

SPORTING GOSSIP OF WEEK

Rourke's Team All Signed Save Three Pitchers, Two Sulky.

OUTLOOK FOR OMAHA IS VERY BRIGHT

Lineup for 1906 Such as Encourages Belief that Omaha May Have Another Pennant Winner This Year.

All in but three.

Papa Ben Rourke has the John Hancock of all his family at the bottom of contracts for the current year, save those of Sanders, Bemis and Kelly Welch. Bemis may not be asked to sign at all, as a deal is on for his disposition to Leavenworth, and if he is sold he will sign there. Kelly Welch's eyes are still a little bit bigger than in the days when he thought he ought to unblock a trifle further. A slight difference of opinion on this topic has kept him off the signed list, but he will play in Omaha or not at all during the coming season. Sanders is still sulking, but will very likely come out of his hole before many days. The deal whereby Rourke hoped to transfer Sanders to Little Rock for Bender is apparently off, for Chief Zimmer wired during the week that he had decided to keep Bender. He has made a counter proposition to Rourke that may yet land Sanders in the Arkansas capital. Koukalk and Basseby were the last of the youngsters to come in, but they got under the wire in good season, and will report with the rest of the family in two weeks. This gives Rourke the most likely bunch of young fellows he has yet started with. The veteran line that has faced the foe at Vinton park for the entire time since its erection will be changed into a team of college boys. Neely and Quick will be the veteran pitchers, Carter and Welsh the seasoned outfielders, and Dolan the only landmark on the infield. Bunkle, slated for short, is not exactly a beginner, though, and Goding and Freck are seasoned players. Second, third and left will be filled by young ones, and Mars, the catcher who will be relied on to divide the work with Goding is also just from the amateur ranks. Basseby, who will play left, showed last fall that he has the making of a swell ball player in his little frame. Perring, who is down for third, has had enough experience to warrant trusting him with the bag. He comes well recommended as a batter as well as a fielder. Ivon Howard, who will have second base in charge, showed last fall that he understands something of what is required of the man at that station, and besides that is a willing performer with the stick. It looks as if Omaha's defense would be properly taken care of during the season.

In the offensive Omaha is certain to be stronger than last season. Howard is a much better hitter than Martin, Basseby than Thiel, and Ferrine will surely do as well as Schipke, even if he doesn't garner the home runs. Carter will certainly improve on his batter while Welch is sure to come again with the stick, and if he hits in his old-time form he will find near the head of the list when the official statistician gets his figures made out next fall. Joe Dolan is not at all likely to go off any in his hitting; on the contrary, the move across the diamond from short to first ought to help him, as it will lessen somewhat the strain on him during the game. This makes it sure that the home fans will be delighted with more safeties than for some seasons. The pitchers are such as please Mr. Rourke, and what he is satisfied with he will not change. Neely and Quick are too well established to require introduction. With them will be Koukalk, Coris, Fort, Hueser and Welch. Carter and Basseby, young athletes, will be chosen that will do well with the fast fielding, hard hitting team back of them. In fact, the prospect for Omaha during the coming season is extremely bright. Papa Ben doesn't believe in winning pennants off the field, but he says with a smile that he is willing to be shown.

The announcement that Frank Selee will look after the Public team during the coming summer is about the most welcome announcement that could have been made in Omaha. It means first of all that his health has improved since going to Colorado, or that he would not undertake active work again. It means also that Public will have a good team, well handled, and that its visits to Omaha will be like a call from an old friend. Frank Selee won Omaha's first pennant and has always been looked upon as almost a resident of the city. Now, when there were more genuine sorrow than here when he was compelled by failing health to give up his active and successful career in the National league, and nowhere will the satisfaction at his return to the game, even in a minor league, be more sincere.

"Scrappy" Jack Doyle is to be the playing manager for the champions during the coming season. With Mike Cantillon, George Hogreiver and Jack Doyle on one team the umpire's life will be a happy one when Des Moines is in town. It is to be fervently hoped that this trio will return to some degree before the playing season opens.

President O'Neil is still keeping the date for the schedule meeting a secret. He is also talking of having the meeting at Des Moines, when the league voted at its Chicago session to hold the schedule meeting at Lincoln. Rourke and the other managers of the league, save Cantillon, are expected to go to Lincoln to show the people down there that they are good fellows, but O'Neil takes all his instructions from Cantillon, and unless a rumpus is made the league meeting will go to Des Moines.

A mine of base ball enthusiasm apparently has been touched off at the Nebraska capital by Manager Dukey Holmes. The Lincoln fans have come forward royally to Dukey's support by subscribing the funds to build a cozy park, even paying

INDIGESTION

distress after meals, fermentation, heartburn, sour stomach, water-brash, will be promptly relieved if you

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The first year's lease on the grounds, which are located within a few blocks of the business center. This work at the park is now well under way, and the stands and fences will be completed before the end of the month. Holmes has notified his players to report in Lincoln April 1, and the practice will be immediately inaugurated in preparation for a long string of exhibition games with aggregations from other leagues. Holmes has just moved over from his Iowa farm to make Lincoln his permanent place of abode. During the winter he has proceeded quietly to gather together his ball team, and he is now nearing the end of his task. With the St. Joseph team as a nucleus, he has added others until he now has an aggregation which promises to hold its own quite satisfactorily in spite of the tattered strength of Sioux City, Des Moines and Denver, the most formidable clubs on paper now in the circuit. His pitching staff is not yet complete, but up to date it includes Elyer and Jones, both of the St. Joseph team; Clarence Holmes, formerly of the Chicago White Sox; McCormick, a crack amateur, with Croughn University last year, and Frank Shuman, a Nebraska amateur of decided promise. Shea of last year's St. Joseph team has not yet signed, but Holmes expects soon to have him in the fold. An American league manager has agreed to turn over one or two games to the Lincoln manager, and with these recruits the pitching end of the deal will be complete.

The catchers for Lincoln slated to date are Zimran, St. Joseph's steady backstopper; Rogers of the Northern league last season, and Moore, who came from St. Louis in the Kansas league. Holmes bought Starnagle, a crack Sioux City catcher, a few weeks ago, but Starnagle is sulking at his home in Belleville, Ill., and has not yet signed. The addition of Rogers, who comes highly recommended, places Holmes where he never has been before. As it is, however, he will now let Starnagle do all of the worrying. The infield is complete and in the department Holmes is confident that he has a quartet that will measure up to the best in the circuit. Thomas, formerly of Omaha, is billed for the first sack; Shugart, a former second baseman, will be stationed at second; Lee Quillin, for whom nearly a dozen managers have been angling all winter, the St. Louis Nationals included, is to handle the bunts and drives at third, and Joe Tillman, former manager and captain of the Joplin (Mo.) team, is to cover the short. In case Starnagle comes into the fold it is barely possible that he will be used at first, where he is reputed to be a brilliant performer. Shugart led the Western league second basemen last season and batted nearly .300. Quillin is touted as one of the smoothest infielders in any of the American leagues and a hitter of high quality. Holmes has been after Tillman all winter and considers himself mighty fortunate to land the man he wanted. Manager Holmes is to go into his old position in the left garden. Ketchum, a Western league veteran, is billed for center, while Ketchum's field position is still in doubt. Ketchum, who is wintering in New York state, has expressed his desire to play ball in the Southern league next season and Holmes is now considering two or three deals to include him in a trade.

The lack of Sunday ball is not expected to be a permanent bar to financial success. Lincoln cleaned up a good bunch of money in 1904 in the Western league without Sunday ball and the Nebraska capital has expanded so much in population and wealth since that period that Holmes is not worrying any as to the gate receipts. Meanwhile Lincoln's gates and Sunday ball are to be hooked in the five other cities in the league, the arrangement being that on these transferred games Holmes is to receive his full share of the gate and grandstand money. Eventually, Holmes may book Sunday games at a pleasure resort just beyond the city limit. The grandstand will be gradually becoming more liberal on the score of Sunday recreation; the mayor and city authorities are favorable to the idea, and Sunday ball seems not far distant.

With the certainty that the next Vanderbilt cup will be held in this country, American automobile manufacturers have begun preparations for representation in it. Notwithstanding an unpleasantness caused by the manner in selecting the American team for the last cup contest, there is reason to believe that there will be even more American entries than for the race in 1904, though for that in 1904. Among high power machines intended for the race upon which work is reported to be well advanced are two Pope Toledo, two White steamers, a Thomas Flyer and a Maxwell. The Thomas Flyer is said to be the most advanced of the group, as declared by a manager in construction. The amount of its power is kept secret, but it is believed to be much in excess of 100-horsepower. One, if not both, of the new Pope racers will be of six-cylinder type. Of the White steamers it is asserted that they will be of greater power than any other otherwise improved and the car that make entered in the last cup event. There is likely to be still another steam racer nominated if F. E. Stanley adheres to his determination to build a machine for the contest. After his success in Florida Mr. Stanley made the statement that he would construct a machine capable of a sustained speed of 100 miles an hour for the distance of the cup contest. He has proved himself capable of building the fastest motorcycles in the world for a sprint of one mile, and much interest would be taken in an effort on his part to make the fastest car in the world up to 200 miles. Another machine which is well on its way toward completion and the performance of which is awaited with interest is the 100-horsepower Maxwell upon which work was begun in the winter. This car, like the Thomas Flyer, is expected to be featured as a leading power of the race. Nominations of Franklin, Royal, Haynes, Matheson and Premier machines are believed to be assured despite the fact that cars of these makes fared badly in the last preliminary trial, either because of hasty completion or through the manner of selecting the American team. It is doubtful whether there will be a series of either Locomobile or Christie machines, while it is probable that nominations will be made of Ford and Wayne machines. At the present time it looks as if there would be at least twelve nominations for the Lincoln race, the event thus insuring a preliminary race before the cup contest. Having learned by the experience of last year that tardiness in preparation means defeat in the race, American manufacturers are likely to have their cup machines completed and well tested long before the date of the contest. The Pope, White, Thomas and Wayne well machines will be among the first of the cup cars on the road.

The American Bowling congress, which starts in Louisville, Ky., March 11, will run about ten days. Not less than \$20,000 will be needed for the bowlers to roll for. This means that between 300 and 350 teams composed of five men each, will contest, while the doubles and singles will be in proportion. Sixteen totally new alleys have been laid in the stately building, and even with this increased number the organizers are confident that the bowling season will continue longer than the ten days originally asked for by Colonel John Heager at St. Louis.

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waske tournament, the Louisville event is certain to eclipse it in that feature. Entries from points as far west as Des Moines already have been sent in. While New York City, which has not competed since the 1902 event, will send fifteen teams, Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia and other eastern cities are also well represented, while Chicago will have the banner city delegation with forty-five clubs. The latest information gleaned from all sources puts the prospective entry list at 231 clubs. Cities that will be represented in the tournament, together with the teams they will furnish, are as follows: Louisville..... 35 Chattanooga..... 25 Washington, D. C..... 40 Ohio (state)..... 25 Pittsburgh..... 15 Minneapolis..... 20 St. Louis..... 15 Chicago..... 45 Indianapolis..... 30 Peoria..... 15 Indiana (state)..... 10 New York State..... 10 Wisconsin (state)..... 5 Philadelphia..... 15 Des Moines..... 15 Pennsylvania..... 15 New York City..... 15 Omaha..... 20 Other cities with one team promised are Newark, N. J.; Memphis, Nashville, New Orleans, Atlanta, Little Rock, Mobile, Montgomery, Birmingham, St. Paul, Fla.; Savannah, San Francisco, Seattle, Toronto, Galveston, Tex. For the first time in national tournaments bowlers will be allowed to roll all three events in two days, thereby entailing a detention of but three days from business for players to have a man roll his team game at night, his doubles the following morning and his singles in the afternoon. The first balls will be thrown at 9 o'clock in the morning and the last before 11 o'clock at night. Bowling politicians are busy laying plans and it looks as though Philadelphia will be chosen as the next meeting place.

Memphis fans were commenting on the fact that Johnny McGraw did not bring his Giants to Memphis with him, but came ahead of them. "To get things ready for their reception, of course," was one of the several reasons given. McGraw is too freely with his players when off the diamond. It is in the same line with the rule governing the umpires. They are not allowed to travel with players nor associate with them in any way except on the field. The reason for this is obvious. Personal friendships between players and umpires could hardly work to the good of impartial umpiring. An umpire would be bound to play favorites, even involuntarily. McGraw treats all his men exactly alike, from his pitching marvel, Christy Mathewson, down to the newest and rawest recruit. There is no favoritism in several of McGraw's actions when off duty might have a tendency to beget obligations, real or fancied. That is why McGraw gives them no chance to exist. In the home club house McGraw has a dressing room to himself. The general on the battle field, the one on whom depends the success or failure of the team, the leader of a nation, perhaps, does not mix with his men except to issue orders. If he did he'd be of little use to an army. The most cordial relations exist between McGraw and his champions and they are proud of him. But it is a general relation and not an individual one with personal degrees.

Numerous parties of hunters left Omaha yesterday for a crack at the festive water fowl along the historic Platte. The mild winter has brought these birds north early this year and many good bags have been made by Omaha hunters who have already made trips into the state, visiting the Platte and some of the marsh counties. Some have conscientious scruples against shooting the birds in the spring when they are going north to nest and will not take their guns from the rack, while others use the argument that a duck killed in the spring or in the fall, and so shoot just as freely in the spring as in the fall. Some states have laws against spring shooting, but the laws of Nebraska are silent upon that subject. An effort has been made in several states to have uniform laws made to govern spring shooting, but this has not been accomplished.

An effort is being made by the lovers of a good horse race in Omaha to have a date on the Nebraska circuit. When the annual meeting was held at the Merchants hotel in January the directors of the association gave the Omaha men to understand that a date could be had on the circuit if the local men would perform some sort of an organization and hang up the purses. Several of the local owners have been interested themselves during the last week in several schemes for this purpose to accomplish the end. One was to organize a stock company among the horse owners and members of the Omaha Driving club, so the expense would be light on each, with the probability of the dates paying out. A latter scheme is to have backing of the Commercial club and to interest the jobbers in the meet. Nothing definite was done. Omaha has a good half-mile track, with part of a grandstand which could be fixed up at small expense. There are plenty of people in Omaha who delight to see a good horse race and the horses which will follow the Nebraska circuit should be good enough to draw large crowds in a city like Omaha. The meet would surely bring plenty of outsiders to the city, for even the smaller towns in the state which hold meets are crowded to their capacity when the meet is held.

The speed program for the Nebraska State fair is out, the dates of the meet being September 3 to 7, and the purses hung up aggregate \$10,000. The entries to the stakes races will close June 4 and the entries to the class races will close August 1. The officers of the association are: W. R. Mellor of Lincoln, secretary; N. J. Ronin of Fremont, clerk of speed, and George F. Dickman of Seward, speed clerk. It is expected this will be the most successful speed program ever pulled off at a state fair in Nebraska, and the races will be featured as a leading part of the fair. The dates for the Nebraska State association for 1906 are: Auburn, July 10-12, C. B. Swan secretary; Wymore, July 17-20, G. Huischer secretary; Kearney, July 24-27, W. V. Benson secretary; Fremont, July 31, August 3, N. J. Ronin secretary; Tekamah, August 10-13, R. Suberland secretary; Wayne, August 17-20, C. M. Craven secretary; Randolph, August 24-27, J. D. Minges secretary; Lincoln, September 3-7, W. R. Mellor secretary; Seward, September 10-13, J. E. Bennett secretary. The dates for the North Nebraska circuit are: Norfolk, August 14-17, P. M. Barrett, secretary; Neligh, August 21-24, W. W. Cole, secretary; Battle Creek, August 28-31, Thomas Morley, secretary; Creighton, September 12-15, T. J. Buckmaster, secretary; Madison, September 19-22, J. L. Rynearson, secretary; Stanton, September 26-29, Frank Kitterman, secretary. The conditions as decided upon by the association to govern the meets are: Entries to all stakes races close Monday, June 4, and in class races August 1. Entrance fee, 3 per cent, payable as follows: One per cent to accompany nomination Monday, June 4, 1906, when horse must be named. One per cent payable July 2 and 1 per cent August 1. Parties declaring out previous to second day of payment will be held only for amount paid in. An additional 5 per cent deducted from winners of any part of stakes or class races. The association reserves the right to declare of any stake not filling satisfactorily. Any horse that is declared out before the race is entitled to one money only. Old distance races to govern. Entries can be made in above stakes at time of closing of class races, August 1, by paying 5 per cent, but horses must be eligible to class

at that time. Money in harness races divided 20, 20, 15 and 15 per cent in racing races 60, 20 and 15 per cent. All harness races held three in five. Mile heats in harness races held by American Trotting association to govern, of which this association is a member. All stakes guaranteed for above amount and no more. The program has been prepared in pamphlet form by Secretary Melchior of the State Fair association and may be had by horsemen upon inquiry. The speed program for the week at Lincoln is: Monday, September 3-Trotting, 2-year-olds and under; stake, purse, \$500. Pacing, 2:25 class; purse, \$200; running, one-half mile and repeat; purse, \$100. Tuesday, September 4-Pacing, 2:30 class; stake, purse, \$100. Trotting, 2:25 class; stake, purse, \$100. Running, three-fourths mile dash; purse, \$100. Wednesday, September 5-Pacing, 2:27 class; stake, purse, \$100. Pacing, 2:14 class; stake, purse, \$100. Trotting, one-half mile and repeat; purse, \$100. Running, three-fourths mile dash; purse, \$100. Thursday, September 6-Pacing, 2:10 class; stake, purse, \$100. Trotting, 2:25 class; stake, purse, \$100. Pacing, 2:25 class; stake, purse, \$100. Running, one-half mile dash; purse, \$100. Friday, September 7-Trotting, 2:10 class; stake, purse, \$100. Pacing, 2:17 class; stake, purse, \$100. Running, one-half mile dash; purse, \$100. On the night before each race.

This notice has been added to the pamphlet by Lincoln locally, superintendent of the fair grounds at Lincoln, and will be of interest to horsemen: We have just completed a large, commodious modern speed training stable, with all the modern conveniences, well lighted and ventilated and good, comfortable quarters for attendants, and we have a number of excellent drivers and drivers' outfits here afforded for first-class results. Remember, we have one of the very best teams in the country for the United States at any and all times of the year.

The directors of the Omaha Field club have engaged Andrew Christie as golf instructor for the coming season to the great delight of his host of admirers in the club. The golf men as well as the tennis men are looking for an experienced man to look after the grounds this year. Gibson having severed his connection to go with the South Omaha Country club. Unique entertainments are being planned for the amusement of the visitors at the golf tournament and the golf men will try to distance anything in the way of entertainment ever attempted at one of these annual affairs. The members are all paying in part of the dues, and the club during the season in a prosperous condition with few of the heavy expenses which confronted the directors at the beginning of the season last spring.

Easy Money for Magic Boots White pepper is alleged to be the principal agent used in the making of the "magic boots" for which Charles M. Schwab is said to have paid \$5,000 a pair, and which warmed the feet of Bishop Potter at an expense of something like \$1,500. The investigation begun by Charles S. Andrews, counsel to the County Medical society, into the methods of Prof. Matthew H. Hilgert of 31 West Twenty-sixth street, New York, where his fifty employees manufactured "magic-mechanical physiological" footwear, promises to bring to light the names of many credulous persons who paid high prices for their "magic boots."

A believer in the virtue of a shoe sole whose "magic" was pepper worth 5 cents an ounce, was the seasoned old sporting man, John T. Brush, president of the New York base ball club of the National league. Mr. Brush bought a pair of "magic boots" from the Hilgert company. They did not restore him to the physical condition which he expected to attain and he delayed payment. Thereupon suit was entered against him to recover \$2,000 for a pair of shoes, which, shoemakers say, could have been built for \$25 if the finest material and the most expert workmanship had been employed in their manufacture. Mr. Brush has retained De Lanoy Nickoll as counsel. Mr. Brush says the shoes tickled his feet, but didn't cure his ill.

Arthur P. Black of 523 Sixth avenue was another customer of the Hilgert company. The price charged against him was \$1,000. His feet were tickled also, as were the feet of E. L. O'Connor of 133 Broadway. The shoes caused them to walk on tiptoe, but neither derived any benefit from it. "The investigation of this case," said Mr. Andrews last night, "has brought about the most astonishing revelations. Hilgert is unquestionably a competent shoemaker. He has a large establishment, with a great force of employees, and makes first class shoes, but he is not a physician. Nevertheless he professes to cure with white pepper a long list of diseases which have baffled medical science for centuries. By the wearing of the 'magic boots' he says he can cure: "Paralysis and locomotor ataxia. "Rheumatism and heart disease. "Rheumatism and gout. "Sciatica and tic douloureux. "Neuralgia and St. Vitus' dance. "Pulmonary affections. "Affections of the throat and vocal chords. "His prospectus asserts that the cure is brought about by shifting the circulation of the blood. To prove his ability to cure diseases, where braces are needed, as in weak ankles, broken arches and hip distention, he has a special room in his establishment where he shows crutches and braces which have been thrown away when his 'magic boots' were taken as the substitute."—New York World.

Knew His Purpose Corporal James Tanner was talking about a grifter. "He thinks all men are grifters," said Corporal Tanner, "because he is one himself. So does the coward think all men share his cowardice." "There is a story about a young recruit who, in his first engagement, lost heart. The ping-pong of the bullets terrified him. Spying a hole in the ground, he dug out the ranks, rushed to it and threw himself within, covering against the earth. "An officer, disgusted, ran to the terrified recruit, clasped him on the shoulder, and said: "Rejoice your company at once, sir." "The lad looked up at the officer and answered: "No, you don't. You want this hole for yourself."—Kansas City Journal.

Wolf Hunting in Nebraska (Continued from Page Four.) It is considered rare sport to hunt and really kill such a cunning wanderer of the prairie. While the hunters have been rounding in the game the women have driven the teams along the section, lines toward the west, to the fields of the hunters. When a wolf escapes through the line it is usually the girl who see him, if he is seen at all. Disposing of the Wolf. After the first excitement of the meet is worn off a bit the leaders get together to plan the next hunt. Later, one of the captains estimates a wagon, holding the wolf up as high as he can, auctioneering it off to the highest bidder. Usually it brings \$2 or \$3. The skin sells for an additional 50 cents, according to the number of holes shot through it. The bounty is \$150. After the wolf is disposed of some one announces the time and place decided upon for the next hunt. The crowd breaks up into groups and soon disperses to its late dinner.

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Gentlemen—S. S. S. is used as a family medicine in our home. I myself have taken and always found it what it is claimed to be. It thoroughly cleanses the system of impurities, increases the appetite, improves the digestion, and builds up the general health. I have given it to my children with fine results. It promptly restores the appetite and clears the skin of all eruptions. It is a very fine blood tonic and has my hearty endorsement. 124 S. 5th St., Lebanon, Pa. F. H. THOMPSON.

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