

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE. JUDGMENTS

PEED is one of the first things necessary in base ball. Its importance cannot be overestimated. The man without speed must have a lot of other good qualities to make up the deficiency and keep him in the game. But speed alone won't do. It must be properly governed. It must be trained just as any other element of strength. Unless it is directed with a keen intelligence it amounts to little. We often see a minor leaguer so fast we conclude that he would get the majors after the minute he got into them; then perhaps he gets no chance and we wonder why the blaze is so slow in starting. The trouble is that speed which he showed in the minors has yet to be filed down to a fine point to make it most valuable. Jimmy Austin, fresh from the Western league, where he was the star of stars, was at once classed with Cobb, so far as simple speed went, but Jimmy lacked the control of his speed, which a few years of careful education had given to Cobb. When by a season or so more Austin gets that, then he will get full use of his speed. Comiskey dropped a remark once on old Dick Fadden which well illustrated the timeliness of this point. He was sitting on the bench watching the game. Dick came to bat. He poked a Texas leaguer over the first baseman's head and taking a long lead, stole second and advanced to third on an infield out. He edged his way well down the third base line toward home and before the pitcher could realize what was going on, old Dick mounded up to the plate with a run. "I don't know how he does it," said Comiskey, laughing. "He is one of the slowest runners in the game, he can't hit a lick, has a weak arm and is only fair as a fielder and yet Dick Fadden is one of the greatest ball players of his day." But Comiskey might have added that Dick Fadden was also one of the best trained; whatever element he possessed was brought up to its maximum degree of usefulness by arduous control and he made his lack of speed count for much more than many youngsters are able to do with their marvelous speed.

Jackie Welmer's unconditional release by the New York Nationals serves to emphasize the futility of being a grouch. This man Welmer, when a pitcher for the old Kansas City team in the Western league, shared honors with Minor Brown, then of Omaha, for the premiership of this circuit and then he went into National league company, doing grand work, when he tried for Chicago and Cincinnati, but he could not get over a natural grouch that always possessed him. He was shifted from club to club and finally landed in New York, for which team he never rendered any worthy service. Welmer and it is to be hoped one of the best major league pitchers of his day, but his ugly temper and obstreperous conduct made him an impossible proposition. He never knew enough, wise as thought himself, to understand that he was amenable to the same rules and regulations that directed the conduct of other ball players. The rule is better off without such men and it is to the credit of base ball that it has few such incorrigibles today.

The St. Louis Browns, as at present constituted, are simply not to be classed in major league base ball. They are so evenly balanced out in the running that it is difficult to imagine them winning any games at all. Old-time leaders, like Stone, at the bat, have fallen asleep and even Rhody Wallace, one time the premier shortstop of the business, is no longer at his cunning and has also quit hitting much. It seems as if old time has come with the Browns, as it did with the White Sox, for a complete overhauling.

With the team that Omaha has this year there is no reason why the local fans should not give the best patronage they have ever given. It is a team as evenly balanced as the city ever had, and it does not go to the top it will be fighting for it every minute. There is not a weak spot in the makeup. The fact also that the other clubs of the league are strengthened is additional reason why the attendance should be above the average.

Comiskey has just ground to hope, we believe, for much success from his team this year, but what it may accomplish next season is more difficult to predict. If it hangs together the new material may develop into a formidable club. With the fighting spirit and sage direction of the Old Roman and Hugh Duffy to guide and mold it, it has great advantage over all other new organizations, and the Sox are essentially new this year.

Funny! Some young man in Lincoln writes to the Sporting News that a new attendance record has been established in the Western league and then cites the statement that 6,000 fans turned out to see a game in Lincoln. That number has never been done in St. Paul, nor is it a record in St. Paul. There is a record in St. Paul of 7,000, and a crowd of 11,000 saw at least one game on the Omaha grounds. But it is hot air that warms their coxles.

Denver has the best team it has had for many years. Some who discriminating have been done in stirring out men and getting such an aggregation at the last. The team today has a gringer and spirit that is essential to success, but which no Denver team shown. We are glad as good a town as Denver has as good a team as this.

Jeffries and Johnson would have to put up the greatest fight on record to match the advertising that has been done. They can scarcely hope to equal the record of their press agents. Perhaps Joe Chynowki is right after all in treating prize fighting from the standpoint of an after-dinner affair. It seems more eloquent than piousness just now.

Ball players have always been superstitious. Many of the present-day stars have attributed a lack of effectiveness to the presence of the comet, and now that the auriferous sky tramp has disappeared perhaps they shall have more regularity in the trophies of the big game. At any rate, if it do not they will have to look for other excuses.

De Roller, the biggest joke wrestler ever dug up, manages to get himself pinned nearly every time he finds himself up against a match, but he fails to escape the contest when he pulls off a dislocated shoulder or something of the sort. His recent pull with Zhyzsko was nothing but a farce, of course.

This Nebraska State league is also going some. With as good teams as it has, the fans should not forget to do their duty, and probably will not, for this state is on fire with baseball enthusiasm.

If Jack Johnson could fight like he can talk he would sure be a terror.

ROURKE'S HITTING BETTER

Team Averages Show They Are Playing Better Ball.

SHOTGUN BEST BASE STEALER

Graham Has Been to Bat but Once and That Time Made a Safe Hit

George Graham has been to bat once in the Western League and at that time he made a safe hit, so his batting average is 1.000, the same as Glenn, the Denver pitcher. Including Graham and Patton, Omaha at present has five men hitting above the 500 mark, the other three being McCaffery, Gending and Shotton. The crack left fielder has an average of .522, while Gending barely stays in with .382. Shotton is the only Rourke to get favorable mention in the base stealing department, he having purloined six. Welch and Fox are mentioned in the sacrifice hit department, the former with eight and Fox with seven.

Table with columns AB, R, H, AV. Lists player names and statistics for various teams like Omaha, Denver, Lincoln, etc.

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Peru's Base Ball Team

Large table listing player names, positions, and statistics for Peru's Base Ball Team, including Dalton, Des Moines, Gotch, Nelson, etc.

Team Work. Omaha Bases-Denver, 65; Des Moines, 37; ...

Table titled 'USE FOR OLD BATTLESHIPS' listing ship names and statistics.

Table titled 'Pitchers' Records' listing pitcher names and statistics.

Offhand Definitions. Laughing Stoop-An amateur actor making an attempt at high tragedy. ...

his hand in marriage, which have him wavering on matrimony. I thought nothing of it. But when they began to come by the score, and each was different from the others, I realized the writers were in earnest.

HILL'S RHEUMATIC PILLS advertisement. We want to tell you about these wonderful pills. Their curative power is proven and attested to by thousands. A Record of 75 Years.

Gotch Boosts Jim Jeffries. Says He Toured the Country with Him and He Ought to Know. NEW YORK, May 21.-Frank Gotch, the world's champion wrestler, who is scheduled to go to the coast soon to help get Jeffries into shape for his battle with Jack Johnson at Emeryville on Independence day, declares that the Californian is in good physical condition despite recent reports to the contrary.

Bat Nelson Still Mourns Defeat. Claims that He is Not "All In," as Asserted by Some Sportsmen. NEW YORK, May 21.-Oscar Matthew "Batting" Nelson, the former lightweight champion, continues to talk of his loss of the title to Ad Wolgast of Milwaukee.

Stars and Stripes Bottled Beer. The only beer brewed from pure spring water on the market. Order a case for your home and get the best. A beer just suited to quaff at home—a night-cap for the sociable evening—a refreshing draught for the late supper.

Canadian Pacific Railway. Banff, Lake Louise, Field, Glacier. Here you will find a perfect revel of enjoyment—no other place can offer such an opportunity to kayak, hike, fish, drive, sketch, climb, hike.

Hotel Martinique. B'way, 32d and 33d Sts. NEW YORK CITY. In the heart of things! HIGH CLASS FIREPROOF HOTEL.

DOG BISCUIT. In the heart of things! High class fireproof hotel. The dog whose picture is shown above is alert and happy...

Rugs Monday Hayden's. Rugs Monday Hayden's from the ALEXANDER SMITH & SONS' NEW YORK AUCTION.