THE OMAILA SUNDAY BER.

OMAHA, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1910

JUDGMENTS

than passing gossip to the rumor of a players' strike in the National league as a reply to the magnates' action in raising the game schedule rom 154 to 168, without any organized adnto consideration. A magnate, in discussis ample room for questioning if the ma-jority of players would have signed the time, when the status of base ball is none their clients. too settled at best, when the American asociation in only awaiting the opportunity of the expiration of its contract to invade major league territory and other elements are disturbed. If the players should take it into their heads that their only recourse tay in a strike we might have some lively doings. But the conservative opinion will be against the idea of the strike. The interests at stake are too great. The magnates, should they find themse'ves confronted by such an alternative, would dis-

The owners of the Chicago Cubs have just bought the Philadelphia National's What for? Messrs. Murphy and Fogel will make themselves ridiculous if they persist in denying the fact that the ownership of the two teams is identical. The base ball public will not be as readily reconciled to this entering wedge syndicate base ball as it has been ready to believe the fact of its existence. No srecious pleading will be sufficient to convince people who support the game that the game can be preserved in its original form as a clean sport under the system which Messrs. Murphy et al. have thus instituted. It is one of the worst misfortunes that could befall base ball, this very Philadelphia deal. Already one of the effects-and by no means of the most vicious character-is suggesting itself in the proposed exchange of Outfielder Magee for ome of the Cubs' outcasts. Making one team strong at the expense of another will, if carried far enough, prove disin any form. The fundamental principle of any game and particularly base ball layers. In the twinkling of an eye the big seemed to be lame, whereupon his trainer lies in the spirit of honest rivalry and even operators were offering 200 bookmakers in offered to sell him to anybody for \$1,000. justice. Base ball will go the route of the moment it lets down its bars to hip- price was rubbed to 4 to 5. At this price he was announced as a starter in the afpodroming.

In the matter of spiking Joe Tinkerwho is qualified to speak-lays the burden of the blame on the baseman. He insists that basemen should know their base runners and give them all the right-of-way to which they are entitled. He admits Ty Cobb, who has spiked many men, slides bard and insists that for this reason he should be given the path. But Joe says Frank Chance slides harder than any other man in the business and yet never spikes anybody because all the players know him and clear the track when they see him coming. Too Bad Bill Dahlen Tinker gives the paim for being the best slider in the Tinker probably is talking sense and is simply voicing the view of the magpates who after scanning the situation decided they could not abandon the spikes.

The suggestion that the magnates save the good things they are saying of President-elect Lynch until along in the seaso is a wise one. There is no sort of doubt Tom Lynch's ability to discharge the ably and wisely, but there is much doubt now showering praises on the new sident will be as zealous to support him estly during the playing season.

Kid Elberfie'd is out with a solemn declaration that he is going to Washington with the determination of helping McAleer with a winning team. Morover the Tabasco Kid expresses gratification that Stallings sold him to the Senators. For agent. him, he says, playing with a tailender has no terrors. But if they get many like the Kid and keep them doing their best they won't be tailenders long.

With the bright outlook for the Western league this year, the next thing to be but Ryan's bookmaker didn't lose a dollar. renting the track to the club at a fixed Many prominent thesplans place themsought is a strong staff of umpires. We will not be able to get back Mullin, the young man who has been picked up by the National, nor can we hope to improve much on him. We still have Handsome Jack Haskell and for one Jack will do, but the chances are we shall need at least three or four more as good.

Pa has about decided to pass up Dany Dreamer Durbin, whom he could have got for this year. Your father is right in casting about for husky pitchers who can go the nine-inning route without taking a half-hitch in their next-week's vitality. With such a staff last season Omaha would have cinched the flag.

Wa'ter Camp is a wise man, but his wisdom has about run the gauntlet in trying to convince people that foot ball needs no reforming. People know better, though they may be the crudest kind of laymen as compared with the saplent Mr.

St. Joe will be in the difficult role the prodigal son on trial-getting the fatted calf, if he makes good? It's not up to father so much as it is to the bad company that lured the erring one away.

Three prominent leagues will open the spason of 1910 with new presidents-the National with Lynch, American association with Chivington and the Three-Eye with

If St. Joe can only dig up old Pop Eyler maybe it will be sure of success Now for Pa's concrete stands.

Florida Frowns on the Bookmakers' Old Methods.

PLUNGER AND BOOKIES TOGETHER

It Became an Evil on New York Trucks Before the Agnew-Hart Law Went Into Ef-

from 154 to 185, without a such a sting at Jacksonville, have been notified hing certainly would not be unnatural. A nan, of course, gets paid, ordinarily, acpording to the work he does; some by the ging" prices, which has been common at quality and most by the quantity. But at the race tracks in the United States and ill events the quantitative factor enters Canada, is strictly prohibited and that the persons violating the new order will mg this rumor, takes refuge behind the be ruled off. This reform, if backed by argument that a great many of the players sincere motive, is expected to do racing are not in a position to strike, for, he in Florida a lot of good. In future, thereare not in a position to saverts, they are signed up for next year fore, the Jacksonville layers will be comand in many cases for a year or two begend. He overlooks the point, however, I shot, \$50 on a 5 to 1 shot, and \$20 on a that they algred before the proposition of horse quoted at 10 to 1. In other words 58 games was brought up. And it is open the bookmakers cannot refuse to accept to argument whether, if they refused to wagers at the odds they have chalked on play under these contracts in 1910, they their slates. If they do not want a play

The "plugging" of prices became a their money away from the track. "You same contracts had they known or been great evil in the former betting rings see he was just a bit lame after a worksame contracts had they and as schedule of 168 games was on the New York tracks before the past out yesterday and I am just starting him to be adopted. The lengthened schedule sage of the Angew-Hart measure. Lead- as an experiment. If so and so is as means many more double-headers and, as ing bookmakers, who knew more than good as they say he is, he will beat my it was last year, the various clubs enothers about the respective merits of the horse easily. In fact, I don't see how I gaged in some twenty of these perform- horses in each race established the mar- can win under the circumstances. If you ances, which, to say the least, are de- ket. They wrote down the odds in ac- are going to lay my horse you might put players. The cordance with their own calculations and a bet on the other one for me! magnates have adopted the lengthened more than 300 layers copied them. Enschedule, why? For the simple purpose joying such an advantage, it was not at of increasing their incomes. Why not, all strange that the bookmakers became to himself, and when the market opened then, be willing to share their enlarged unscrupulous and proceeded to manipulate on the race next day the stake winner profits with their men? A players' strike the prices for the benefit of themselves was quoted at 7 to 5 and the so and so would certainly be revolutionary at this and some of the big bettors, who were horse was at 2 to 1. The plunger quickly

If a plunger had a good thing and wanted these bookmakers and handed him a com- had followed his example. When this The bookmaker making the prices that maker plugged the price against the stake were promptly copied by his business rivals. Winner and cried out: seldom failed to quote a higher price against his client's horse than was war- the favorite! All you want of it!" ranted and then, as the quotation appeared on 200 slates, his agents hurried about the the bookmaker never turned a hair. He ring getting the commission down in small took in nearly \$5,000 on the stake winner, cover some middle ground between them lumps. Meanwhile this bookmaker refused who was said to have been lame two days

> In many instances it developed that the plunger's information, placed a solid wager time to see the stake winner get home avoided him altogether. His methods were also cleaned up handsomely in the west. well illustrated the day James R. Keene's Sysonby made his first appearance as a trimmed several years ago in a similar two-year-old. The great Melton colt had manner, though hard luck had a great generally underestimated by the profes- ested in a prominent stable which owned sional clockers. It was known that he was a famous sprinter. The horse was ena high class youngster, but his real worth tered in a selling event one day and the was a well kept secret.

ring's price maker, waiting for the first was taken out early in the morning for a chalk marks. The crafty layer, backed by short exercise gallop in the presence of a several big betters, put up "even money" regiment of clockers and trainers. His legs It cannot full to work mischief against the Keene colt, and the quotation were encased in tightly wound bandages was carried at top speed to the other and after a breeze down the stretch he "old and honorable game of wrestling" the willing to accept on Sysonby, until the body wanted to take a chance, and when there was another heavy play, until 3 to 5 ternoon the rumor was rife that he was was offered on all sides.

The original price maker, however, did not weaken on his "even money" proposition for the excellent reason that he refused every big wager that came his way, not a regular at the track came along, and seeing "even money" on this chalker's sinte said:

"I'l bet you fifty on Sysonby." "Don't want it!" growled the ring's price maker. "Go away from here! You're blocking the crowd!"

"But you've got even money on your slate!" persisted the western man, "If you don't want my bet why don't you rub

"Stop annoying me or I'll have you ejected!" yelled the bookmaker, whereupon a fight seemed imminent. Publicity caused a cessation of these methods for a time, but the bookmaker soon resumed on

Baldy Ryan put over a killing one day at Jamaica with a horse named Cary. duties of president of the National league He took this same pricemaker into his confidence and told him to play the odds. that certain magnates will rest contented When the market opened the layer put 50 if he adheres rigidly to this simple policy. to 1 on his state and these odds appeared Thipgs in the old organization can be re- all over the ring. Ryan had twenty men stored to normal condition if the men who on hand to het small sums on Cary, so that the chalkers might not become suspicious, but one of these agents, who was the plans now under way do not mis- league cities last season were twice as

> maker. "I'll bet you fifty on Cary!" he shouted, goting 50 to 1 on the slate. "Don't want it!" snapped the Ryanized bookmaker with a glare.

"Take twenty-five?" asked the plunger's "Not a nickel!" was the reply.

"We'l, rub out the price then! You're

WINNERS OF PROMINENT STAKES DURING 1909.

Burns handleap	King	Jame
California Derby	Migh	Privat
California Oaks	Bose	Onee
Thernton stakes		. Madu
Mentucky Derby	Wint	ereree
Metropolitan		
Belmont stakes		
Mentucky Oaks		Tri come
Wational stallion	*********	Street
Latonia Derby		Larry hal
Brooklyn handleap		THIS OWL
Great American		d mana
Orent American	**********	WLBOAR!
Brooklyn Derby		
Suburban	A	Weaper
Great Trial Stakes.		
Jookey Club stakes.		
Realization		
Canadian Derby	********	Flut
Haratoga cap		
Futurity	*********	Swee
Puturity		

the American turf was severely scorched at a local track several years ago by 'hunching' the price against a supposed "dead one." Whether he got the double cross or not will never be known. A cer tain stake winner was entered in a seiling race and the night before the trainer met the plunger at Sheepshead Bay.

your horse win tomorrow?" queried the plunger, who was booking at

the time. would be violating any agreement. There on a certain horse, no price must be who was mixed up with several well "That I can't say!" replied the trainer, known operators, who usually wagered

> Believing he had an ace in the hole, the boosted the price against the latter, a the same time refusing to take a bet to secure a fat price, at the same time on him, and sent out his runners to get concealing his play, he went to one of down \$6,000 with the other layers, who mission to be placed on a certain horses money had been placed the plunging book-"Come on, boys! Here's 9 to 5 against

> The wise money came in a flood, but to accept any wagers on the horse him- before, and when the horses went to the post he stood to lose \$5,000 on the so and so horse and nearly \$15,000 on the favorite. bookmaker, anxious to profit by the He got up into the grand stand just in at top price for himself first and then got by a nose, with the other horse in the his client's money down at the best odds place, both jockeys whipping all the way obtainable. One of the biggest lavers on down the homestretch. A day later he the metropolitan tracks worked this game learned that the trainer's gambling friends so incessantly that in due time the other had won nearly \$50,000 from two extensive chalkers became wary of his prices and pool room operators in this city and had

> Another celebrated bookmaker was seen kept so well under cover that he was deal to do with his losses. He was interstable connections, knowing that the price The debut of Sysonby took place at would be small, hatched a trick that would Brig. on Beach. A mob surrounded the have been fine if successful. The horse he main ring all the money they were As the horse was a patched up cripple no on the verge of a breakdown.

This was where the wise bookmaker plunger came in. The moment the ring displayed 7 to 5 against the horse he displayed 7 to 5 against the horse he BIND BALL PLAYERS FOR YEAR "hunched" or "plugged" the price to 11 to BIND BALL PLAYERS FOR YEAR though he kept the quotation on his slate 5, and being in touch with the secrets of and held it up where all could see it. this particular stable it was an accepted Finally a western business man who was fact that he knew the horse was lame. Up went the odds all over the ring then and the bookmaker's agents got busy everywhere. They placed nearly \$12,000 for him before the other layers got into the ownership of the coin, whereupon there

> was a panic. The race started and the sprinter sailed out in front. He was leading by several lengths when he reached the head of the stretch, but in the next dozen yards he hung in his stride, stopped as if shot and hobbled down to the judges' stand on three legs. His lameness was the real thing.

> PLAN HOME TALENT SPEEDWAY

Track of Their Own.

rattled, sailed up to the original price carry. The site is within easy reaching much as in 1903, the first year that the player and did not propose to become one. available by both steam and surface railgether under the peace agreement. And
roads. The argument in favor of a speedis was a big game six years ago. in a rage. Cary, it may be recalled, was their investment, either by conducting the The concerns that pay them fancy salar paying out nearly \$100,000 on his success, with the club hanging up the trophy, or by cheapens the game and the players. One of the biggest plungers known on price for these events.

Auto Records Made During Past Year.

Dyvou May.
Distance
Boad Bacing.
Event. Distance, Miles. Driver: Car. Av. mile hour. Vanderblit cup. 278.08. Grant. Alco Six 62.50 Wheatley Hills. 199.60. Harroun. Marmon 55.70 Massapequa cup. 126.40. Matson. Chalmers-Detroit 54.50 Lowell trophy. 118.00. Robertson. Simplex 54.20 Cobe cup. 26.60. Chovrolet. Bulck. 0.90 Indiana trophy. 232.70. Matson. Chalmers-Detroit 51.40 Fairmount Park cup. 20.60. Robertson. Simplex 55.40 Riverhead. Class 1. 27.50. De Paima. Fiat. 62.40 Riverhead. Class 4. 113.76. Chevrolet. Bulck. 0.90 Porrola. Class 3. 254.16. Fleming. Pope-Hartford. 61.72 Los Angeles-Phoenix. 450.00. J. & E. Nikrent. Bulck. 24.90
Annual Tour of American Automobile Association. Trophy. Route. Dis. miles. Car. Owner. Gildden Detroit-Denver-Kansas City 2:58:8 Pierce W. Winchester Hower Detroit-Denver-Kansas City 2:68:8 Pierce Charles Clifton
Drivers. Place. Car. Dis., miles Mulford and Patschke

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Game Has Grown to Be a Sport for of patronage. A row followed and a player All the Year Around.

Receipts of the Big Leagues Have Doubled During the Last Six Years, According to Secretaries' Reports.

Chicago Motorists Want to Have a twelve. During the off-season the traffic CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—Directors of the Cht- ests involved are vastly greater than ten cago Automobile club, in considering a years ago. That is demonstrated by Seccourse for the Cobe cup and Indiana trophy retary's Reydier's financial report at the to capture both the 18.1 and 18.2 balkline events of 1910, will give the preference to last annual meeting, when figures proved and the three-cushion championship as sion. The empli a speedway backed by "home talent" if that the gate receipts in the eight National well, caused De Oro's outburst, said in coming season. distance of Chicago, with transportation National and American leagues worked to-

selves under contract to managers and draw salary whether they work or not The twelve month's ball contract is bound to come. It will simply be bar to curb players during the winter months. Players will be allowed to go anywhere and to put in the off seasons as they see fit just so they do not play any base ball. Salaries will be arranged so that an athlete can draw his annual stipend in twelve monthly payments or get it all in six

Minor league players do not figure in this scheme for the lessor lights are not considered valuable erough to be hedged with such restrictions. But the day is not far oif, when roving bands of major leaguers will be denied the privilege of collecting shekels from the yokels, who nowadays always roar about the lack of class in such exhibitions.

The risk of injury in exhibition games is another thing that is causing club owners to discuss the twelve months contract seriously. In California recently Catcher Bliss broke his right ankle sliding to base and will hardly be able to play all next season. Other players, who have failed to take a rest between seasons and who dubbed along in Cuba or Japan have suffered from their excess of industry.

American ball players, and the Yankees are just as cordially disliked by the Cubana The Indianapolis team went to Cuba in October and gathered the shekels. A team lowed them. This team was chased out of Cuba a week before completing its schedule. Last month a Chicago promoter

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had skimmed off all the cream. Although this team was a classy one, it played only two games and then quit because of lack

on the ineligible list.

same grounds.

year's practice."

the laland. He found that his predecessors

was arrested as the team prepared to

return to the states. Cuba will soon be

Oe Oro Tries to Show that He Means

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.-Alfredo De Oro

champion of the world at three cushion

billiards, issued a sweeping challenge the

CONTRACTS FOR TWELVE MONTHS

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.-Base ball as a business and as a sport has attained such importance that it can no longer be called a summer pastime. The game is played making light of De Oro's supremacy. in the United States ten months out of in players is most brisk and the inter-

way backed by members, is that these One of the things that serves to demonof the two club classics, are willing to is the recent talk of placing players under furnish the capital for installing the two- contracts that will bind them for a year, mile track and the grandstands without instead of six or seven months, as is now any liability attaching to the club. They the case. Star ball players are now replker!" said the agent as he walked away will take a chance of securing interest on garded as prominent theatrical headliners. hacked down to 10 to 1 and won, the ring event themselves, under a club sanction, ies, oppose the winter ball burlesque, which

Cuba is rapidly growing in disfavor with emposed principally of Detroit players folook a good team of National leaguers to

Tom Lynch Will Try to Change Umpire Rules

SWEEPING BILLIARD DEFY OUT New President Will Ask that Matter of Umpires Be Carefully Looked After.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 .- Some very important base ball legislation dealing with the Lynch has decided that the umpire end "I will play Hoppe, Slosson, Sutton, Cline, Demarest, Cutier or Morningstar at going to do the overhauling. Heretofore out even after the season opened. three-cushions for \$2,000 a side, under any attention has centered on the doings of conditions and at any number of points the players. The judges of play have re- Uncle Nick telling him that his salary ceived little consideration, no one deeming they may suggest," was De Oro's challenge. Willie Hoppe, whose published intent them and their works important enough to thing to Emsle or me. Here's where take up the time of the magnates in ses- Lynch's character came to the surface. and the three-cushion championship as sion. The empire is to be the big thing the Instead of putting the letter under him

Lynch's idea is to find out just where reply that he was not a three-cushion the game can be improved from an um- from President Young and before the sea-Morningstar also declined the issue on the pire's standpoint, and then ask the magnates to enact base ball laws governing one or more suggestions on reforms that "The games are almost as distinctly different as balk-line billiards and pool," he will make. In this manner Lynch hopes enthusiasts, interested in the perpetuity strate the development of the great sport said Hoppe. "I appreciate De Oro's mas- to lessen the protests of umpires' rulings, tery of the game. It is unlikely that I which were so common last season. With could make a good match with him after a the reforms that Lynch has in mind in effect, the umpire will know just where he

stands and how far he can go. It will be a case of the umpires running the game, and not the magnates.

Tim Hurst is naturally pleased at the election of Tom Lynch as National league president. "All they need now," says Tim, "is to elect another umpire as vice president of the league."

Tim and Lynch worked together for years and they ought to know each other well. Tim says Lynch will have all the magnates calling him Mr. Lynch in short order, and he'll be president with a capital P. Tim tells a story of Lynch that shows the honesty of the man.

"Years ago," says Hurst, "Lynch, Bob Emslie and I combined to strike for more money. Uncle Nick Young, then boss of other day. The defi was directed at the question of umpires will be put through at the National league, turned down all our entire outfit of balkline professionals, some the next session of the National league requests. He would hand out the arguof whom have been quoted recently as moguls in February. President Tom ment that he couldn't raise our salaries because this club had lost money, and so of the game needs overhauling, and he's had that one. Well, we threatened to hold

"One day Lynch received a letter from would be raised \$150, but not to say anybelt he promptly mailed it to me. In the course of a few days I got a similar letter

son opened we all got out advance." "Will Lynch be a real president?" Tim asked his own question. "Well, I hate to think of anybody going to him and looking for a shade the best of lt?"

The Bee for all the sporting news.

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