

And Now Jeff Knows All About Turkish Furniture

Drawn for The Bee by "Bud" Fisher



Judgments

No charges of professionalism can in any way dim the honor and esteem in which Jimmy Thorpe is held by the American people; neither can his conviction (or his noble confession), detract one bit of luster from the awards which he has been given by all the world. The speechless medals and trophies, of course, are taken away from him—hollow honors that they are; but the records—the achievements of that splendid physical machine that conquered sport on all famous fields of athletic endeavor, will always stand in their true place in the mind of the American sport-loving world. A king's edictum withholds the mandate of technical sporting law. Jimmy Thorpe is still the athletic wonder of the world, but he has learned that a college student cannot be a "professional" and an "amateur" at the same time.

The arrangement of the six Western league teams to do their spring training within playing distance of each other is a good one, it seems to us; one of the best of which we have ever heard. It should give these teams an advantage over the other two, we think, and we wonder why they don't get in on the plan, too. This spring training program is one of the many outside signs of baseball's stability and prosperity. Time was when even major league teams did little or no preliminary work, and it was only recently that minors began to. But you find no up-to-date Class A team today that cares to hazard its fortunes without going through a systematic course of spring training.

So Murphy was only bluffing when he threatened to insert a prohibition pledge in every contract. He can well afford to trust to luck, if he gets a team anything like he has had for these seven years—with four pennants and two world's flags. And there is no denying this far, from the looks of things, that the Cubs will have a strong lineup. They have added strength in Bresnahan, surely, not whether they will be able to do what the old Cubs have done—that is another question. Strong individuals have sometimes failed to make winning teams, yet know.

This recent warm weather got powerful intantling to Colored George, who had all he could do to keep away from those old third base stands. One day when a little bird got to twittering George went out to see what he could do that looked like baseball, and he saw Schlipke. "I can't stand this much more," exclaimed George, as he ran to Dick Grotte for relief. They had to take the Skipper out of his sight.

Our sympathies to Bill, Jim and Dava Rourke in passing of their venerable mother, who always showed a mother's pride in the success of her boys. She liked the great game with which they have so long been honorably associated, and went to the old park regularly before Father Time laid his hand heavily upon her. Peace to her soul.

We are in receipt of a letter from a Chicago base ball writer, saying: "Murphy is getting in worse with the base ball public of Chicago every day." No one wonders, Murphy has done about everything he could to offend the base ball public—the people who have made him rich, and there is this about fans—they will suffer long, but not always.

Rourke may land Congleton for the left field opening. He is angling for him and if he gets him will have a man worth having. Congleton has done great work in the American association, last with Toledo, and should bring strength to Omaha. Congleton, Thompson and Coyt would make some outfield.

Hans Wagner, now about 42, thinks he will be able to stick around the 300 mark again this season. No doubt, for he has stuck there for seventeen consecutive seasons, except when he ranged up nearer the 400 mark. The Old German is a living argument for what the simple life will do for ball players.

Sure thing methods have spoiled another haven for the professional sports, since California is about to drive the boxers from the state. The gambler has killed every sport he has yet gotten a hold on.

The merry call of the bug is in the air, despite the weather. It is only a couple of weeks till word will be coming from the training camps, so who cares for the mamma's worry?

Can it be that the Omaha fans are getting wise? Only \$10 taken in at the door at a wrestling match would make one think so. And it's pretty nearly time, at that.

Anyhow, those other athletes who only saw Jimmy Thorpe's back at Stockholm, will agree that he is some runner.

Blessed is base ball, for it is out of the clutches of the snuffing tin horns.

Can't you see Nibhoff stealing third, right now? Come on, you April daze!

Even the tennis players are perking up, Good sign.

CHANCE HAS NEW SCOUT PLAN

Most Complete System Ever Originated for Finding Phenoms.

TO REGARD ALL TIPS GIVEN

Three Men Maintained for Special Purpose of Running Down Inkings of Extraordinary But Unknown Players.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Frank Chance is perfecting the most complete "scouting" system ever attempted in base ball. When all of the details have been arranged it will mean that not a player of merit, whether he be performing on the edge of the Everglades of Florida or in the timber lands of Oregon, will escape the notice of the manager of the New York American league base ball club.

Negotiations with agents whose perspicacity in detecting major league ability, even though hidden by the roughness of unperfected playing, is known to have been opened in all minor leagues. These agents will be instructed to inform Chance just as soon as a youngster has been located which would warrant a trial in fast company. When notifications have been received by Chance he will personally look over the player, if possible, and if impossible for him to attend to the matter directly, one of the club's regular scouts will make the inspection. If the player passes muster for the second time he will be procured, if he is procurable, in return for their services the agents are to receive a certain amount whether the player is retained or not, and if the player "makes good" an additional bonus will be paid the "tipster."

To Follow Up Tips. Two or three regularly employed scouts will be engaged by the club, and it will be the duty of these men to follow up the tips furnished from all parts of the country. They will devote their entire time to this phase of the work.

The principal feature of the system is the "gumshoe" tactics to be employed. Agents and scouts alike are to be kept under cover. Their names will not be divulged. All business is to be conducted secretly.

Chance believes that the best results can be obtained without hiring a brass band to announce the arrival of one of his representatives in a town where a prospective big leaguer is performing.

The employment of this secret system by Chance is a vindication of those old timers who have always maintained that "gumshoeing" is more effective than the open scouting which has become so prevalent during recent years.

The situation in the American league will be watched with a vast deal of interest for a number of reasons. One of those reasons is that the signing of Chance to handle the New York Americans means that the league is going to make desperate efforts to place a winner in the metropolis.

Hans Wagner Says Pittsburgh Will Be the First Violin

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Pittsburgh is already being called the dark horse of the 1913 pennant base ball race.

Hans Wagner, captain of the Pirates, regards the Giants also as a dark horse, though he figures his own team as the real Black Beauty. According to Wagner, Pittsburgh is going to play first violin in the National league orchestra, with New York grinding out minor notes on the second fiddle. He is convinced that New York is the contender in the race.

Marty O'Toole, the big wage getter, is relied upon to do great things for the Pirates this year. Hendrix, who led the National league pitchers last season, will endeavor to repeat his performance. Wagner himself will be seen at his old stand, and he expects to be just as good as he ever was.

Bundle Has a Good Von Der Ahe Yarn

"Speaking of old Chris Von Der Ahe, president of the old-time St. Louis Browns," mused Frank Bandle, county registrar of deeds, and himself a grand old catcher years ago. "I knew Chris well, met him often and, like all his friends, thought much of him."

"His generosity broke him, that's true, yet if he got an notion in his head concerning money or anything else, it was hard to get it out. One day we were playing the Browns in St. Louis. Our treasurer and Chris disputed over 50 cents in the gate receipts. Chris was sure it belonged to him. Finally they agreed to leave it to the winning team. Chris was in the little old club house off to the right, his head thrust through a small window watching the game."

"It was the last of the ninth. We were at bat with a man on. Then the batter hit safely. Chris saw it and exclaimed:

"'Here goes my 50 cents and der game mit it.'" withdrew his head from the aperture and stroled off in disgust.

BILLIARDS TO CHANGE FORM

National Association Has Put Ban on Sanction at Tournaments.

NEW POCKET PLAYS IN ORDER

Game Limit is Raised and Hereafter All Amateurs Will Use Face Ball Break, Just as Professionals Now Do.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The National Association of Amateur Billiard Players has decided to do away with the old form of sanction required for all tournaments and matches. Tournaments in the future may now be held with optional endorsement by that body. The referee, however, must be a member of the association. This legislation comes as a result of the recent meeting of the National Association of Amateur Billiard Players, at which harmony prevailed.

Another change decided upon was that the pocket billiard final matches must be played in a club and not in a public room. The preliminary contests may be played in the latter, however. Also, it was decided that under no circumstances might a foreign player be invited to compete in the American balling championship. Regarding proposed changes in pocket billiard play, there was some heated discussion led by Arthur Hyman and Edward Gray and the pocket billiard contingent won its point to raise the game limit in tournaments from 300 balls to 15. The match limit also was fixed at 60, fifteen each the first and second nights and 90 each the third night. It was also decided that hereafter the amateurs will also use the face ball break, the same as the professionals do. The proposed rules relating to safety plays and the penalty provided for jumping balls from the table have been stricken from the rules.

The class C 152 balling tournament is scheduled to begin on Monday, February 10, the class B 152 balling on February 21 and the preliminary matches for the pocket billiard title on March 10, the three-cushion championship on March 21 and the cushion carrom tournament on March 31. The new rules will apply to each of these tournaments. As all of the suspended players have been duly reinstated, the entry list promises to be representative of the best wielders of the cue in this country.

Only two of the championships will be decided in the rooms of prominent clubs—the class A 152 balling title and the final matches for the honors at pocket billiards. The former is scheduled to begin March 3 and the latter on March 17.

Omaha Gun Club to Hold Weekly Shoot For Prizes Today

The first regular weekly shoot of the Omaha Gun club will be pulled off this afternoon at the club's grounds just east of the Douglas street bridge, with at least thirty entries. Shooting will start promptly at 1:30 and twenty-five targets will be shot at by each contestant.

In order to raise funds with which to improve the club grounds and build a new club house the members have decided to hold shoots every Sunday afternoon beginning today and lasting until after the Great Western handicap, which will be held in this city during the latter part of September. Prizes will be offered for the winners of each shoot every Sunday. The prizes will consist of solid silver spoons. The member having the largest number of spoons from the hunting season opens this fall will receive a grand prize of a case of shotgun shells.

The membership fee has been increased from \$1 to \$2. This includes membership in the state association. The extra money will be used for the erection of a new club house, which will be finished before the Great Western handicap is pulled off. This handicap tournament will be the largest affair of its kind in the west this year and the Omaha men are planning a royal good time. Some of the greatest professional shots in the country will be in attendance, although they will not be allowed to compete for prizes.

It is the desire of the club members to pull down the shack now used for a club house and which has stood for a number of years, and which has commenced to fall apart in places. The new club house will be much larger than the present one and will have a room for women which will be richly furnished and decorated.

A lunch or dining room will be another feature and the members attending tournaments in the future will not have to stop shooting for an hour or go to the club house to get a meal or to Councell Bluffs for lunch. Shooting will continue through the lunch hour, one bullet eating while another set is firing away at the traps.

Through with the Stage. John McGraw, in closing his vaudeville engagement for the winter, announced that he was through with the stage for all time and that nothing would tempt him before the footlights again.

New Tixer Infielder. Denver has signed Frank Mathews, who is declared by President E. W. Dickerson of the Michigan State league, to be the best infielder turned out by his circuit last season.

Richie Worries Murphy



"Laird Lew" Richie, the "Giant Killer" of the Chicago Cubs' pitching staff, is looked upon as the comedian of the Chicago outfit, but his failure to return a contract signed to Owner Charles Murphy is causing that much maligned magnate to worry. Richie is one of the most effective pitchers in the National league when twirling against the Giants, and for this reason alone he has been one of the few sources of great joy in Murphy's heart. That Lew intends to make this distinction profitable is evidenced by his aloofness.

LAWN TENNIS AMENDMENTS

National Association Will Consider Important Changes.

TO CONSIDER PROFESSIONALS

Definition of Amateurs Will Be Decided Upon and Anyone Receiving Gratuities Cannot Qualify for Tournaments.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—When the United States National Lawn Tennis association holds its annual meeting in this city on February 14, the chief business will be the action upon the proposed amendments to the constitution which have been prepared by Henry W. Stinson, Ward C. Burton, Raymond D. Little, Lyle S. Mullan and Palmer E. Preabrey. These amendments have already been sent to the members of the association, and opposition has developed to some of the changes, the most important being the new definition of an amateur, which is so drastic that it declares as a professional any player having any connection whatsoever with a sporting goods house, and prohibits any hotel or club room of offering gratuitous courtesies in the way of expenses or transportation, with the penalty of the player receiving the same debaring himself from all tournaments. The latter part of this rule is aimed directly at the many hotel tournaments, at which players have been entertained largely for no other consideration than their performance on the courts. It is hoped that the action of the committee will prevail. Such a change is greatly to be desired.

SOUTHERN GOLF COURSES ARE BEING IMPROVED

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—A wave of golf seems to be sweeping throughout the southern states, if course construction and improvement are to be taken as a criterion. Northern players who have returned from a brief season in the south report that many changes have been made in the last year. The new links of the August Country club have been completed and are now in use. The new eighteen-hole circuit of the Capital City Country club, near Montgomery, covering about 100 acres, is under construction. At Birmingham twelve holes have been put in commission, and by the time the summer season arrives the remainder probably will be ready for use.

Persistent Advertising is the Road to Big Returns

Evans Wants Matter. Manager Evans of the Cubs has put a line out for Al Matter, the former Boston pitcher sent to Montreal last season, where he made a fine record. Evans has been tipped off that Matter is as good as ever, which means he is one of the best left-handers in the business.

Stallins' Wants Devore. Manager Stallins of the Boston Braves is said to have proposed a trade to McGraw of the Giants by which John Devore would become a Brave and Vince Campbell a Giant. Stallins wants Henry Groh and Milton Stock also in the deal.

KOLEHMAINEN IS ABSOLUTE

Recent Victory Makes Him Greatest of All Distance Runners.

IS ENTIRELY 'SELF-MADE'

Was Never Advised by a Competent Coach and Such a Thing is Now Almost Unheard of Among Winners.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Hannes Kolehmainen has proved beyond doubt by his splendid victory in the ten-mile road race at the Milwaukee Athletic association games that he is the greatest of all distance runners. It needed just that triumph to make the title of the Finn absolute, and when the record for the course of 5 1/2 miles 23 seconds was added his signal performance was complete in every detail.

Up until that time Hannes had been hailed by some as the best of them all over a distance. Now he is generally conceded to be the best of any who have attempted to brave the strain—the test of stamina and speed—that goes with races of longer than what are known as middle distance events.

One of the most impressive of the many features connected with the work of the Finn is the fact that he is "self-made" in every respect. Never having been advised by a competent coach, Hannes has developed himself, and in these days of proficient mentors such a thing is not only an exception, but it is almost unheard of.

Kolehmainen runs his own races. He maps out his time schedules without the aid of others, except his time keeper, and he has shown the world that he can lead the best of them to the tape in races where endurance, generalship and speed are the three predominant requirements.

BOWDWIN USES POLAR BEAR AS INSIGNIA FOR ITS TEAMS

BOSTON, Feb. 1.—Yale has its bulldog, Princeton its tiger and Columbia its lion, and now Bowdoin has come into the field with a polar bear as the insignia for its athletic teams. The council of the college made the recommendation in honor of Rear Admiral Peary and Donald H. McMillan of Peary's expedition to the North pole, both of them Bowdoin alumni.

Key to the Situation—Bee Advertising.

WEST POINT IS OMITTED

Yale Does Not Include Its Foot Ball Team in Schedule of Games.

REASON IS NOT KNOWN

But It is Presumed that It is Because the Two Teams Would Have to Meet Too Early in Season.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 1.—Great surprises ruled at Yale when the foot ball schedule was announced and it was found that West Point was omitted. For sixteen years the cadets and Eli have met on the gridiron and next to the championship games with Harvard and Princeton, the contest at West Point has been the most largely attended of any on the schedule. The reasons for the change are not made known officially, but after last year's contest it was generally thought by the coaches that the game should not be played another year as it was too early in the season for so hard a contest. Further than this there are no receipts from the game, and it has been an expensive proposition for the Yale team. Syracuse has also been dropped from the list, and the substitutions are Maine and Lehigh, so the only hard game before Princeton, is that with Brown, and the only game away from home is that with Harvard, Princeton playing at New Haven this year. The schedule is as follows: September 24, Yale against Wesleyan at Yale field; September 27, Yale against Holy Cross at Yale field; October 4, Yale against Lafayette at Yale field; October 18, Yale against Lehigh at Yale field; October 25, Yale against Washington and Jefferson at Yale field; November 1, Yale against Colgate at Yale field; November 23, Yale against Harvard at Cambridge.

"HANK" O'DAY TURNS DOWN UMPIRESHIP IN NATIONAL

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 1.—"Hank" O'Day is not yet an umpire in the National league, as he refused the contract offered to him by President Lynch. He gave his reason that he was not ready to decide the matter and was not at all certain that he was going back to the pad and mask. There is a strong possibility that he may go to the American league under Ben Johnson, with whom he was an umpire when Ben was president of the Western league.

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