

If Mutt is Some Fabricator Jeff is Some More Fabricator . . . Drawn for The Bee by "Bud" Fisher



Judgments

HERE is some opinion that Manager Chance's new job will prove as gigantic in proportions as his magnificent salary. We think it will be admitted that nothing short of herculean mastery will make a winning team out of the Highlanders, and yet, under the impetus of Chance's management and close co-operation of all, backed by Farrell's readiness to furnish the means necessary to get the material, a winning team is to be expected. As to precise and immediate results two such great base ball generals as Connie Mack and Fielder Jones differ. Jones says: "Chance is certainly worth all he can get from the New York Americans, but he cannot possibly make a first division team out of the club this year. If he nominalizes the Yankees in first division in three years he will do wonderfully well, and by that time the fans will be knowing him so hard he will not have any incentive to build up a team." Connie Mack: "I am sure the Peerless Leader will finish in the first division the coming season. Indeed, it would not surprise me a bit if he made a real fight of it all the way." Mack's judgment certainly is worth as much as Jones', especially since Mack is in the harness and Jones out, not to mention the fact that Jones was considered for the place Chance fills. Though one is above peevish, being one of the greatest generals that ever commanded a base ball team. There can be little doubt that Chance, in time, will give Farrell a winning team. The stupendous figure attached to his contract, while representing a league investment, was not intended by either party as a nominal expression of opinion. With two such peerless leaders as McGraw and Chance in New York the metropolis will assume its rightful place in base ball.

The National league's loss in Chance is as great as the American league's gain, and comparatively greater because the National needs strong leaders more than the American. That is to say, it has fewer of them. Look on this galaxy of greatness in the American: McAleer and Stahl in Boston, Comiskey and Calahan in Chicago, Jennings in Detroit, Connie Mack in Philadelphia, Clark Griffith in Washington and Chance in New York. Every team except St. Louis and Cleveland is led by one of the great diamond bosses. New York with McGraw and Pittsburgh with Clarke are the only two National leagues with a right to claim comparison with most of these. Of course Evers, Tinker and Huggins are great ball players, but they have yet to determine their greatness as managers. Doolin is a great ball player, but as manager Doolin's superiority is a question; Stallings ought to bring results at Boston and his acquisition at least tends to strengthen the circuit. But up one side and down the other the American has all the better of the bargain. It is doubtful if a man like Chance could ever get out of the American into the National league, for the reason that in the newer organization speed and passion are subordinated to hard-headed sense more than in the National.

The best wishes of all Omaha fans go with old John Goding to his new berth as manager of the Beatrice Mink league team and also congratulations to Beatrice. We should be much surprised if Goding did not make good. As player he was for a decade and more the premier catcher of the Western league, as manager, his only team was with a tall and team at Rock Island and he shook it out of the cellar. John's head is full of base ball and we think he knows how to impart his knowledge to younger men. When we reflect upon his educational influence as scattered over the big diamonds through such men as Miner Brown, Frank Owen, Jack Pfeister, Charley Brown and other pitchers he did most to develop, as well as through such others as Corridor, George Stone, Jimmy Austin, Chick Autrey and many in and out of the field, it is not surprising to reflect on these we cannot doubt John's ability—properly backed—to deliver the goods at Beatrice. He is personally a lovable old chap. If he ever made an enemy among players or fans we never heard of it and he's in the collar pulling for the town and team he's with every step of the road.

This boy McCarty blossomed so suddenly that we would rather wait a little till he had weathered a few unfriendly winds before staking too much on him.

Pa. Bourke is improving the cold weather, we get it, in landing hot stuff for his 1913 "champs."

Now that the Cubs have signed the pledge, perhaps they can make a name for themselves.

January 1 has come and gone and, of course, Ted O'Neil and the headquarters are still in Chicago.

The visiting high school foot ball team liked the banquet, so they will all want to come again.

Owner Farrell took the biggest chance in the game, but at that expects to win on it.

CREIGHTON PLAYING AGAIN

After Month's Postponement Basket Ball Team Gets in Harness.

TRIMMED COUNCIL BLUFFS Defeated Y. M. C. A. Team There Last Tuesday Evening Without Having Had Advantage of Any Practice This Year.

After postponing its organization for at least a month, the Creighton varsity basket ball players finally got into uniform last week. The workout was promise of developing a team which will even surpass that of last year. Without having had a basket ball in their hands, last year's players, with the single exception of Hoffman, jumped into the game last Tuesday evening and trimmed the Council Bluffs "Y" by a score of 28 to 21. Last night the Creighton team met the Omaha High team, which has been organized since the beginning of the tri-city season. Hoffman did not put in an appearance for the first game, but when he heard of the result he could not withstand the "call of the wild," and the following afternoon found him in a suit, prancing about the gym. Hoffman is about the tallest being in this part of the country and can make the length of a basket ball floor in about two skips and a jump. He had the reach on any center in the league last year, and followers of the Creighton team are cheered over the downfall of his resolution not to play this year. He played in his usual position of center in the game against Omaha High last night.

Torrey, who played center in the game against Council Bluffs, was a sub last year, and is a fast man. He is tall and wiry and has a good jump. Prucha, captain of last year's squad, is back in the game at forward with all his old time skill. He shot eight baskets in the first game without any preliminary practice. Prucha, on account of the late arrival of Coach Miller, has been acting as coach of the team most of the week.

Harry Miller, who formerly coached the varsity foot ball team, will act as coach of the team this year. Miller gained his basket ball experience at Notre Dame. He will also act as manager of the five, and if he follows the same tactics in his basket ball work as he does in drilling the eleven, the players are due for hard work and a fast team may be expected. Miller went to his home at Defiance, O., to spend the holidays, and not returning until Friday, missed the opportunity of seeing his men in action. Shimmerda, the husky little guard; Balderston, the wiry little forward; Haller and Bliss, both guards, are back in harness. Thomas, a pharmacy student, has also been added to the squad. The team has been practicing in the Young Men's Christian Association gymnasium because the Omaha university gym was being used at present for the student concert, but hereafter the Creighton team will practice at the university gym.

Blue and white jerseys and stockings, as well as new leather shoes, have been furnished the team by the management. A trip through Iowa and Illinois is still under consideration. There is a possibility of a game with Nebraska, while South Dakota's state university will be played if they come through Omaha on their contemplated trip through the middle states.

Next National Regatta is Likely to Be in the East

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Competition for the privilege of holding the next national regatta is unusually taken among eastern cities just now. Last year the big event was held at Peoria, Ill. This selection proved to be a bad one, for the affair resulted in a failure owing to the distance from the real rowing centers. Consequently it is thought that the next selection will be made from one of the cities on the Atlantic coast. The rowing enthusiasts of Baltimore are in high hopes that the classic event will fall to the lot of that city. Although the selection will not be made until March, preparations and plans are being laid by the Baltimore clubs to secure the required number of votes. Baltimore's chances are enhanced by the fact that R. E. Williamson, a prominent rowing enthusiast of that city, whose opinions have always carried much weight in rowing circles, will exert all his influence to have Baltimore named. It has also been pointed out that Baltimore has a large population, many of whom are devoted to the water sport. Philadelphia also will make a strong bid to secure the water carnival for that city. This course has finally been decided upon, although at first there was some doubt as to the advisability of making the attempt. It was feared that the expense would be too great. But at a recent meeting of the naval board of Philadelphia it was voted to put in an application rather than have a site chosen that might result in making the event another failure.

With Philadelphia in the field Baltimore's chances are somewhat lessened. But it is thought that if the southern city makes an earnest effort the Philadelphia club will be assured to see the event go to that city.

Advices Chance Not to Lead Yankees



That Frank Chance will be making an unwise move if he accepts Frank Farrell's offer to place him at the head of the New York Yankees is the opinion of Fielder Jones, former manager of the Chicago White Sox (when they were the

"hitless" world's champion). According to Jones, the Yankees is the hardest team in the American league to handle, because of the overwhelming opposition of the Giants, the older major league organization.

piece of legislation is certain to bring a wonderful line of young players to the fore and establish tournament play through a higher plane than it has heretofore enjoyed.

Another matter which the Englishmen have taken a shot at and which will probably find its place in this country is the vexatious one regarding prizes. The Englishmen have returned to an old rule which states: "No checks, orders for money or cash payments in any form shall be given as prizes, and the amount actually paid for each prize shall in no case be below the advertised value of the same."

It had been the custom in many of the English tournaments to issue checks or money orders against silver-smiths and jewelry firms. Players who were uniformly successful often kept these orders and there were instances where they were even known to accumulate the equivalent of \$600 to \$1,000, payable at a jeweler's. He would then cash in for an elaborate silver tea service or piece of jewelry which would represent his winnings perhaps in twenty tournaments. The English association has set its face as deprecating this trafficking in prize orders and hereafter the regulation "The one thing over which the Britons stumbled was the effort to arrive at an adequate service or foot-fault rule. Nothing in lawn tennis has caused such acrimonious discussion and so many heated controversies in every quarter of the globe as the rule which governs the service. Americans, Germans, Frenchmen and the Britons are all prone under the heat of conflict to take a running jump into the court, when making the service. It is as natural to do so as to breathe. With all the umpires the present rule which was made uniform both in this country and in England several years ago is interpreted in various ways. Tropics will prevail."

MAY REVOLUTIONIZE ROWING

National Association Likely to Adopt Universal Method of Stroke.

WOULD MAKE CONTESTS CLOSER After Overcoming Difficulties of Making Change Sport Would Be Far More Interesting to All Who Follow It.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A novel rowing suggestion has been advanced by James Pilkington, president of the National Association of Amateur Oarsmen, which, if adopted, will completely revolutionize the rowing methods in the United States. President Pilkington's plan is to adopt a universal system of scientific rowing similar to that in England, where the Oxford and Cambridge and public school oarsmen all row the same stroke. In order to accomplish this it is proposed to make a radical departure from the present training and coaching methods and secure the consent of the rowing committee or management of every educational institution of prominence to adopt the Courtney stroke and compel its use by having it taught by professional rowing coaches.

Perhaps the most radical part of the proposed innovation is the proposition to appoint Charles E. Courtney, coach of Cornell university, general supervising or advisory coach, and the appointment to carry a rowing commission. Under the plan veteran coaches such as Ward, Vall, Ten Eyck and Rice would be assistants and receive their orders from Courtney. Should these professionals object to the plan, and oppose the Courtney stroke, it is suggested to replace them with rowing instructors who will be willing to follow instructions laid down by the famous Ithaca professional. In support of his argument for the substitution of the Courtney stroke President Pilkington points out that since the adoption of the Poughkeepsie-Highland course in 1885, fifty-one races have been held. These include varsity fours. Of this number Cornell has been successful thirty-three times, or in 65 per cent of the races rowed, while the records of the other university crews show Syracuse victorious seven times, Pennsylvania six, Wisconsin two, Columbia two and Yale one. Georgetown, Harvard, Annapolis and Leland Stanford have failed to cross the winning line first. In addition Cornell holds all the records for the course.

Means Closer Contests. President Pilkington admits there would be many difficulties to be overcome before the plan could be perfected, but he believes it would prove the salvation of rowing in the United States, as it would result in closer contests and create a wider interest in oarsmanship in both university circles and boat club life. In discussing the plan President Pilkington said: "The long continued success of the Courtney stroke at the Poughkeepsie regatta and in dual races with other universities has convinced me that the time is ripe for a change in the rowing system in the United States. A glance at the remarkable record of Charles E. Courtney, Cornell's rowing coach, will convince the majority of the followers of the sport that the Courtney stroke used by Cornell oarsmen is superior to that used by any other university. Accident or good luck will not enable a coach to turn out winning crews in more than 50 per cent of the important races rowed by Cornell oarsmen, especially when the crews have since 1886 been in annual competition with the best college crews turned out in the United States.

"If, then, the Courtney stroke is the most effective and correct one, why not its universal adoption by college crews? This, at first glance, may appear almost impossible, but if the matter is approached in proper form its ultimate success is assured. If the Courtney stroke is correct, then the styles advocated and taught by Ward, Rice, Ten Eyck, Vall and other prominent rowing coaches are wrong.

"Unlike England, this country has a multiplicity of strokes, each one varying more or less from the other. Of course, the principle is practically the same, but the methods of application differ. Oxford and Cambridge and the big English rowing clubs follow the same stroke, and with success. To accomplish results along these lines a radical departure would be necessary, but all revolutionary movements are subjected to severe criticism, and in this case there would be no difference in this respect.

rowing committee to adjust. In the event of the coaches declining to accept the Courtney system it would be necessary to find another man who would be willing to take orders from those who are responsible for his appointment. There are a number of promising oarsmen in the country who, under the supervision of Courtney, could be developed into competent coaches. This may appear a drastic move, but it would be for the ultimate betterment of rowing, and in the end justify the apparent revolutionary action.

"No one wants to witness a one-sided contest, no matter whether it be rowing or any other sport, and I firmly believe that with one general rowing system in operation competition will become keen, while the spectacular features of races would in no way suffer. Rowing history shows instances where an exceptionally powerful crew has been able to defeat Cornell, but these instances have been comparatively few, and serve only to emphasize the superiority of the Courtney system. It has also been advanced that the bracing atmosphere and ideal rowing condition at Lake Ithaca contribute in no small way to Cornell's success on the river, but while this may help Courtney to some extent, the material benefits thus derived do not account for the continuous run of the Cornell and White victories.

"There is another important point that must not be ignored, and that is the rigging of the oarsmen. There is no question that Courtney is a master in this particular. He works along this line with a system, and his methods have excited universal commendation. Every man in the Cornell boats is carefully studied before he takes his seat, and as a result Courtney is able to get every ounce possible out of his oarsmen." But this is not all, as the boat itself plays an important part in the success of a crew. Many shells used in college rowing races are constructed on wrong lines. Every coach has his own ideas as to the building of a shell, and he insists that these be followed religiously by the builder. The latter has nothing to do but follow instructions, or the contract is placed elsewhere, notwithstanding the fact that the builder usually knows the construction details are faulty. When Courtney orders a new boat he has a reason for every detail in connection with its construction, and it would be better for college rowing if the coaches consulted with the builders, where experience would prove of inestimable value.

"There is plenty of material to work on

in all the big universities, and if a universal system could be adopted it would benefit the rowing clubs throughout the country, as college oarsmen would carry their rowing knowledge with them when they finished their university careers. This means that America would in a comparatively short time enjoy a rowing style peculiarly its own."

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