biggest shoot of the month, and, therefore, one which will attract more Omaha sports than any other, is the one which J. L. Forkner will give at Carroll, Ia., on February 25, 26 and 27. There will be 400 added to the regular month, and the prospect has caused Tom Omahans to sneeze so readily that they will be there April, too, will be a gala month, for then will come the biggest shooting event of the year for Nebraska, and it will be held here in Omaha. That is the annual state shoot and it appears now that this will be the most successful and most largely attended of any state shoot of the many that have been held. Last year it occurred at Lincoln and was a great success. Fully 100 shooters are expected to participate here this time. The shoot will occupy the last week of April.

In addition to all this there is always in prospect the Grand American handicap, which will occur during the first week of April at Kansas City. There will be easily seventy-five gunners from Nebraska down there, and ten Omaha shooters have said already that they will shoot through every event.

The first information relative to this tournament at live birds has just been issued by the officers of the association. The programs will be out February 26. According to the preliminary program there will be, March 3, an eight-bird and a twelve-bird event, no handicap; April 1 there will be a sixteen-bird event with the same rules as the American handicap; April 2, the great American handicap will be played and will be continued from day to day until completed.

The rules provide that birds will be "extra" in all events, that money in every event will be divided on the "high gun" system; regular entries for the Grand American handicap close March 2, and post entries received after that date must be accompanied with \$10 additional fee. Interstate Association's trap shooting rules govern all contests, and the order of shooting will be decided by lot. A sterling silver trophy valued at \$150 will be presented to the winner of the Grand American handicap.

There will be a novel contest on the Omaha club grounds March 8. On that day an all-Nebraska team will compete with the Omaha Gun club team in a twenty-five live bird event. The contest will be interesting from the fact that among the all-Nebraska team will be four men who have always shot in the Omaha team and are resolved to bring upon their whilom brothers an ignominious defeat. In the first place the challengers of the all-Nebraska team specified that the Omaha team should be composed only of residents of Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs. Then they gave the names of the all-Nebraska team. The first man mentioned was Dan Bray of Syracuse, one of the most reliable shots in the Omaha Gun club. The second man named was Frank Beard of Hebron, the "big" entry, whose scores have been the pride of Omaha for many a closely contested match. The third name was Dick Linderman of Weeping Water, another man whose average is close to the perfect mark. Then came the name of G. A. Schroeder of Columbus, who has often brought victory from the jaws of defeat when the Omaha Gun club was in a close match. The other names submitted were George Carter of North Platte, captain of Fremont, Selvers of Grand Island, Burke of Elgin and Simpkins of Lincoln.

The challenge was not been accepted, but it undoubtedly will be at the next meeting of the club. A probable line-up of the contesting parties has been made as follows: Parmelee against Bray, Dick Kimball against Linderman, "Grant" against Beard, Townsend against Schroeder, Fogg against Carter, Lewis against Simpkins, Hardin against Terryberry, Montgomery against Burke, Beersheim against Selvers and Burke against Beveridge. Such a combination, it is believed, would make a good bid and land the Omaha club winner, although three of its best men have gone over to the enemy.

LAST WEEK WITH THE BOWLERS

Table with columns: Club Standings, Individual Averages, Name and Team, Games, Total, Av. H.L. Includes teams like Omaha, Fremont, and individual bowlers like Clark, Smith, and others.

The nineteenth week of play in the Omaha Bowling league was witnessed a general shaking up in the relative positions of both teams and individual rollers in the relative standings. At the same time it has been a week of fairly good play, the pace set the previous week having been maintained by most of the clubs, and bettered by a few.

The Omahans increased their lead for first place somewhat, defeating the Gate City men two games, and profiting further by the drubbing the St. Charles team administered to the Clarksons. The play of the champions was practically the same as that of the week before, being thirty-nine pins lower on total score. Meanwhile the Germans were the hit of the week by making a great leap from fourth place to tie with the Clarksons for second. The Germans beat the Westerns three games straight, and their total was 158 pins better than the last one they made.

The Clarksons fell down miserably, their score dropping 120 points in the week, and the St. Charles team took three from them, but the latter men did not have to play very hard to do it, so their own score showed a decrease of 123 points from that of the week before. The Clarksons had such a big lead for second place, however, that neither their own disaster nor the successes of other teams combined was sufficient to head them for the position.

The Nationals improved their game 138 points, and took two from the Krug Parks, who also bettered their scores. There were no new high scores for teams, as the only radical change in average, was that by the Nationals, who increased their sixteen pins.

With the individual players Emery of the Omahans has done himself proud by going from third place to a safe first. He is one of the surest bowlers in Omaha, and was the only man who was able to make a consistent showing against the Kansas City

team a week ago. Fritcher and Kolls are second and third. The best total score of the week was that of the Omahans, 2,634, while the same team rolled the best total score of the Charles Seaman of the Gate City team, 224, the best individual total for three games, 654, and he also tied with Zarp of the National Association, 224, for the Omaha high score. Zarp (Omaha) and Seaman (Gate City), 21.

Two bowling events, one just passed and the other to come, have done much to spur the interest in the sport. The first was on the contest with the Kansas City champions. This brought out a crowd that overtaxed the space in Clark's alleys, and just served to show the people, and in what unexpected places and walks of life it has laid its captivating snares.

The second event is the tournament of two men teams. This will begin Friday night with ten teams competing, including in their personnel most of the best bowlers in the city. Play will continue five weeks, each team playing five games.

Temples scores of 300 and better at Clark's alleys: F. J. Bengel, 294; C. Matthar, Council Bluffs, 301; J. H. Hodges, 307, 314, 304; Potter, 306; W. F. Chapman, 306, 316, 219; King Demman, 310, 317; H. Besell, 314; Charles Seaman, 304, 307, 317; M. Z. Forcett, 215, 204, 228, 305, 213; C. J. Francisco, 304, 209, 215; G. Carson, 257; M. R. Huntington, 205, 212, 222, 301, 208; Southy, 302, 301, 214, 308, 205; W. H. Emery, 295; Makonnen, 308, 311; King, Kansas City, 208; S. Elshman, 220, 233, 301, 210, 202; 213, 204, 201; C. M. Zarp, 235, 217; Georgy Flanagan, 248, 214; Jack Beerle, 209, 217; L. E. Lucas, 211, 205; B. W. Christie, 300, 229, 201, 222; W. H. Emery, 263, 244, 226, 212, 229, 206, 214; T. C. Sherwood, 215; Ed Brunke, 209, 222; W. F. Schneider, 213.

Temples scores of 300 and better at Leutz & Williams' alleys: R. H. Rhodes, 304; D. Williams, 246, 204, 215; H. Kruger, 300; J. H. Hualie, 303, 207; Will Zimmerman, 303, 212, 229, 206, 214; T. C. Sherwood, 215; Ed Whitworth, 311, 201, 204; P. Williams, 303, Emery, Wyo., 223, 213; J. T. Schmitt, 204; E. J. Conery, 210, 208; Fred Bils, 202, 207, 214; R. L. Hanes, 232; E. A. Creighton, 211; Lou Bushman, 215; Joe Giverson, 307; Art Krug, 201; H. Stoetzel, 209; M. L. Forcett.

The ten-round match between Eddie Gardner and "Hatch" Smith, to occur at Washington hall on February 25, is attracting interest in sporting circles for two reasons. First, the two players, both boxers, have made themselves "solid" with all who have seen them go by their clever work and industrious business throughout. Smith has been in the ring in Omaha several times, and although Gardner has appeared there no new high scores for teams, as the only radical change in average, was that by the Nationals, who increased their sixteen pins.

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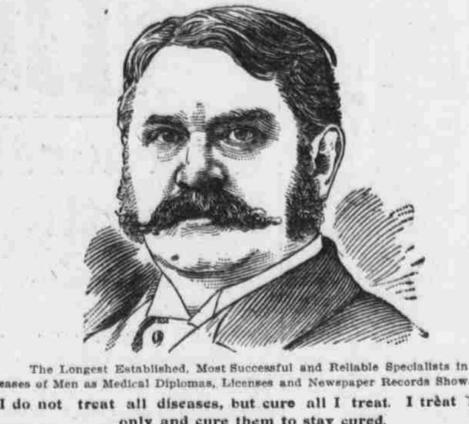
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Men, many of you are now reaping the result of your former folly. Your manhood is failing and you will soon be lost unless you do something for your health. There is no time to lose. Impotency, like all sexual diseases, is never on the standstill. With it you can make no compromise. Either you must master it or it will master you, and till your whole future with misery and indescribable woe. We have treated so many cases of this kind that we are as familiar with them as you are with the very daylight.

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BASE BALL AT HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Are Waking Up and Promise to Have Good Team in the Field.

Masculine athletics are now to be rejuvenated by the Omaha High school. After weeks and months of lethargy the boys have now roused at last from their trance and will no longer let the girls share alone the athletic honors of the institution. The cause of the revival is the approaching base ball season, and the High school will begin early on its team. Members of last year's team have just elected Alfred Friarbrother captain for the coming year. He is well known as a star end on the right wing of the Omaha High school foot ball team for four years past.

Boxing Game Looks Brighter

Smith-Gardner Match to Be Followed by Several of Considerable Local Interest.

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