

NEBRASKA'S TWO SLUGGERS

Crawford and Stone Among Leaders of American League.

SEASON DISASTROUS FOR HITTERS

Some of the Old-Timers Are 'Way Down the List—Ty Cobb of Detroit Leader of the American.

With nearly complete returns at hand it appears that Mr. Sam Crawford of Wahoo, and Mr. George Stone of Coleridge, have upheld the fame of Nebraska in the batting of the American league. True Mr. Stone has brought no new fame to himself, or even acquired as much as he did last season, when he led the league with the remarkable average of .35, but he closes the season as one of the four best hitters, if not third and that is something that will insure him a welcome when he gets off the train at the Coleridge platform to run his grocery store for the winter.

With two or three games to figure in, the American is led by Ty Cobb, the Detroit wonder, with an average of .337; Crawford is second with .321, Clymer third with .315, and Stone fourth with .315. But those games not yet figured in ought to give Stone a much higher average, for in two of them he got five hits out of seven times at bat. He has a good chance of finishing third at last.

Of these four leaders Stone has played in the most games—149. Cobb played in 144, Crawford 139 and Clymer, who came into the league from Pittsburg, only fifty-five.

Stone failed to capture that prize held up for him if he repeated his feat of 1906 and finished first. The case of Stone at the bat is an interesting one. In 1906 he was occupying a dizzy height as the greatest of hitters, his admirers at St. Louis handed him a gold watch in token of their appreciation. The world knows the story and pre-figures that gold watch and Stone closed the season at .298. In 1906 Stone led all with an average of .298. When time came for renewing his contract he balked at the price and finally got a raise in salary at the league at the opening of the season, but who could lead it with such trophies hanging over his head?

Seriously, Stone has done well. He still is one of the world's greatest hitters and his uphill fight this season is one of the wonders of the game. Being the best batter he was spotted by every pitcher in the league at the opening of the season, and he was required to face the maximum powers of all the great American league slappers. For a long time it looked as if he would lose the fight; at home he was hooted, abroad he was jeered. But Stone kept a cool head and determined heart and from the start he was in the early part of June, he gradually arose until he reached the coveted .300 mark over a couple of months ago.

Crawford took all the way. Sam Crawford has been batting consistently all year and when he comes home to Omaha and Wahoo he will be made to realize it more than ever. He is looked upon as one of the factors that may unmake Chicago fame in the present year's series.

The season has been most disastrous to the whole great batter. The great Lajoie barely gets in under the wire, reaching the .300 mark by the skin of his teeth, while such old time sluggers as Keeler, Chase, McWhorter, Isbell and Hahn are away down the line; Keeler, who made an average of .433 for fourteen years, is below .300. It must mean that pitchers have worked harder, the inside game has been played more generally and fielding has been better. In 1906 the league had thirteen .300 hitters; today it has eight.

Here are the averages, which do not count in the last two or three games played:

Table with columns: Name, Team, Average. Includes players like D. Jones, Detroit (.218), F. Flack, Phila. (.215), Moriarty, N. Y. (.213), etc.



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COLE GETS AN ASSISTANT

Herbert M. Peck to Help Coach the Cornhuskers.

WORKED WITH CHIEF BEFORE

Saturday's Game Indicates Problem of Ends May Be Solved, but Cole Not Satisfied with the Speed Shows.

LINCOLN, Oct. 8.—(Special.)—The university athletic board, at a special meeting this morning, elected an assistant coach to take the place of Manager Eager, who has been helping Coach Cole since the beginning of the season in addition to carrying his duties as manager. The new coach is Herbert M. Peck, a graduate of Lawrence college, Wisconsin, and assistant to Coach Cole at the University of Virginia last year. He will arrive in Lincoln next Sunday to assume his new work.

The selection of Mr. Peck solves a problem which has been worrying Coach Cole for several weeks. Manager Eager, though well acquainted with the men and a veteran at the game, has been unable to give such assistance as the head coach should have, on account of his other work. The athletic board had hoped to secure the services of Ted Stuart, who was assistant coach last fall, but word was received from Stuart that his recent illness and other affairs would prevent his return. Hutchinson, the man who was mentioned for the place early in the season, could not be secured at the time he was wanted, and negotiations with him were dropped just at the time when it seemed probable that he would be asked to take the job.

An effort was made to get Peck early in September, but he refused to enter into any contract for the season. He is at present studying law at the University of Virginia, expecting to take his degree at the conclusion of the year. His engagement this morning was only agreed to on the provision that he might return to Charlottesville early in November. Although the Nebraska board would have preferred to have him stay till the season was finished, it agreed to this as the best thing that could be done under the circumstances.

The selection of Peck is considered by many a particularly happy one. His training at Lawrence was secured under "Dean" Koehler, the former Nebraska and Chicago star. The year following his graduation he coached a team in Missouri, going from there to Virginia, where he helped Cole turn out the team that attracted the attention of the Nebraska authorities to their present coach. While he was in the game he played at end—a circumstance which is expected to make him especially valuable to the Cornhuskers on account of the puzzle that still exists as to the wing positions.

Head Problem May Be Solved.

From the showing of Johnson and Beltzer Saturday, however, some relief is being felt in the Cornhusker camp over the ends. Johnson took up Craig's job at left end with only a day's practice, but held it down to the satisfaction of the rosters, not a gain being made around by the north-southers. Beltzer, with longer training at his end, was equally successful in forestalling plays directed at him. As a result of their showing, both Johnson and Beltzer have been sent to the training table, which is taken to indicate that they will be kept in the positions they held Saturday for a time at least, probably till after the Minnesota game, and to the end of the season if they continue to show the desired development.

Coach Cole is reticent about commending the men on their work Saturday, insisting that the game was no real test of foot ball ability. Although by his own orders the Cornhuskers were not allowed to undertake any fancy work, he declared today that their work was by no means up to the speed he hoped for, while he insists that the game showed several weak places in the line that had not been indicated before. "Wait till they go against the real thing," he said this afternoon. "I don't think you can take the name of Minnesota as a reason for particular rejoicing. I was by no means satisfied."

Practice this afternoon was secret, in accordance with the edict sent out by Cole last Saturday. The men worked again on the campus, the gates being locked to keep

COLLINS GIVING SATISFACTION

Coach at Iowa State Not So Scientific as Chalmers.

IOWA CITY, Ia., Oct. 8.—(Special.)—Maurice Keen, ex-quarterback on the university of Iowa foot ball team and one of the most brilliant players of the last five years, has made a comparison of the coaching methods employed by John Chalmers and his successor, Roy Catlin. In Keen's opinion the work of the two men is entirely different. After showing the Chalmers was an eastern while Catlin was a western player, he writes as follows:

Chalmers played the eastern style of foot ball, the foot ball of mass formations, where each man was instructed individually by a smart array of alumni coaches. His knowledge was therefore an all-around, thorough and technical knowledge. Catlin, a much more natural player, played the western style of foot ball, which Chalmers, was coached for four years by Stagg, perhaps as good a coach as there is, and in perhaps a trifle less technical than Chalmers.

Continuing, he declares that while Chalmers devoted a large part of his time to teaching his men the fine points of individual play, Catlin spends less time in individual coaching with each man. He concludes that Catlin is well received at the State university.

The foot ball squad is having trouble of its own just now. The scrimmage work is lasting nearly two hours every night, and is usually followed by two hours of signal practice after supper. This strenuous life is telling on the members of the squad, who are rushing into shape for the season's work. An effort has been made to arrange an eating club where the members of the foot ball team could board together, but thus far the effort has not been successful. The plan was to have a building where the members of the team would be physically handicapped by the fact that they would not get their meals at the student clubs. For that reason the men went to one of the local hotels for the arrangement of the season. Under the arrangement the university has nothing to do with the club, each member paying his own expenses. The plan was to have the building where the members of the team would be physically handicapped by the fact that they would not get their meals at the student clubs. For that reason the men went to one of the local hotels for the arrangement of the season. Under the arrangement the university has nothing to do with the club, each member paying his own expenses. The plan was to have the building where the members of the team would be physically handicapped by the fact that they would not get their meals at the student clubs. For that reason the men went to one of the local hotels for the arrangement of the season. Under the arrangement the university has nothing to do with the club, each member paying his own expenses.

Races Declared Off.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Oct. 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Owing to lack of patronage the races were called off today, no events being run out. As a final, Emil Wolbach of this city and Leroy Frye of Giltner had a three-horse race, each driving a four-cylinder, fifteen-horsepower machine. It was a close run, despite the fact that Wolbach has trouble with the carburettor. Frye won in 4:30.

Sporting Gossip.

In Wichita they actually take that affair seriously. Will the Chicago Nationals break the hoodoo, which has always hung over them and win a pennant.

Sam Crawford should have enough money to keep his auto in gasoline in Omaha this winter after the present series is over. Down at Pa's Smoke house they began to sing "I don't care if You Never Come Home, when the last reports from Wichita came in."

Cy Young pulled the first game through in the Boston city championship contest. There are those who still say that Cy is king of them all.

Detroit has but one really star pitcher, whereas the Cubs have four of the leaders in that league. Donovan cannot pitch all the games, but still the others might win a game or two.

If Manager Chance can win this world's series he will be the first Chicago National League club manager who has yet been able to achieve that distinction. Both he and Anson have failed.

The Abamo foot ball team would like to hear from any team in or out of Omaha which averages about 120 points on Sunday games. Address Manager Roy Katis, 206 North Thirty-sixth street.

Gay Thomas, Wiley Johnston and Rhody Kennedy returned Monday from Lakeside, where they had a most successful three days' shoot at both ducks and prairie chicken, bringing back the limit.

Ty Cobb, this wonder of a batter, is only 21 years of age. Cobb has one drawback—he is hard to manage. At the first of the season Detroit would like to have got rid of him on that account. But times have changed.

Charles Metz has left for his hunting lodge at Cody to take a crack at the ducks which are now starting to wing their way into the lake. He will keep his camp open now until the most severe weather drives the hunters away and he says he is making plans to run up for a few days' shooting.

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Keene's Winnings Are Large.

NEW YORK, Oct. 8.—The latest victory of James R. Keene's 3-year-old, Colin, in the matron's stakes Belmont park, brings the total earnings of Mr. Keene's horses this year up to \$37,000, nearly \$100,000 in excess of the American record for a single stable in one year, and only a few hundred dollars behind the world's record of \$37,500, held by the stable of the duke of Portland. As there are nearly six weeks of the New York season for racing left, the Keene stable is practically certain to gain the world's winning record this year.

ESTIMATE OF THE CORN CROP

New York Journal of Commerce Places it at Two and a Half Billion Bushels.

NEW YORK, Oct. 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Based on 1,100 special reports bearing an average date of September 30 the Journal of Commerce will tomorrow publish its October corn crop report, which will give the indicated yield of corn from the harvest of 1907 at not less than 2,500,000,000 bushels. The average condition of the fifteen principal production states covered by this report is 78.5 per cent, against 80.6 per cent last month and 90 per cent a year ago. In 1907 the September condition was 69 per cent and the ten-year average for the month is 75.4 per cent.

A drop of two points in condition during the month is indicated by these returns. All states report a decline in condition except Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky, the first named state showing an improvement of two points to 78. Of the important corn producing states Missouri shows the large decline of 4.3 points to 81.6 and Kansas 6.0 points to 75.2. The northern corn states suffered somewhat from frost, especially the late planted in the east, but frosts in the latter part of September did slight damage elsewhere, and the remainder of the corn belt will be entirely free of damages from frost by October 15, thus removing all further anxiety concerning the crop. Drouth was often responsible for deterioration where frost damage was absent.

Corn is generally reported of good quality, though where touched by frost is soft as usual and will be used for home consumption.

The form for estimating the yield on the above condition figures is that adopted by the New York Produce exchange. Illinois decreased 0.6 to 82.0; Iowa, 1.9 to 74; Nebraska, 0.7 to 78.7; Texas, 1.6 to 75.3; Indiana, 1.7 to 88.4; Indian Territory, 1.9 to 75; Oklahoma, 2.3 to 65.5; South Dakota, 5.8 to 65.5; Minnesota, 1.7 to 73.0; Michigan, 4.4 to 72.4; Pennsylvania, 4.4 to 71.0; Kentucky, 0.0.

MORSEL FOR DIVORCE COLONY

Wife of Prominent Connecticut Politician Gets Relief from Sioux Falls Court.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Oct. 8.—(Special Telegram.)—A topic of gossip today in the local divorce colony was the granting of a divorce to Mrs. Helen W. Smith Cummings from Homer S. Cummings, sixth mayor of Stamford, Conn., and at present a member of the democratic national committee. The divorce, which is absolute, was granted the plaintiff on the ground of non-support, the plaintiff testifying personally and being corroborated by Archibald G. Henderson and James D. Smith of the banking house of James D. Smith & Co., 71 Broadway, New York.

Owing to the social prominence and wealth of the plaintiff's family, all details and knowledge of the divorce action were kept secret until the judgment was pronounced and filed of record. The plaintiff is the only daughter of Commodore James D. Smith, a New York banker.

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