SPORTING GOSSIP OF WEEK

Foot Ball Warriors Are Crowding to the Front in Squads.

NEBRASKA GETS IN SHAPE FOR BIG GAMES

Booth's Illness Retards Training, but Westover Puts Men Through Light Work and Starts Training Table.

Gloom is not Nebraska university's sole stock in the foot ball trade. Despondency and doubt were very much in evidence earlier in the week, following the announcement that Coach Booth was ill and threatened with typhoid fever, but a sentiment decidedly more hopeful now prevails as a result of a decision by Booth's physicians that the coach's ailment was ptomaine poisoning and not typhoid. The symptoms of the two are much the same, but a careful watch over Booth convinced the doctors that ptomaine, and not typhoid, was responsible for his illness. Booth is still confined in a hospital, but he is recovering speedily and his discharge as an invalid is predicted for early this week.

Booth's absence from the foot ball squad even for a week will retard the development of his team, but it is not necessarily fatal to the prospects of his pupils. Assistant Coach Westover has had charge of the practice, but the excessive heat has prevented scrimmaging, and only the more rudimentary and lighter stunts, such as catching punts and falling on the ball have been permitted. Stiff work in hot weather invariably tends to staleness, and Booth gave strict orders from his sick bed to cut out scrimmages. But even if Booth is able to take charge this week, he will have only three weeks more of preparation for the Michigan game; the big event of the Nebraska schedule, and the week's absence, after all, may work no end of harm. Booth is intent upon making a strong showing against the Wolverines. He recognizes the folly of hoping to beat Yost's men, who are mostly veterans and outweigh the Corn Huskers by a wide margin, but Booth recalls the success of Nebraska in holding Minnesota, an aggregation of giants, fairly even a year ago and of once defeating them, and he therefore argues that if Nebraska makes a good fight and forces the Ann Arbor bunch to extend themselves the Corn Huskers will not lack for a share of the glory.

In speaking of the Omaha Commercial College foot ball team for the coming season, Manager Arnold says that prospects could not be brighter. About twenty men, most of them experienced players, are working hard for places on the team and a remarkable good showing is being made. Baker, last year's Carlisle Indian quarter, entered school last week and is assisting Coach Coryel in getting the team in shape. Baker is himself playing the quarter back position. That the Commercials present a good strong line on defense was demonstrated in their first practice game which was played with a pick up team the 33rd.

The pickups played a hard and plucky game, but were able to make their distance only once. The Omaha Commercials made good gains and lost the ball but twice, once because of a fumble and once because of off-side play. The college boys showed up much better on defensive than in offensive work. They are improving rapidly and giving evidence of developing splendid team work. Practically all the men who are working for places on the team were tried out during the game and the showing made was highly gratifying to the coach. Pike, last year's quarter for the Commercials, who is now playing on the Nebraska University team, was present at the practice a few evenings ago, and expressed himself as much pleased with the prospects for a winning team at the Omaha Commercial college this fall. The schedule is practically complete and a number of fast and heavy teams will be played. The first game was with Doan college at Crete yesterday followed a week later by the Bellevue college game at Bellevue. Amity college of College Springs, Ia., Fort Crook, Tabor college and Tarkio college are among some of the other teams to be played. Several of these games will be played in Omaha. The students of the college are being organized into a band of rooters and college spirit is intense. With the opening of the new college gymnasium October 2, indoor signal practice will begin and the team will be put under the training of the physical director. Every effort is being made by the college to make this year's team the best in the history of foot ball in Omaha.

The installation of the training table at Nebraska has been delayed by the illness of Booth, but the athletic authorities decided that it should go into effect at once. Only six men are to be given places at the start, but additions are to be made from day to day until it includes twenty men. Assistant Coach Westover, after a consultation with Booth, has virtually decided upon a policy of switching one or two of the 'varsity men in the lineup. One of the possible changes is that of Weller from the back field to one of the tackles, where his presence, because of his strong play on the defensive, would come in good stead. Westover is also giving Eager, the midget halfback, a tryout at quarter. Eager has the experience and also the aggressiveness to make a strong quarterback, and the question of locating him there permanently seems to hinge upon his ability to handle the ball as quickly and cleanly as is required of the man in that position. Eager is not needed at halfback, because of the rather large list of substitutes, and the determination to try him at quarter appears to be a happy suggestion.

Yost's Wolverines returned from Whitmore lake Monday, where they have been in camp, and started the season's practice in real earnest on Ferry Field. The roster of the men who have appeared so far this season is:

Veterans—Adolph Schulz, J. C. Curtis, Denny Clark, Tom Hammond, Harry Hammond, T. M. Stuart, Walter Graham, Frank Longman, H. J. Weeks and Captain Norcross.

1904 reserves—J. C. Garrels (end), H. E. Patrick (half), J. Mack Love (tackle), Duncan Pierce (full back), A. R. Chandler (full back), W. J. Miller (center and guard), M. P. Rumney (end and half), H. A. Workman (half), and Walter W. Rheipschild (full back).

1904 all-freshmen—Carey (center), F. B. Newton (tackle), C. H. Clement (guard), and W. H. Embs (guard).

Others—A. H. Barlow, the quarter back of the Junior Law championship team; F. W. Wetmore, an ex-half back on Knox college, and E. D. Kanaja, the bottom man of the Michigan gym team.

At Whitemore lake the men were not through all of the lighter stunts such as falling on the ball, running, punting, drop kicking, and catching punts. The men did not line up for a scrimmage at the lake, the first scrimmage being held Tuesday after their return. Yost has four men who are booting the ball in good shape, Curtis, Rumney, Garrels and Stuart. Stuart is showing up especially fine and is punting for sixty-five and seventy yards. Yost is thought by many to have the job of his whole foot ball career lined out for him this year to defeat the team which Alonzo Stagg will get together at the Midway school. Yost is not used to turning out losers, but he has his work marked out for him if he expects to beat Chicago.

Following is the Michigan foot ball schedule for 1905: September 30, Ohio Wesleyan university at Ann Arbor; October 4, Kalamazoo college at Ann Arbor; October 7, Case Scientific school at Ann Arbor; October 11, Ohio Northern university at Ann Arbor; October 14, Vanderbilt university at Ann Arbor; October 18, Denison university at Ann Arbor; October 21, University of Nebraska at Ann Arbor; October 25, Albion college at Ann Arbor; October 28, Drake University at Ann Arbor; November 4, University of Illinois at Champaign; November 11, Ohio State university at Ann Arbor; November 18, University of Wisconsin at Ann Arbor; November 25, Oberlin college at Ann Arbor; November 30, University of Chicago at Chicago.

Coaches, players, students, faculty and all followers of the game admit that the prospects are bad for a strong foot ball team at the University of Chicago. This is claimed to be no bear story, but the plain, unadulterated truth. Few old players have returned, although it was expected that several more of these would appear at the last minute. The whole center trio is gone and the coaches have a number of men of considerable weight, but of little experience. There is just one ray of hope, and that is the appearance of Bateman, who may be expected to play an acceptable game at center. Quarterbacks are as scarce as hen's teeth and were it not for Wheeler Huff would be up a tree. Coach Matthews has considerable confidence in the little colored lad. Conditions back of the line are much better, Carruthers and Kirk, halfbacks, and Burroughs, fullback. Burroughs is in his second year and it is thought that he will emulate the example of Jake Stahl. He is a giant, strong as an ox, and all that is needed is to quicken his speed.

The Chicago university foot ball team expects to use a curiosity this year which has not been tried since the time of Hirschberger, who was probably the greatest kicker in foot ball history. This fall Quarterback Echersall will kick goals from the drop instead of the placement after a touchdown has been made. He has been practicing along these lines for the past few days and appears to have been pre-eminently successful.

Columbia university has every reason to be optimistic over foot ball prospects this year. Captain Tom Thorpe is not only one of the best players in the country, but he is also a most genial and democratic chap and a personal friend of every man in the college. Such a man was Gondon Brown, Yale, '01, captain of the greatest foot ball team ever played. Bill Morley, Columbia's head coach, was one of the best defensive backs that ever played the game, and no man better qualified to instill that fighting spirit into a team than he. For the last three years the Blue and White elevens have lacked in fight and gameness, but this will be remedied this year. Morley has tried to do too much all by himself with Columbia teams heretofore and the result has been a lack of team work and versatility. True, he never had any startlingly fine material to work with, but it is the general opinion that had he had a few more men to help him whip what he had into shape results would have been better. Columbia's foot ball authorities have taken a drop to this state of affairs finally and this year Tom Thorpe's eleven are being coached by three of the best men who ever fell on a pigskin. Morley was a little later in arriving this year than usual, but his assistants, Jack Wright and Dick Smith, have succeeded admirably in putting the candidates through the various degrees of rough house.

There is gloom at Princeton in the camp of the Tigers over the foot ball prospects this year. Hopes for a heavy team have been shattered by the failure of the freshman class to thus far produce the heavy line men necessary to take the places of Short and Stannard of last year's team. McFadden, the 225-pound guard from Exeter, of whom great things were expected, has failed to pass his entrance examinations and will have to take another year in the preparatory school. The only line man who gives sign of real promise is Frier of Hill school, who is a fast and an aggressive tackle and should make a strong bid for Stannard's place on the right side of the line. Although the Tigers will not have a heavy team this year, however, they are sure of a fast and aggressive one, and Coach "Doc" Hillebrand will endeavor to make up in speed what is lacking in weight.

Although the University of Pennsylvania foot ball coaches refuse to admit it the 1906 squad has at times numbered as high as fifty men and this alone has given the Quakers assurance that the material this year will be better than at any time since the middle of the 90's. Just what the coaches will make of it is a different matter, but since the 1904 regime is again in control there is every reason for the belief that Pennsylvania will once more be a top notcher on the gridiron. The thing that has raised the hopes of all is the unexpectedly large number of preparatory school stars who have commenced work on the field this year. Many of these will, of course, fall by the wayside but the splendid record which Pennsylvania's eleven made last fall when it went through the season, not only without a defeat, but without being scored on, has certainly excited the admiration of all the schoolboys, though the return of the veteran trainer, Mike Murphy, may have had something to do with this.

Yale is hard at work and endeavors are still being made to fill all of the gaps, serious as some of these gaps are. The students are happy over the fact that three of the most promising players who were hanging back returned in a single day. They included Dan Mackay, tackle, the base ball player; Arthur Erwin, center, the base ball catcher and Phil Smith, center. Smith and Erwin are 200-pounders and they make quite an impression on the average weight of the members of the foot ball squad.

Though Harvard lost Mills at fullback and Kennan at quarterback and one end there is no doubt but that the foot ball team at Cambridge is the best that has been seen in years and the students are enthusiastic over the manner in which they are starting out and the prospects of the approaching victories.

From the present outlook the redmen at Carlisle will have a faster team than has represented the school for several years. Under the coaching of George Woodruff the Indians are making rapid progress. The work each day consists of signal practice and scrimmages. There has been a rapid development of practically the whole squad in the exercises of catching the ball and punting drop and place kicking. During the past few days the elaborate set of signals in which the redskins have been trained has been perfected and foot ball players the country over will watch with great interest for results in this particular.

More than 120 candidates are practicing for the Leland Stanford university foot ball team this year, the greatest number in the history of the university, and keen competition for all of the positions on the team is now the order of the day. The squad contains many veterans, however, and Standford expects to have one of the strongest teams in its history. The practice, which is in charge of Coach Lanagan and Captain Chalmers, consists of running and kicking and handling the ball in the orthodox fashion, but the Leland Stanford people say that they have several new wrinkles this year which give promise of startling their eastern brethren before the season is over.

It appears to be the general opinion among hunters of South Dakota that they are prohibited by the provisions of the state game law from selling prairie chickens and other game birds, even within the state. John W. Hutchinson of Sioux Falls, former game warden of Minnehaha county and an acknowledged authority upon this matter, states that this view is incorrect. Many still believe that Mr. Hutchinson is still acting as game warden and he is frequently asked whether or not there is a law in South Dakota preventing the sale of game. In referring to the matter he said: "I laid the matter before Attorney General Hall and also before State's Attorney Orr, and they both made the same answer, that they could not find any law to prevent the sale of game birds in South Dakota. Of course should a person attempt to sell more than fifteen birds he could be arrested for having more birds in his possession than the law allows, but he could not be touched for selling the birds. As the law is scrutinized more closely the weak points in it are being brought out." With the object of remedying defects in the present game law Mr. Hutchinson and other leading sportsmen of South Dakota are arranging to hold a meeting prior to the holding of the next session of the legislature for the purpose of determining upon amendments which are necessary to be made to the game laws of the state. It is believed that as a result of such a meeting the game laws can be made among the best of the country.

Golfing is being prosecuted with all of the vigor which the golfers can muster to finish up the different cup contests before cold winter will put a stop to the play. Rain did not stop the play during the recent state tournament, but cold weather makes nearly all of the golfers put their sticks away until spring. Most of the cups have been contested for monthly during the summer and now the final playoff is on. Golf was taken up with added zeal this summer and the number of players was increased very materially, all of which was a source of pleasure to the directors of the clubs. A fine quality of men engage in this sport and the life of the club is insured as long as there is a game that will interest the best people that the town affords. The question of the location of the play for the Transmississippi championship has not been decided as yet. The Field club can have it if desired, but there is doubt as to the ability of the directors to prepare the new grounds in time for the tournament.

A splendid program of bicycle and motorcycle races is arranged for this afternoon at Sprague street park and considerable interest has been aroused over the various events. Motor cycling is one of the dangerous sports, as the machines will travel faster than the drivers will dare let them go around the curves of a small track as that on Sprague street. Several local men have become quite expert in the handling of these machines, and in addition to these there will be several machines from abroad, driven by riders familiar with their makeup. Bicycle racing has become quite a lost art in Omaha, but there was a time when it was all the rage. Thousands who rooted for their favorite rider will be stirred to the memory of ancient days when they read the announcement of a bicycle race, and while they may not see Gadke, McCall or Pixley they will see some of the younger generation who may be able to ride just as fast.

The Bowling association will strive to arouse more interest in bowling among the women of the city and to that end will start a tournament similar to that just completed at the Omaha Field club. Twelve games will be rolled and the total number of pins will count. The first prize will be a silver trophy of some sort. The alleys are practically given over to the women in the morning from 10:30 to noon, and for the present no charge will be made to them for the use of the alleys. This policy has been adopted to arouse more interest in the sport and will be continued until the alleys are overrun and crowded so that a charge will be necessary. The tournament is the all-absorbing topic among the men and the interest is right keen. After two weeks' play six of the eight teams are well bunched and seven have a fighting chance. The Benos of Council Bluffs seem to be the only team that is outclassed. One of the crack Council Bluffs bowlers is left-handed and bowls from that side of the alley. The other bowlers seem to follow in his lead, to their disadvantage.

More than $500,000 will be expended by those interested in trying to win the cup offered by W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., to encourage the building of safe and fast motor cars, although the actual value of the cup itself is only $2,000. The race will be held on October 14, with the trials next Saturday. It is estimated that the twenty-seven cars named by America, France, Germany, and Italy, cost more than $200,000 and the remainder will be expended for drivers and mechanics, their salaries and expenses, the repair stations, extra tires, and the policing and promoting of the race, not to speak of the money that will be spent by the spectators. Probably 60,000 people will view the two contests over the Long Island circuit. They will spend an average of $2 each, some living at high class hotels and paying $10 for their seat in the grandstand, while others will locate on the various parts of the course, and view the race without expense other than their refreshment. Many will eat 3 o'clock breakfasts in the New York hotels, and catch the early trains for Mineola which is eighteen miles from the metropolis. Each driver in the race will have four or five repair stations with three or four expert mechanics in each, which will make about 250 of these men. Tires at $400 a set will be ruined by the score and in the case of punctures will be cut off with sharp knives to save time in making replacements.

Automobiles have become quite the thing in Omaha this summer and the number owned locally has increased one-third since spring. One of the leading garages employed six men a year ago at this time and at present it requires twenty-three to keep the autos in condition for the owners. Better control of autos on the streets and less scorching is one of the very noticeable results of the attempt which has been made at enforcing the laws against speeding. Autos no longer whiz through the principal thoroughfares at the breakneck speed which they were wont to use formerly and only in the suburbs do most of the chauffeurs let out their machines at all. The sight seeing service has taken hold in Omaha, much better in fact than in many other cities in which it has been inaugurated. From two to seven touring cars are in service all of the time and the service is giving the best of satisfaction. There are plenty of interesting sights in Omaha and this service will help the town.

As indicating that road racing tends to bring about improved highways, the following, written by President H. W. Goode of the Lewis and Clark Centennial exposition to President Elliott C. Lee of the American Automobile association, expressing pleasure at the recent visit of James B. Dill, chairman of the American Automobile association law committee, is worthy of note. Among other things he says: "The recent transcontinental automobile race was productive of a vast amount of discussion in the greater west in reference to the betterment of our highways, and incidentally the Lewis and Clark exposition, as the objective point of the great race, came in for a goodly share of public attention. Viewed from any standpoint, it seems nothing less than remarkable that it is possible to journey from New York to Rose City by automobile, since the period of road making in the coast mountain is not far removed from the period of trail blazing."

Rental business is one of the main sources of revenue of the auto men in Omaha at the present time and every day the local garages each have a number of cars in service all of the time. Some even take extended tours from Omaha, while many simply wish to make the rounds of the boulevards and parks. Ak-Sar-Ben visitors are putting all of the rental cars into service and one visitor from the country showed that corn was all safe from frost when he handed the chauffeur a $10 bill as his tip in addition to the money which he spent for a two-days' trip with the car. The chauffeur is still alive, having suffered no bad effects from the shock.

Automobile Sparks.

Arthur Guiod and W. D. Bancker will leave on a short trip through the country the latter part of this week. They will tour parts of Nebraska.

Max Reichenberg, formerly of the firm of Reichenberg & Smith, has established a partnership with J. J. Deright and they will establish their new garage in the new building being erected for the purpose just east of the Commercial College building.

Some chauffeurs have discovered that the use of picric acid in gasoline will give a higher explosive and increase the power. The habit is a dangerous one, however, for there is always danger of cracking cylinders, something that has happened in two or three instances recently without the cause being known.

New York garage owners are benefiting by a fight between a couple of independent refineries and the Standard Oil company that has resulted in the cutting of prices on gasoline. Where formerly it has been sold in big lots at 12 cents a gallon, the competition has resulted in sales at 9¼ cents a gallon. The struggle is to gain control of the automobile trade in the metropolis and has not affected prices in other parts of the country.

New York is to have an automobile school for chauffeurs that is expected to turn out expert drivers for motor cars. It will be known as the New York School of Automobile Engineers, and Prof. Charles E. Lucke, M. S., Ph. D., of Columbia universitay will be director of instruction. There will be a simple, but thorough course and H. D. Carlisman, one of the managers, says that no man will be given a certificate of graduation until he is competent to handle any make of automobile, not only on the road, but also in the shop.

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