SPORTING GOSSIP OF WEEK

Players Are Signing Up and Ready to Play Ball Again.

POINTER FOR INDEPENDENT CLUBS

Nebraska Team Managers Should See that They Are Protected Against Outlaw or Disqualified Players Next Summer.

Signing up.

All over the land ball players are putting their names to contracts and returning them to club owners, where they are laid away with the contracts signed before. This season is one that will be remembered for several reasons. First of all, it is the time when the magnate is not in a hurry to sign the player. So effectual is the regulation of organized ball that the player in the spring time has the one chance of signing with the club to which he has been assigned, or to lay off for the season. The bluff of the "outlaw" league has been called and the organized magnates do not fear the threat of jumping, for the very good and all sufficient reason that there is no place to jump to. Then the players and the managers get together on a more businesslike basis than ever before in the history of the game. When the playing season is over the player draws enough money on his last pay to see him through the winter and leave him a tidy sum in the bank; he usually has some employment to which he returns and all the time he is not on the ball field he is drawing pay for doing something useful in a business way. This has ended the advance money proposition and does away with the necessity the player once endured of signing as soon as the season ended in order to get money to live on during the winter. Just as the magnate has come to be a hard-headed business man the player has become a sober and thrifty young man who saves his salary as well as his strength. It is a change for the better for base ball.

A word right here to the Nebraska people who are organizing clubs for the smaller towns of the state. It will be a wise plan to get together in some sort of a league arrangement for the protection of the game. Many disqualified players are looking for employment in the independent teams and will be signed by managers who are not posted on the laws of the game. Regulations now are so strict that no team playing under the national agreement can play against a team in which a disqualified player is engaged. Nor can a team from an organized league play with an independent team that has played against one having in its number a disqualified player. This rule is made to pursue the outlawed player to the ultimate end and is necessary to maintain discipline in base ball. Thus it will be essential to the independent teams of Nebraska that they fully protect themselves from the "jumper." Many of these independent teams are looking forward to games with the Western league teams during the summer, but unless the players are absolutely free from the taint of disqualification the games will have to be called off. The only way in which an independent team can be sure that it is in good odor will be to arrange with the National commission for protection, and this can best be done by forming a league. The Nebraska towns interested can easily do this. Hastings, Grand Island, Kearney, Fremont, Columbus and other places where teams are to be maintained can easily get together, frame an organization and arrange a playing schedule that will give them no more games in a season than they usually have, and which will ensure them the protection they need without expense. Another advantage to be gained by this will be the control of their own players, who will thus be prevented from jumping from team to team, and who cannot then be grabbed by bigger league teams. It is worth the while of these independent teams to take this matter up for serious consideration.

If the $2,400 salary limit in the Western league is lived up to, and it very likely will be, a number of salaries will be shaved from what they were last season. Last year the payroll of the Western league teams was much nearer $3,400 than $2,400 and a lot of youngsters were getting more than they were worth. The magnates felt the drain, and will try this season to get along with a little less expense. Just as another example of the salary cuts that are going on, and to show that the Omaha player mentioned last week as being asked to play in one of the big leagues for the same monthly salary he got from Rourke may feel that he fared well, let us turn to the case of a Denver man who was drafted, and who is asked to sign a contract with a big league club at $50 a month less than Denver paid him. What is true in these instances can be multiplied several times over in the country at large. The big leagues are cutting pay all around, and it is hardly likely that any of the teams, unless it be the Giants, will have a salary roll as big as it had last season. If the big leagues are retrenching in the matter of pay, it follows as a matter of course that the little ones will have to. This isn't a very cheering prospect for the player, but it is the natural outcome of the inflated salaries of the "war" period, when the Western was paying National league salaries. The salary limit means that in the Western league next season the average pay will be $175 per month, and that where a player gets $200 or over, somebody on the team will be playing for less than the average.

Papa Bill Rourke is up against it. Butch Freese has gone on the war path and threatens to play "independent" all next summer. One day last week Bill asked Butch to come in and talk business, and offered him a contract calling for $25 a month more than he was paid last season. Butch looked this over, and balked; he said he was offered as much to go to Fremont and play in a team there, where he wouldn't be asked to work more than three games a week. Rourke asked him how many games he worked a week with Omaha, and called his attention that last season he was in exactly fifty games, or about two a week. Then the Butcher hung out for $125 advance. Papa Bill put on his icy glance and said no; he would give no advance money to anybody. And Butch laid down his ultimatum, no advance money, no contract. And the contract is still unsigned.

"Ice" Hall is reported to have cast his lot with the Ohio outlaws. He really belongs to the Meriden (Miss.) team, and Rourke has the next claim on him. Hall says the Meriden team owes him money and that he is thus released. Ace Stewart, who managed the Meriden team last season and will run it again this coming summer, sent Hall here from the south when the yellow fever made it necessary to shut down ball playing in that league. Hall did good work for Omaha and was looked on with much favor by the local fans, but he has since shown his fangs. He refuses to come to Omaha and says he will not go back to Meriden. It is pretty near certain he will go on the permanent black list, and that another season will find him out of the game.

Saunders is another player who is feeling the mistake of contumacy. He left Omaha last season in a huff and at a time when the team needed his services. It was over a question of pay for time when he was not at work. Saunders pitched for various independent teams in South Dakota and northern Nebraska and made out something of a salary by this. He is now willing to work for Omaha or any other league club, but finds that his record has put him in such position that his chances for a high salary are much impaired. It is quite likely he will be in Omaha next summer and that he will be found working to clear himself of the stain that now stands against him. It doesn't pay to jump a contract, even with a minor league team, in these days when managers are keeping such close tab on players.

Whatever pessimistic lovers of the sport may say, the recent wave of reform in foot ball has not doomed the game. Those who look at the matter in a conservative light believe that the restrictions made by the "big nine" and the New York committee will prove wholesome, at least until objectionable methods of getting around them are resorted to. These reforms were undertaken by the friends of the game with the intention of weeding out unsportsmanlike practices, which were injuring the game in the estimation of the general public. They are intended to bring the sport back to the place it formerly occupied in public esteem. It will be noted that the reformers are the ones who are most confident that the game will survive. The action of the conference really was not radical, when the essential features of the game are considered. It decided that no student should play for more than three years in any collegiate sport; that only undergraduates can play in intercollegiate games and contests; placed a limit of five intercollegiate games in a season; fixed the admission for students at 50 cents; abolished the training table and made a stringent rule requiring that players must be bona fide students. The section on which the bitterest attack is made is the one requiring coaches to be regular members of the faculty, at salaries not to exceed those paid to other members of the faculty of equal rank. This will cut off a number of prominent coaches who were in the habit of giving their attention to foot ball for three months of the year at salaries in many cases higher than those paid learned professors for the entire year. This will hit Wisconsin and Michigan, unless Yost decides to give his whole time to the game, and a few of the lesser lights of the "big nine." Chicago and Minnesota have been following the rule for several years, and there appeared to be a tendency in that direction among colleges even before the rule was passed. The reforms that have been proposed do not strike at any of the features of the game that are essential to its success, but only aim to remedy a number of abuses that have grown up, owing principally to the abnormal interest the sport has aroused in the minds of students and the general public.

Advocates of the game of socker foot ball seem to gloat over the turn which has been taken in the affairs of the good old college game of foot ball. The effort to have a game with the New Zealand team while in Chicago was unavailing, as they jumped right on through to San Francisco, from which place they will sail for home. The frequent assertions that the American public, with its love for the faster games, would never stand for such a mild sport as the association game have not been seriously disputed by the socker players. They are content to rest on the knowledge of the triumph of the dribbling code over the Rugby game in Great Britain, and the belief that it will score a similar success in this country. While the college rules committee has ben devising schemes for the retention of the intercollegiate giant, and the faculties of some of the colleges have come out strongly for the rest cure, the association infant has been kicking lustily. Pointing to the Chicago branch of the family, the socker men note that eight teams took part in the spring championship series of the Chicago league in 1905, and that in the coming series there will be more than twice that number competing, to say nothing of several more teams playing in a Saturday league. With nearly sixty teams in St. Louis and at least ten scattered through the state of Illinois, the sockerites are well satisfied with their progress in this section. Since the strenuous American spirit took a great liking to the fierce excitement of golf, the socker men are hopeful of making many converts.

Much interest is being manifested in the meeting of the Central Whist association which will be held at Grand Island Friday and Saturday, February 16 and 17. A large number of invitations have already been accepted, indicating the largest attendance in the history of the association. The organiation is composed of clubs and members from nine different states. There will be two contests, one for teams of four and the other for pairs. Four persons from each club may contest in the former and any number from each club in the latter. As you will observe from the program, trophies are given as prizes in each contest, and also for the free-for-all, which terminates the meeting.

The clubs which compose the association are: Red Oak Whist club, Red Oak, Ia.; Kansas City Athletic club, Kansas City, Mo.; St. Joseph Whist club, St. Joseph, Mo.; Commercial club, Sioux Falls, S. D.; Topeka Whist club, Topeka, Kan.; St. Joseph Athletic Whist club, St. Joseph, Mo.; Council Bluffs Whist club, Council Bluffs, Ia.; Perry Whist club, Perry, Okl.; Hawkeye Whist club, Sioux City, Ia.; Dakota Whist club, Sioux Falls, S. D.; St. Mary's Whist club, St. Mary's, Kan.; Sugar City Whist club, Grand Island, Neb.; Sioux City Whist, Chess and Checker club, Sioux City, Ia.; Elk Point Whist club, Elk Point, S. D. The officers of the association are: Michael Waters, president, Sioux City, Ia.; A. Wendover, Vice president, St. Joseph, Mo.; E. L. Copeland, secretary and treasurer, Topeka, Kan.. Directors: T. M. Hanlon, Sioux Sity; C. D. Walters, Council Bluffs; H. A. McCandless, Perry, Okl.; W. A. Prince, Grand Island; M. Apple, St. Joseph; J. C. Meredith, Kansas City.

Bit and Spur, the horse monthly, in an article on horse show prospects in Omaha, adds a few lines concerning the new riding school which is in full operation in Germania hall:

Fred Bork will manage the enterprise, and just returned from New York, where he perfected himself in small riding and driving details, and executed orders for new saddles.

The interest the Horse show has implanted has fanned the flame for good horses, and many new ones are being bought. Many of the young misses who have been keeping to the cross saddle are ordering Whitman side saddles for future use.

Miss Francis Nash, a pupil at Durland's last season, uses daily a couple of black three-gaited geldings which she picked up at that fashionable school. Miss Lomax is an aspiring amateur and is looking for a real good show horse for use.

The Misses Hayden have never ridden, though caught by a microbe now, a singular coincidence it has not happened before; their father keeps a very good stable. Mrs. C. C. Allison is enthusiastic in the sport, owning a very good combination horse put to work alternately under saddle and harness as the circumstances warrant. Mrs. Thomas Byrne uses that toppy gelding sold Mr. Byrne by James Murray last fall.

Mrs. Luther Kountze already drives tandem very creditably, when she gets more assurance at the difficult task. One of her Christmas presents was a Kimball tandem cart and harness.

A. D. Brandeis bought a new combination three-gaited saddle horse for his daughter from Weir & Rogers.

Locally nothing is now being done toward the Horse show which will be held at the Auditorium this fall, but some time in the early spring secretaries of shows at Kansas City, Omaha, Minneapolis, St. Paul and St. Louis will come together at the latter place to work out uniform classifications to assist through exhibitors. Omaha made such an enviable reputation last fall that the directors anticipate no difficulty in having all the classes filled. The riding school is adding many new members to the list of women who will be able to ride and drive by the time the bugle blows this fall.

Jay Gould's recent work in the racquet and court tennis events has singled him out as a likely candidate for national honors. Both the racquet and tennis amateur championships are held in New York. Lawrence Waterbury is racquet champion, and will defend the title in February in Boston, and also holds the gold racquet championship of the Tuxedo club. The national championship will be held at New York in March and the gold racquet contest in February, having been postponed to get Jay Gould as a competitor. Young Gould will also play in the national, and with Joshua Crane, jr., three times a former champion, he ranks as an advance favorite with Sands.

The twelfth annual open tournament for the lawn tennis championship of the south of France will be held at the Nice Lawn Tennis club, beginning March 12. It will follow the Monte Carlo and Mentona tourneys, the former of which begins on February 22, and the latter on March 5. These big matches will mean a revival of the ancient game because they will infuse new life into the sport. According to the program the events for the Nice tournament will be as follows:

Gentlemen's Singles—The Nice cup, value 2,000 francs, offered by the municipality of Nice; H. L. Doherty, winner 1901, 1903; holder 1904, 1905. Entrance fee 10 francs. Best of three 'vantage sets throughout, except finals, which are best five 'vantage sets. This event will take place irrespective of the number of entries, but no prize will be given unless there are four entries. The winner of this event to receive a first prize. A second prize will be given if there are eight entries, a third prize if there are twelve entries, and two third prizes if there are sixteen entries or more. The cup to be won three years, not necessarily consecutively, before becoming the property of the winner. The holder to play through each year.

Ladies' Singles—The ladies' cup, offered by A. G. Morgonstern; Mrs. G. W. Hillyard, holder 1903; Countess Schulenberg, holder 1902; Miss T. Lowther, holder 1903; Countess Schulenberg, holder 1904; Miss C. M. Wilson, holder 1905. Entrance fee 5 francs. Best of three 'vantage sets throughout. All other conditions the same as in No. 1.

Gentlemen's Double—The Gentlemen's double cups, value 1,500 francs, offered by Eugene Higgins; R. F. and H. L. Doherty, winners 1902, 1903; holders 1904, 1905. Entrance fees 15 francs per pair. All conditions the same as in event No. 1.

Mixed Doubles—The Mixed Doubles cup, value 1,500 francs, offered by the Grand Cercle du Casino Municipal de Nice; Countess Schulenberg and R. F. Doherty, winners 1903; holders 1904, 1905. Entrance fee 10 francs per pair.

There will also be handicaps in gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles (must enter in pairs), mixed doubles (must enter in pairs). Only the third set, if played, will be a 'vantage set.

Widespread interest centers in the fact that the Baltimore trophy (the traveling trophy of the Woman's Whist league) has been won in perpetuity by the Woman's Whist club at Chicago. Mrs. Henry T. Fry, Mrs. J. H. Moore, Mrs. M. C. Capelle and Mrs. H. H. Frothingham formed the victorious team. A remarkable feature of their success is that they never suffered defeat, winning nine matches last year and six this season, the total fifteen being needed to obtain permanent ownership of the trophy. The trophy was put into competition in Baltimore at the congress held there in May, 1904, and was presented by the Baltimore Whist club. At that congress it was won by the Philadelphia Whist club. At the congress at Philadelphia last May it was won by the Manheim club of Philadelphia. The trophy has twice been played for in this district and according to the published records the Cavendish club of Baltimore has established ten victories upon it, four in 1904 and six in 1905. The Whist club of Philadelphia also had won the trophy ten times. The Woman's Whist league, if it follows the custom of former years, will probably see that a new trophy takes the place of the Baltimore and also that play shall continue without interruption of the published schedule. Play for this series of games begins in Baltimore on March 20, continuing for a month.

Connie Mack, manager of the Philadelphia Athletics and who is one of the joint committee on base ball rules, said last week: "There are many hardships about the foul strike rule, but I hardly think there is any chance to have the rule repealed. So the best we can look for is some modification. Take, for instance, the foul tip that goes back straight over the catcher's head. Now I don't think it is fair to call a strike on a man for a tip of that sort, unless it is evident that the batsman is trying to foul. But there is no man living so clever as to be able to tip the ball over the catcher's head. If we could have this sort of a foul strike cut out it would help some. The foul strike rule, however, has its advantages and will be retained. We would like to see a little more batting at that. By the way, did you ever take into consideration the improvement in the pitchers in the last ten years? A batsman who is hitting .275 nowadays is as good a man as he who ten years ago hit .350. In those days each club had one or two good pitchers, and the batsman would lay for the poor ones, hit them all over the lot and fatten their averages. But when two first-class pitchers met in those days they had low scores, too. Well, at the present time each club carries four or five first-class pitchers, and the batsman seldom gets a chance at anything soft to swell his average. Why, I don't think we had more than six or eight really 'easy' games last year. As the public wants close games, therefore, it seems that the rules are all right, as far as they go, with a slight modification in the foul strike to cover the point I have made."

While Ned Hanlon has not got the Cincinnati line-up finally settled for the coming season and will not have it picked out till after the spring practice is finished, he has got a pretty definite plan laid out now that he has landed Jim Delehanty. All that is needed to complete the arrangements is another catcher, for whom he is dickering. His pitching staff, unless one of the youngsters show great form, will be Ewing, Weimer, Overall, Harper and Chech. At first Jack Barry will fight it out with Charley Carr, Barry also being an outfield possibility. Second base and short are clinched for Miller Huggins and Tommy Corcoran. Del is the probable third bagman, but Mowery and Hinchman will be given thorough trials before anything definite is settled. In the outfield Kelley is a sure thing in left and Cy Seymour in center, with right to be fought for. Odwell, Siegle, Barry and Delehanty are all possibilities. Behind the bat Schlei, Phelps and Paddy Livingston are on the list.

The itinerary of the spring tour of the world's champions has been completed. The men will be requested to report at Memphis on March 1, where they will stay until March 20. According to Manager McGraw the base ball grounds in Tennessee's capital are the best in the south. The diamond is of turf and the entire plant is so well drained that if a heavy rain were to fall in the morning it would be in a fit condition to play on in the afternoon. In the event of the grounds not being in condition to be used a large gymnasium, equipped with all modern apparatus, shower baths, etc., has been engaged for the players. Donlin and Gilbert will leave this week for Hot Springs, Ark., while the other players will go direct from their homes to Memphis. Manager McGraw proposes to put in considerable of the time between now and the 1st of March in skating at the St. Nicholas rink, an exercise which, he thinks, is ideal for improving his physical condition.

Prominent Harvard men who are in touch with the athletic and foot ball situation at Cambridge appear to be convinced that the changes ordered by the national foot ball rules committee are sufficiently drastic to satisfy the authorities of the Crimson, and that Harvard ought to receive permission to proceed with the schedule for next year's games within a short time. The rule changes, they say, are very radical on the score of brutality and rough play, and if they do not prevent such practices they certainly punish them so severely as to make it almost impossible to continue them. Under these conditions neither Harvard nor any other college, they feel, can have reasonable objection. One prominent foot ball expert in estimating the effect of the present conditions upon theo game, said:

It will be necessary to increase the number of downs with the number of yards to be gained under these rules. This is an advisable engagement anyway, as it will remove one very objectionable feature of the old arrangement of five yards in three downs, towit: That in case of the failure to gain on any one down places a tremendous handicap on a team on the other two downs, which is, I think, undesirable. It would be much better to give three opportunities to recover lost ground, even though a greater average distance must be gained on each of the four tries than to retain present conditions.

Then there is one other suggestion on this line that I would favor. It seems to me fairer to provide that, after failing to gain a given distance in a given number of tries, a team should be allowed to kick the ball. It is an awful penalty to lose the ball, which means a loss of thirty-five yards at least for failing to make the required distance, by say, a couple of inches, as often happens. Is it not better in case a team fails to gain the distance to then compel it to kick? That is handicap enough, inasmuch as the other team can be fully prepared for the kick and can handle it to the best advantage.

For my part, I would favor a ten-yard rule, with four downs, in which to gain the distance, and in event of failure to gain the requirement, a compulsory kick.

Diary of Automobile Pop

The diary of an automobile breach of promise suit, as prepared by the fair plaintiff, has been filed with other papers in a New York City court. Miss Emma Huber is the plaintiff. She wants $25,000 damages from Albert Kreemenaker for reasons set forth in the diary as follows:

August 27, 1905—Met Mr. Krumenaker, who asked leave to visit. Granted. He is a widower with two boys.

August 28 to September 9—Received many visits from Mr. K. He has taken me on lots of automobile rides and to the theaters. Seems a nice man and well fixed. Talks all the time about how much he likes me. Think he does, a little, maybe.

September 10—While coming home with Albert in the auto tonight he asked me if I would marry him. Told him so sudden, etc., and would talk to papa and mamma and think it over. Says he loves me to distraction.

September 10 to 20—Albert calling frequently. Always asking me out on auto and to theaters.

September 21—Albert asked me if I had made up my mind. Put him off.

September 24—Went to Hunter's island in auto with Al. Had fine time. On way home asked me to stop at his house, "our future home," he called it, and look it over. Found it lovely. Think will accept.

September 25, 26, 27, 28—Theaters, dinners, autos nearly every day. Al very attentive.

September 29—We got photoed downtown today.

September 30—Albert sent me letter enclosing photos and ending "with many kisses from your sweet Albert." And then such a sweet postscript, reading, "My dear Emma, will you keep that little cosey corner in your heart for me? And I'll be as true to you as any one can be. Just wait and see. Once more, your sweet Albert." Wasn't it fine? Um-m-m-m.

October 1 to 5—Same old rides and theaters and dinner parties. Think I'll accept.

October 6—While out with dear Albert this afternoon I consented. I was afraid the car would run away, we were so preoccupied. Tonight he told papa, saying: "Papa Kegeler, Emma and I want to become engaged to each other. Can I have your daughter for my wife? I will make her a happy woman. I will be a good husband to her and give her a good home. It may not be as fine as what she has now, but it will be fine enough for anybody." Of course, papa and mamma consented, and then we kissed all around and Albert said for papa to call him Albert and he'd call him papa. And then we fixed on the date, and it's to be my birthday, December 1. Oh! I feel so happy. I wonder if I'll sleep tonight, thinking of him?

October 8—Al called again tonight and told me he had told his sons to call me "mother." Hope I'll get along with those kids.

October 12—He calls every day, of course, but it's no use putting it down, now that everything's settled, except when something happens. Today we went downtown and he selected a lovely pair of earrings as an engagement present. They look fine on me.

October 13—He telephoned me to come to his house, our home, I mean, and look around to see what extra furniture we'd need. We talked over lots of things and everything is going to be just lovely. Sometimes he seems preoccupied. I wonder why?

October 14—Went down with him to Lord & Taylor's today and bought, oh! such a dream of a piece of silk for my wedding dress. He insisted I should get only the finest of everything and I spent $600 out of my bank account. He looks so queer sometimes; I hope there's nothing wrong. Well, it's done now, but if anything should turn up——

October 17—Oh! dear, dear, such a day. What a monster that man is. But wait! I'll find out what's back of all this. I suspected something when he didn't come around yesterday. And, as I said long ago, I've thought right along there was a screw loose lately. Anyway, what do you think? This morning a messenger boy calls with a package. It was my photos and the little presents I've been making him. My heart jumped into my mouth, but thank goodness I didn't let on to that boy. I just fainted away when he'd gone, and come to as Mr. Krumenaker (how I hate that name) telephoned. "What's the meaning of this?" I asked in my calmest tones. And he said he was sorry, but it was "all off!" I nearly had a fit. "Why?" "Well," answered the coldblooded wretch, "I've made a blunder. I could never make you happy." (You bet he couldn't, but I'll make him smart yet). "But why, and how?" I asked, sobbing over the 'phone. "Well," he says, "you don't understand me, Emma, dear. I'm a hell raiser, and we could never get along. But you can tell everybody that it was all my fault, and, besides, I'll make good all you've spent." I hung up the 'phone. I never felt so terrible in all my life. A hell raiser, indeed. Well, we'll see. And papa's just furious.

October 22—Now that I've got reconciled to it, I can write again. Papa made me get a lawyer, Otto Kempner of Brooklyn, and we've written a letter to that Krumenaker asking for an explanation in writing. Wonder what he'll say. I'm all broken up with disappointment and making explanations. If he'd only come back—but what's the use?

October 28—We served a summons on him today for damages. Hope the jury thinks of him what I do. Wonder when it'll come to trial?

January 17, '06—My first entry is nearly three months, I see. Heard today suit might come up soon. When it does I'll stop this diary business.

Smoothing Him Down

"The infamous scoundrel!" exclaimed the eminent statesman. "I'll sue him for criminal libel! I want you to begin proceedings against him right now."

"What has he been doing?" asked the lawyer.

"He called me a corrupt politician and a grafter."

"But, look here——"

"O, I can prove it, all right! He said it in the presence of a dozen witnesses."

"Did he mention any particular instance of corruption or grafting?"

"No."

"Then, my dear senator, I'm afraid we can't make a case against him. You see——"

"But, good heavens! Haven't I told you——"

"Yes; but in order to make a case that will stick we must have the evidence that he alleged some specific act of grafting or corruption."

"Why is that?"

"Because then we can make him prove it. If he doesn't prove it, we've got the dead wood on him. But he makes the charge in general terms, don't you see, and if we sue him he might plead justification and manage somehow to throw the—er—burden of proof on us, and in the present excited and prejudiced state of the public mind, senator, we might have some difficulty in doing that, while, on the other hand, he migh——"

The rest was spoken in a whisper.

"I see," said the eminent statesman, his look of wrath giving way to one of stern purpose and high resolve. "There's another way I can get the infernal scoundrel. He's got a niece that's a clerk in one of the departments. I'll have her put out of that job if it costs me a million dollars!"—Chicago Tribune.

Wicked Thoughts

Evangelist—Dancing is wicked.

Butterfly—Nonsense!

Evangelist—My dear sister, tell me the truth. Do you never have sinful thoughts while dancing?

Butterfly—Y-yes, sometimes.

Evangelist—Aha! And what arouses the sinful thoughts!

Butterfly—Having a partner who walks all over my feet.—Cleveland Leader.

SORES That REFUSE TO HEAL

There is no surer evidence of a poisonous, polluted condition of the blood than that manifested by a sore that refuses to heal. Every symptom suggests pollution; the discharge, the red, angry flesh, the inflammation and discoloration of surrounding parts all show that the ulcer is kept open by a constant drainage through it, of impurities from the blood.

When the blood is pure and healthy any cut, bruise or wound will heal readily; when from any cause, however, the blood has become infected with germs or poisons the place becomes a sore or ulcer, sometimes scabbing over, but never fully healing, because it is kept irritated and inflamed by the impurities in this vital fluid. Often the rough handling of a wart, mole or pimple which has never shown any sign of trouble, a slight scratch or abrasion of the skin or insignificant hurt of any character will become a sore that refuses to heal, and remains for years, eating into the surrounding flesh, resisting treatment and sometimes terminating in Cancer.

The poison in the blood may be the remains of some constitutional disease, the effects of a long spell of sickness leaving disease germs in the system, or the absorption of refuse matters of the body which have not been properly expelled through the channels of bodily waste. But whatever the cause the vitality and purity of the blood is so weakened and polluted that it cannot properly nourish the system, and the sore or ulcer is kept up.

I want to recommend your S. S. S. to any who are in need of a remedy for an old sore.

In 1877 I had my leg badly cut by a barrel hoop and having on a blue woolen stocking my leg was badly poisoned from the dye. A great sore formed and for years no one knows what I suffered with the place. Nothing would heal the ulcer and I thought I would have to go through life with a discharging, angry sore on my leg. A short while ago I commenced to use S. S. S. and I soon saw that the place was improving. I continued the use of it until my leg was entirely healed and I am now a well man.

JNO. ELLIS,
250 Navy St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

I had a large sore or ulcer on my face and nothing that I tried would benefit me. It began with shooting pains and soon the itching was terrible. At first it discharged a watery fluid which changed to a thicker composition and the pain was very severe. It was nearly as large as a dollar and terribly inflamed in all the surrounding parts. It had been there so long and growing worse all the time, I became very much discouraged and alarmed. At last I began the use of S. S. S. At first the ulcer seemed to get worse, but soon I noted an improvement and continued its use until it was entirely cured.

MRS. W. A. WRIGHT.
Gary, Fla.

Those most usually afflicted with chronic sores and ulcers are persons who have reached or passed middle life; the vitality of the blood and strength of the system have naturally begun to weaken and the poisons in the blood which perhaps have been inherited and lain dormant in the system for years cannot be as effectually held in check as in early life when the system was strong and vigorous. While the old or middle-aged are the usual sufferers, the young are not exempt if the blood becomes infected with the germs.

Salves, plasters, lotions, etc., cannot cure old sores and ulcers because they do not reach the seat of the trouble. Such treatment keeps the place clean, relieves pain and perhaps reduces the inflammation, and in this way is beneficial, but can never permanently heal them. The only treatment that can do any permanent good is a competent blood purifier, one that goes to the very root of the trouble and removes the cause, and for this purpose nothing has ever been found to equal S. S. S. It goes down to the very fountain-head of the disease, drives out all poison and morbid matter, builds up the weak, sluggish blood, gives energy and strength to the entire system, and allows the sore to heal naturally and permanently. S. S. S. is purely vegetable, being made of roots, herbs and barks possessing cleansing, healing properties, and is not only the King of blood purifiers, but the greatest of all tonics. If you have a sore that is slow in healing do not waste time with external treatment nor experiment with unknown medicines, but begin the use of S. S. S. and by removing every vestige of the cause, cure the trouble permanently. Special book on sores and ulcers and any medical advice desired furnished without charge to all who write.

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(See also the Frank Carpenter letter on Canadian lands in this issue.)

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