BASE BALL COSSIP OF WEEK

Home Knockers Drive a Good Ball Player from Omaha,

TEAM'S SLUMP DUE TO WEAK HITTING Two Men in the Bunch

Able to Find the Ball with Anything Like Regularity.

'Rah for the knocker! He got one scalp last week, and if he another. Ace Stewart couldn't stand for first time in history two Chicago teams the deal he was handed by the Home Rouster club and is now wearing a Peoria uniform. In losing Stewart Omaha parted with one of the finest ball players that ever Graw has on the position. Both teams are wore a uniform. He was a capable fielder, a fair hitter and a general of the highest ability. But above all, he was a gentleman on the field and off; he knew his authority as field captain and he knew his Detroit is still hustling and so is Cleverights, and insisted on having them, but he land, but Chicago holds on to the top posiwas never known to stoop to wrangling or tion. unseemly debate to secure fair treatment of a long home series. His team must now for his team. What he lacked in "aggressiveness," as some of the fighters call their rowdy tactics, he made up in firmness. His any great things as yet with his New career in Omaha was a distinct success, and his going a matter for sincere regret. He leaves here with the good wishes of a large-body of base ball patrons, who will remember him as a careful, courteous, painstaking ball player and one who is a credit to any team.

But it isn't only the knockers who are worried over the condition of the Omaha team. Even the most faithful of the boosters are talking just now about the games, and wondering if there is going to be any change. No one tries to locate the difficulty, but a spirit of apathy seems to have settled down on the members of the team, and not one of them is playing the ball he is capable of. Some hard luck exists to having both Hickey and Gonding out of the game thus early with badly injured arms, but that doesn't account for it all. Take Wright for example. Last fall he came to Omaha from Rock Island, and fairly set the league on fire with his playing. He batted .376 and fielded away above 90 per cent. During the last week he hasn't made a hit and has made an error in every game; his errors are not all of commission, either, the most glaring and costly being those of omission. His work has been far from the snappy sort he is capable of. Wright is not the only offender in this direction, but is referred to merely as an example. Bobby Carter is setting a fine pace for the others at the bat, having an average of .342 for the season. None of his team mates approaches this, save Shugart, who has only been with Omaha since Wednesday. If the others would only put some of his spice into their work the tale would be much different. It is hardly necessary to look farther for the cause. A batting average for the team of .203, a fraction of one hit out of every five times up, is in itself a volume. If the record of Carter and Shugart is omitted from the total the team bating average so far is .107. If anything more is wanted, the following tables will supply it: BATTING AVERAGES

Carter Wright FIELDING AVERAGES

Papa Bill Rourke says he is doing all h can to get new men and that he proposes to strengthen the team if possible. What he is in need of just now is a couple of pitchers who can be relied on and a third baseman who can hit a little and field with some certainty. Then get the rest of the team geared up to the pitch of last season, and the outlook will be much brighter. Every patron of the game in Omaha feels confidence in the ability of the team to play ball, and every man who has any interest in the game wants to see this confidence redeamed. Knockers have always existed here, and the best answer to the knockers is to win games. Just a little ginger in the right place is all that

In other respects the league race shows little change. Old Bill Everitt and his Money Burners still jog merrily along, piling up victories as fast as they play games Bill has a stack now so high he can't see over it, and can play his first trip away from home on velvet and lose three out of field, raised his own record in the event

four at that. None of the rest of the lot with Knox. Tobin sent the hammer flying is doing anything worthy of mention, unless it be the batting matinee Des Moines

In the big leagues there is a very pretty race just now. The National has revived memories of '84, when New York and Chioago fought all the way around the course for the lead. McGraw's team still has the advantage of playing on its home grounds, while Selee has played a majority of his contests on other diamonds than Chicago's. If the Colts get an even break with the Giants during the series which begins tomorrow on the Polo grounds, Chicago will lead of the league. Once during the week were heading the processions. A post-poned game at Boston put New York back in first, but it's only an eyelash hold Moplaying magnificent ball and have the others well strung out. Comiskey has taken his White Stockings to the front and is making the race in the American a hot one. Comiskey has had the advantage take the road, and it may take a tumble, too. Clark Griffith hasn't accomplished York Americans and doesn't seem at all likely to. So far as popularity goes, the Gotham fans take to the McGraw crowd and the patronage is something to make In Chicago, too, the leaning is toward the National, now that the team is making not far distant time. Hart will have to enlarge his park or arrange to play to overflow crowds when BOOM the team gets back home.

ATHLETICS AT THE UNIVERSITY Base Bull Team Shows a Balance of the Right Side of the

That trip the Cornhusker aggregation took wasn't quite as much of a howling success as some had reason to expect. It seems that the boys were up against some hard luck, at times, good and plenty. Financially the trip was a success. Manager Clark Bell says the athletic board will be a neat sum ahead on the base ball deal at the end of the season. This is certainly fortunate. It has been said by persons closely connected with the athletic board that had this year's base ball venture been a failure it was highly improbable that the Cornhuskers would have been represented on the diamond next year, or if they had had a team no such trip would be taken. As far as finance is concerned the base ball future is bright enough. About victories. There were fourteen games played on the trip and of these Nebraska lost six. That doesn't look very well, but the fact must not be lost sight of that of the eleven men on the squad seven are freshmen and were playing their first season on the 'varsity team. This remarkable per cent of first year men must be remem bered when the defeats are being counted.

Captain Townsend in reviewing the prospect for next year said: "The team will be practically the same next year as it is this year. We may reasonably expect that the men who are comparatively green this year will be reliable material next year. The great failing on our team this season has been poor sticking, though on the whole the team put up a pretty warm variety of the American game."

On the trip the Cornhuskers were decently treated, except at Kansas. The Jayhawkers stole two games from the Townsend crowd, and then turned in and mobbed them and swiped half their equipment. The authorities at Kansas university have expressed regret at the performances of some of the students of that institution, and apologies have been sent to Lincoln. The loss of two games to the Jayhawkers can be attributed only to the unfairness of the Kansas crowd.

In the game with Highland Park on May 19, Longanecker and Bender, the battery, showed that they were playing as good ball as ever. This was the first game since the return of the team and fans were glad to see the undaunted Cornhuskers in good shape for the finishing games of the season. J. F. Johnson, shortstop, who did some sensational batting on the trip and who made the only long hit at Notre Dame and who won the day at Purdue, got a home run and a three-bagger in the Highland Park game. Johnson is one of the freshmen and one of the most promising men on the team. Gore has also shown up remarkably well.

Nebraska track athletics took a brace and things began to look better, when the Cornhusker's track team rubbed it into the crackerjack team of Knox college. Those interested in track athletics fairly held their breath until the meet was pulled off, for this meet was to decide the fate of track work in the university. The athletic board agreed to furnish funds and all kinds of encouragement for the track athletics department for this year, with the understanding that the support would be withdrawn if the venture proved a failure this year. Financially it came up to the expectations of the most enthusiastic, and best of all, the Nebraska team won by the

handsome score of 50 to 42 points. Captain Tobin, who recently broke the hammer throw record of the Nebraska

until it had gone 129 feet 7 inches. Exheld on Friday, when the Undertakers Captain Brew, who used to lead the Nejolted Kansas City's pitchers for twenty braskans on the foot ball field, had a record when he was in school of 117 feet. In the mile run Lehmer won with States a close second. The Knox man was lost in the shuffle. Wilson of Knox won the 100-yard dash. Manning of Nebraska won the 220-yard dash, as well as 440-yard dash. Benedict won the half mile. The sensation of the day was the half-mile relay race, which started with four men on each side. The bunch kept well together until the last lap, when Manning and Wilson took the lead, and then it was a neck-and-neck race. The two men were the best athletes return for a long home series well in the of their respective schools, and when Manning crossed the tape a good margin can only keep up his present gait he'll get the Colts had the top place and for the ahead, the Nebraska rooters cut loose and cheered him to the echo. The Knox team depended principally upon Wilson to win points for them, and he certainly showed himself a good athlete. This victory over Knox is the first big thing the Nebranks track team ever accomplished. In other colleges more attention is paid to track work than by Nebraska heretofore, but things look good for a better status of this class of sport in the future. Benjamin Lee an alumnus of Chicago university, and who has been connected with college athletics all over the west, speaking of the situation in Nebraska, compared with the sentiment toward track athletics in other schools said: "In Chicago university, people will cut out a base ball game any day to see a track meet. Track men are as notable characters as foot ball heroes, and training is carried on for track work with utmos Andy Goose Freedman's pockets bulge. care." It is hoped that this may be said for track athletics at Nebraska at some

IN TENNIS AFFAIRS

Game Catches Its Second Wind Omaha and is Becoming Mighty Popular.

Every day goes to prove that the revival in tennis of last year will continue and increase in strength this summer. The east has taken it up so strongly already that it has outclassed golf in popularity and will continue to do so for at least anothe

Everything that lent itself last summer to the increase in popularity of the game will be evident this year and these same conditions will be improved to a great exa strong life with nine new courts and 140 women. members things are certainly bright.

Practically all of the men, who were among the better players last year, have already appeared on the courts and many experience are swelling the numbers. A the club and with other city clubs and tengun in earnest, but they have been kept back solely because of the poorness of the courts.

Last year these courts were the best in the city and they will be so this year playing on the two courts there. These again, but many changes and repairs have courts are black dirt courts and, consebeen wrought on them and it has not been ness of these repairs and the wet weather that has prevailed for the last few weeks. Many of the men who play on these

and do not intend to do their really hard practice on the Field club courts, but will the others promise to do equally as good use the more private courts closer home Some are not situated this way and they must suffer from the lack of early practice. Fortunately this number is small, however, and but few have suffered thereby.

This year the interstate tournament, comprising Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nepractically all of those who entered last of the enthusiasm and the new blood of the that an attempt is being made by the tour- four courts, which give recreation and play nament committee to have Collins and to 100 players. Most of them are young Waidner enter. They play about as fast men and the training that they get here in the doubles as any team in the country will make them work further into the game and their coming would certainly be a and their graduation from these courts great boon for the sport in Omaha. It is will be only to a faster set of courts and more than probable that the dates of the into company that will make them players earlier if they do come, as otherwise it created here is well worth the courts with would interfere with several other tour- out thinking of the pleasure and recreation naments that they would enter in preference to this one. Kansas City, Sioux City and who are working many hours daily over other towns will send as large a representation as they did last year, and, of course, Farnsworth and Raymond will be in the

Locally there will be a large number of players familiar to the Omaha lovers of the sport because of their last years play and more, too, who have not figured in any of the city tournaments, even, and will be practically unknown and untried.

Last year the Field club was looked upo as the center of the tennis situation and all of the good players were centered there. but a change has come in the situation this year and there are other players who are promising to be in the race who are not represented on the Field club courts. The courts to the west of the Metropolitan club and used by the St. Croix Tennis club is where they are working busily every day and have several men who are perfecting a style of play that is remarkable. There are forty members in the club and they are mostly young men and many who have played before. Their courts are as fine as were ever on these grounds in their palmlest days and the interest is very great. Every evening the courts are filled from 5 o'clock until dusk.

An attempt is to be made by the St. Croix club to make the club partly social as well as a tennis club and the winter will find it giving a number of dances, while during the summer, two days of each week, Wednesdays and Fridays, will be set aside

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at the time of the club's first tournament, Omaha. is to be made a social event.

Ten or twelve of the members are showing up in excellent form and the club innew players and many more with a little tends to hold a series of tournaments in follows: few of the strong players of the Field club nis aggregations. These will all be played Bradford, second base; Kennedy, short have not yet donned their fiannels and be- on the club grounds and will add to the stop; Waller, third base; Scully, left field; interest among its members.

every afternoon finds the men diligently quently, not very fast, but with such men third base; Rawley, right field; E. Clark, possible to get them into really good as Fred Hamilton, George Pritchett, Ezra center field; Ackerman, left field; Collier. hape before now, because of the extensive- Millard, S. S. Strickland and Frank Hascall on the courts the Country club will have a very strong representation in all city tournaments. Some of these men summer and made an enviable record and work this year.

The game has also found charms for the gentler sex at the Country club and the summer will try this year again. Beside years to come is being fostered on these tournament will have to be set a little of the first class. Anyhow the interest that they also give to many young men, desks and indoors and who need the light the air and the exercise more than their luckler brothers, who become mere proficient in the game.

> TRI-CITY LEAGUE

Two Teams Dropped and Schedule to Be Worked Over for Four Clubs.

After having arranged for a membership of six teams in the Tri-City Base Ball league a change has been effected whereby South Omaha and the Crescents as the members of the league. These four teams have all been together for five years or more, and during all of which time they the local amateur nines and promise to be even stronger this season than they have ever been before.

This change in the makeup of the league has made it necessary to revise the sched- of his partner. ule, and the managers of the teams are now working on that and will have it prepared by Monday night. The season will open, as originally planned for, on June 6, holidays from then until the first Sunday in October. This will make a very full schedule and will give the different teams very exciting.

tion of the games there has been abandone as the people of Florence decided that any team that should bear the town name and receive the town patronage should be composed of local players, and so the idea was dropped. Florence is too quall a town to put a first-class team of local talent in for the others in the lague, and so the league refused the proposition incontinently. They say that only teams that can play ball are to be allowed memberfirst order or not at all.

park and on the B. Jetter's field at Twentyeighth and W streets, in South Omaha. While the Manawa and Vinton street grounds are used regularly by the Western eague and Buck Keith's league, the games will be played on them at times when the league teams are playing away from home. There is also a strong probability that some Beach. The grounds there are not particularly good, but an attempt will be made to edly be played there.

value of the games. Wood Hartley and is suppose to have caused his death.

tent. With all of the courts of last year as ladies' days and gaveral tournaments Dave Shannahan have been chosen for the in better shape and two new tennis clubs in will be given during the summer for Omaha teams and Charles Banther of The opening, too, which will be Council Bluffs and Harry Kelley of South

> The personnel of the teams in the league has been practically decided upon and is as

L. G. A. Originals-Foley, first base; Howe, center field; Welch, right field; The Country club is also taking up tennis | Saffelder, pitcher; McIlvaine, pitcher; much more than it ever did before and Welch, pitcher; O'Keefe, catcher; Creighton, catcher.

> B. Jetters-Clarke, first base; Fletcher, second base; Lynch, short stop; Cahill, pitcher; McHale, pitcher; Sullivan, pitcher; Tonneman, catcher.

Eagles-Moore, first base; Shugart, second base; Brewick, short stop; Sinclair, courts are members of other tennis clubs played in the interstate tournament last third base; Griffith, right field; Howarth, center field; Duncan, left field; Matthews, pitcher; Mosher, pitcher; Gordy, pitcher; Strong, catcher; Shugart, catcher

Crescents-Petersen, first base; Hall, sec ond base; Weed, short stop; Lynch, third mornings are whiled away by many of the base; Clute, right field; Casey, right field; women in tennis instead of in playing golf. Rodman, center field; Ryan, left field; Ken-The Young Men's Christian association nedy; left field; Troby, pitcher, Crawford, courts will hardly turn out at any time pitcher; Murray, pitcher; Carr, catcher; owler, catcher, Tracey, catche

QUAINT FEATURES OF LIFE.

Henry Crawford, a resident of New Ro chelle, N. Y., boarded a train for New York and took a seat in the rear car. He was ordered by a brakeman to take the car ahead, but as the door was open when he entered he refused to move. The brakeman tried to eject him, but was stopped by the conductor. Mr. Crawford complained to the company, but got no satisfaction. Then he sued for damages and has just compromised for \$500.

Because his wife had deserted him twenty-three times Samuel Enders of Joplin, Mo., has filed suit against her for divorce In his petition Enders states that he has AFFAIRS been put to great inconvenience and expense in prevailing upon his wife to return to him after each of the other twenty-two desertions and that "patience has at last ceased to be a virtuc." He sets up that he has been long suffering and kind, but that he "doesn't propose to stand it any longer."

At La Plata, Mo., the other day Cole Younger did something original, especially the membership is reduced to four. The for a showman and an ex-bandit. A patron Regents and the C. N. Dietz teams did not of his wild west show told Younger that he come up entirely to the requirements of had been short changed out of \$5 by an emthe league, and so were dropped, leaving ploye of the show. He pointed out the man the Lee-Glass-Andreesen Originals, the and Younger went to the employe and said: Council Bluffs Eagles, the B. Jetters of "Give this man his money back." "What money?" asked the man, feigning surprise "Did you hear me?" returned Cole. "Give this man his money." The employe com menced to explain. "I don't want any ex have been among the strongest of any of planation," said his employer; "pass that money over and pass it over quick." The money was handed over and the dishonest employe discharged then and there. Frank James, who stood by, approved the action

After having spent \$10,000 in search of his oy and having passed fully twenty times within the shadow of the little tin shop in and play on Saturdays and Sundays and which he stood tinkering away for nearly two years, Martin Walls of York, Pa., i overjoyed because his son George was found. George left Spring Grove on Octoa great opportunity to test their goodness ber 21, 1901. He says he was drugged by and should make the race for the pennant companions and he remained in a dazed condition for a week. He traveled as far as Riverton and went to work for Jacob The original intention of placing the Hunkle. He says he did not know his Crescents in Fiorence and of playing a por- father was looking for him until he read an advertisement in a country newspaper.

One of the most enthusiastic base ball cranks in the country is a blind man, James Judge of Minneapolis, a master steamfitter, successful contractor and mechanical in ventor of pronounced ability. He has been the game that could make it interesting totally sightless for forty years and never saw a base ball game in his life, but he never allows business to interfere when he wishes to "see" a contest on the diamond Mr. Judge is always accompanied by some ship, and that the games will be of the one who tells him of the various plays and he yells as loudly as anybody, even shouting "down in front" when someone The games are to be played on the obstructs the view of those who can see grounds at Lake Manawa, Vinton Street He is an inveterate smoker, too, thus disproving the oft-heard statement that one must see the smoke in order to enjoy a cigar.

With one parting look at the locomotive he had run for so many years Jackson Adams of Pittsburg. Pa., probably the oldest engineer on the West Pennsylvania of the games will be played at Courtland road, dropped dead this afternoon. Adams had been on the railroad for thirty years, first as a fireman and then as an engineer put them in shape for playing and, if it He did not work today, but love for his succeeds, some of the games will undoubt- old engine could not keep him from the roundhouse. He visited the place this afternoon and was standing looking admir The umpires for the season have been ingly at his engine when he suddenly recled selected and they promise to be both fair forward on als face. When picked up it and good and should add greatly to the was found that he was dead. Heart disease

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