

# The Call of the Horse Was Too Much for Mutt! Yes, 2 Much - Drawn for The Bee by "Bud" Fisher



## Judgments

WE ARE not surprised at Louisville's early elation over the acquisition of Bert Niehoff, though somewhat amused at the reference in the Kentucky papers to him as a "kid" and a "youngster." Bert is not old, neither is he a base ball kid. Louisville's gain is our loss, indeed, but one that must be figured among the fortunes of base ball. Still we shall expect the third corner only filled, for, remember, this is our year to win. We must. We have been within reach of the pennant several seasons and hope to land this one. Omaha has had rather remarkable experiences in turning out third basemen. It sent Schipke to Cleveland and Washington, Perring to Cleveland, Austin to St. Louis and now it sends Niehoff to Louisville, which may lead higher. Just here we don't mind saying that it's not impossible that this is a Cub deal, and Bert, if he proves extra fast down south, may yet land in Chicago. It will be remembered that Chicago put in a draft for him last autumn, which was not allowed, inasmuch as Detroit took Mark Hall from us by draft, preceding the Cubs with its application. Niehoff ought to make good anywhere. He is one of the best all-round players this league has turned out. In our judgment he goes from Omaha a much better third baseman than Jimmy Austin, a better base runner and as good a hitter. And yet we imagine if put to a vote of the fans Austin would win by a large majority, but not so, we think, if the voting were restricted to the most critical and scientific fans. By this we are not in the least disparaging Austin, who was great here and is good there. But of all the third basemen Omaha has graduated, none, in our opinion, has quite come up to George Perring at simply playing third. Niehoff and Austin, and perhaps Schipke, surpassed him on the bases, but not playing the bag. But that is neither here nor there. The question of the hour centers now in one Mr. Grubb.

The Bourke family is now on its Oklahoma spring training grounds, whipping itself into shape for the season's work. President Bourke, not discounting the loss he sustained in Niehoff's going to Louisville, thinks he has succeeded in assembling a winning team. We hope he has. He usually has a team that figures to be the best for high honors, but this year when even more than that is expected by the fans, he is a pennant, they think, is due. Of course, pennants are always due. There are some spots in the team we were not of and some we know are strong. These latter are the spots covered by Kane, Scanlon, Schipke, Justice, Thomson and Coyte, and behind the bat. Of Congalton, a veteran, and Bright, a youngster, in the outfield, we are not prepared to speak with certainty, nor of young Grubb, who comes to try issues with Uncle Bill Schipke for shouldering the task Niehoff lays down. If Schipke plays the bag as he did before he "went up" to the big grounds, we won't need Grubb. For the present let's wait and give 'em all a chance.

President Dan Johnson took a good step when he denounced the custom of using ball players' names as authors of newspaper and magazine articles, which they never wrote and sometimes never saw. A good example of the mischief that may thus be done comes to hand in the case of Frank Chance, whose name was affixed to a series of articles recently run in a number of papers. Chance was made to criticize and knock a lot of good ball players, and of course it made him unpopular with many. Dan Johnson inquired into the facts and found that Chance not only had not written, he had not authorized or sent the articles. Such stuff must not be permitted and Johnson is to be commended for putting his big fat fist down on it.

With Austin at Third, Gus Williams in right field and Sam Kneue behind the bat, Omaha will be well represented in the regular line-up of the St. Louis Browns this year. One or two more Omahans and the Browns ought to win the pennant.

For several seasons Omaha has been short on southpaws; this season we will have four to start with. Jack Fugate and Hicks were with us last season, Jack at the close, and are expected to make good. The other two are Applegate and Cloeman, new men.

Red Corridon, for whom the Cubs, in that round-about deal, gave \$5,000, or eight, we forget which, is one of the five shortstops Mr. Murphy has assembled till the place of Joe Tinker. N. B.—This is not a knock.

In addition to Hick Johnson, the best catcher in the league since Goding's prime, and Manager Arbogast, President Bourke has another backstop in Sheehan, who is said to be a hummer.

## SEASON TO OPEN IN EARNEST

Next Sunday Will Mark Unofficial Day for Fans to Limber Up.

### TEAMS ARE GETTING TOGETHER

Some New Nines, Together with New Players, Will Be on Local Diamonds During Counting Season.

By FRANK QUIGLEY.

Today will be about the last day our dude base ball manipulators will be able to stroll around the avenues on Sunday afternoons, slicked up in the latest togs. By next Sunday all the boys will be decorating the green sward for the purpose of securing some preliminary work and by the following Sunday the majority of the teams will have a game on the bill of fare. Already several contests are billed for March 30.

The initial bombardment of the season was executed last Sabbath down on the green in the neighborhood of Twenty-fourth and Vinton streets. The contest brought a good deal of transient trade. Numerous pedestrians and joyriders would stop a few minutes to watch the frasco. About 500 fanatics stuck around from the tap of the gong until the last man died. Including the transients possibly 500 humans saw part of the mix. It was between the Luxus team and a bunch of Pick Ups. Said jamboree terminated in a victory for the Luxus tribe to the tune of 18 to 7. The entertainment was a real classy affair, it being a nine-act season, in which a few thrillers were unworked, which greatly pleased the on-lookers. Louis Kocher was the particular star, he sticking his left lunch hook into several fast ones and also spanking one for the Bulls. Herewith the lineup: Luxus-Dame, catcher; Frank Quigley, pitcher; Hachten, first; Rapp, second; Tracey, third; Smith, short; Vanous, left field; Denny, center; Wright, right. Pick Ups-Andrews, catcher; Woolsey, pitcher; Dennison, first; Kocher, second; Fuzz, short; Dewey, third; Hoyer, left; Grant, center; Woolsey, right; Holland and Erickson did the adjusting in up to snuff fashion.

### Local Diamond Notes.

Cheer up, the season will soon tip its lid to you. Well, the Florence Athletics have at last woke up.

After this umpire is going to call "in book" when a batter has three balls.

The Hocters that hail from Packersville will bid out with a fast squad this summer.

Manager Danne of the Luxus herd is of the opinion that he has got an impressive infield.

If a city league was organized a disruption would follow before it had time to be formally introduced.

Bill Dolson has still got a few enemies left who take particular delight in continually disparaging his aggregation.

Harry Dalley's bum prop is now in the pink of condition. He is a clever out-gardener and also there with the billy.

Frank Spellman is going to step back into the ring and fool a few of the bugs that have transferred him to Camp Haven.

McDermott of the Elmwood Parks says he has mustered together a gang of deep-pocketed players that ought to climb real high.

Karbowick, the Advo flinger, is already ironing out the kinks. He has the requisite necessary for a first-class mound agent.

When selecting a team for the first time for a manager to do is to get rid of the fellows with domes that are needed by their annual takeoff. Dutch cheese, ham, bottle refreshments and weeds will act as an incentive to attend.

You won't find any gum in the Athabara camp. They had a meeting the other night at which Manager Horne outlined his policy. He let the boys know that everything would be conducted on a business basis and that no foolhardiness could be tolerated.

Edward Spellman can sing a spring song so naturally that you can almost see the umpire motion out, almost hear the batsmen crack 'em out, almost see the fielders, catching, missing, heading and stopping grounders and flies and almost hear the fans dent the atmosphere with their profane comments.

In all probability Hazen will be seen picking them out of the dust around the second sofa for the Dundee Woolen bunch. Davis has changed his mind and is in regard to holding down the pine for the Ancient Order of United Workmen, as a consequence he has joined the Dundee Woolen gang.

Although numerous reports have been going the rounds that the Val Blatz team was a thing of the past, nevertheless Roy Stacey comes to the front with the news that he will engineer matters for a team with that appellation this

## Wagners Monopolize Shortstop Honors



(Left to right) Honus Wagner of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Heinie Wagner of the Boston Red Sox.

During the last decade no one has been recorded as possessing the temerity to contest the unanimous vote of the entire population of the United States electing Hons Wagner, the man who made Pittsburgh famous, the greatest shortstop of all time. This question being apparently settled beyond all dispute, the fans have been looking for a contest for the honor of being classed as second best shortstop in the game, only to discover that Wagner is the daddy of them all and that Wagner takes second best honors, too. The Flying Dutchman of the Buccaneers, according to the consensus of opinion, has an able understudy in Heinie Wagner, the crack shortstop of the Boston Red Sox, who is easily the best at his position in the American league and also tops all of those in the National league except the mighty Honus.

## FOUGHT CHAMPION PUGILIST

Janitor of Federal Building Once Mixed it with Jem Smith.

### KNOCKED OUT IN ELEVENTH

Bill Jones Says He Knocked the English Champion Down Four Times During Mix, but He Went Down Offener.

For several days William (Pony) Paul has been in a dilemma in regard to his lineup for the ensuing season. But after having numerous arguments with himself he finally decided on the open mentioned below: Jones, catcher; Moran and Rathke, pitchers; Quinane, first; Nelson, second; Monroe, short; Platz, third; Bellman, left field; Gagen, center field; Abhill, right field. These boys will represent the O. D. Kippinger Weed factory, and as the tribe looks all to the number of the ought to cough up some real base ball.

At last George (Ray) Kennedy is ready to have his lineup christened for years his tribe, known as the Shamrocks, have been headliners in Tri-City base ball circles and under the leadership of the veteran Kennedy they will fly real high this season. Although the Storz Triumphs claim that they have got Frucha, a different story comes from South Omaha. Kennedy says that Frucha, promised to work for him this season, and as Frucha is a man of his word, Kennedy can't solve the reason why the Storz claim him. However, he will leave the solution of this problem to Manager Bradford. Here is the Shamrock crew: Yost, catcher; Mason, first; Kennedy, second; W. Collins, third; Frucha, short; Graves, left; Mayfield, center; Bedura, right, and Clark, utility.

## CREIGHTON HIGH WILL PUT OUT A TRACK TEAM

Although Creighton university has no track team of its own, interest in track athletics at that institution has led to the formation of a track team in the high school department. This team will enter the coming indoor meet at the Auditorium, and compete with the other track men of the state. The Creighton team is made up of the following: Gerald, Duffy, William Wonderlich, George Schall and Frank Dineen. All have made good records in the annual inter-class track meets held at Creighton, and expect to win some points. Each will enter several events, while the four will run as a relay team.

## SOUTH OMAHA BOOSTERS ORGANIZED FOR SEASON

A base ball team under the caption of the South Omaha Boosters has been organized in the Parkers City and is ready to meet any fast team in or around Omaha and South Omaha. The team will be composed of some of the fastest amateur players in South Omaha including many of the old Shamrock players. The lineup will be as follows: Von, second; Maxwell, first; Storz, third; Young, short; Kribaum, catcher; Boucka, left; Taab, right; Szymanski, center; Poncka, pitcher, and Pelzer, utility.

Detroit Signs Laker. The Detroit club has signed Pitcher Joe Lake because the Washington club refused to waive on him.

## CLAY COURT DATES FIXED

National Tennis Tournament at Omaha Field Club During July.

### FAMED CHAMPIONS TO COME

Winners in the Doubles and Singles at Pittsburgh Last Summer Will Come to Omaha to Defend Titles.

It has been practically decided by the tennis committee of the Omaha Field club and the schedule committee of the United States Lawn Tennis association to start the national clay court tourney on July 21 of this year, lasting through July 25. These were the dates asked by the local committee and they have been approved by the association.

The local committee in charge of the big tournament has already started work on the undertaking and are offering every inducement to bring the stars of the game to Omaha next summer, and it is safe to predict that the tourney this year will be the biggest one ever held, barring none. Pamphlets are being prepared by Conrad Young and Harry Koch, which when finished will be sent to practically every tennis player of note all over the country, telling him of the wonders of Omaha, the splendid clay courts at the Omaha Field club and inviting him personally to attend the tourney and capture some of the big prizes which are to be put up.

In 1911 Gravy Hayes won the title, but last year lost it at Pittsburgh to R. N. Williams of Philadelphia. Hayes played through the entire tournament, although he was not compelled to, and finished on top with Williams. In the challenge round Williams outclassed Hayes after a terrific struggle. Hayes played in Omaha last year and lost to Armstrong of St. Paul for the championship of the Midwest tournament. Hayes, however, injured his heel in practice and was not in fit condition to play Armstrong, but rather than forfeit the match he played and lost.

Both Hayes and Williams will be at the tourney this summer. While in New York attending the annual meeting of the United States Lawn Tennis association, Harry Koch went to Philadelphia and secured Williams to promise to attend the meet at Omaha and defend his title.

In the doubles H. Hackett and W. M. Hall, both of New York City, are the title holders and will undoubtedly come here to defend their title. Taking the whole situation, it looks as if Omaha will draw the best tennis players in the country to the Field club courts next July.

### Jap as Bat Boy

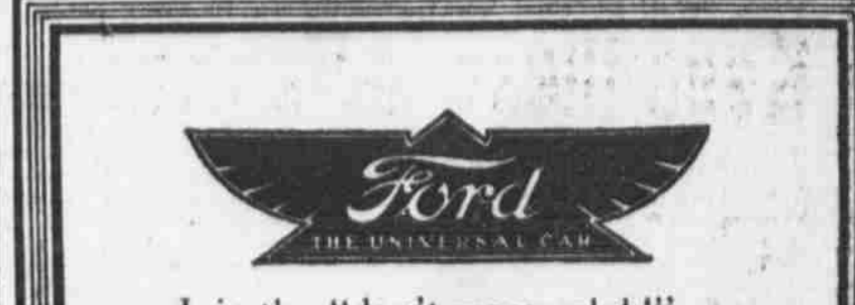
A Japanese may be made the successor of "Red" Gallagher, official bat boy for the Chicago National club for ten years, who has declared his intention of following Frank Chance to New York.

### No New Club House

First intentions of erecting a new clubhouse have been abandoned for the present year and the old pavilion which in years past was used for concessions will be remodeled into a first-class clubhouse with sleeping rooms, kitchen, dining room, lounge, room, fireplace and smoking rooms. Over \$2,500 will be spent for kitchen utensils and silver, and a real chef of eastern fame will be brought here, thus assuring the members that the cuisine will be the very best. The fireplaces will be put in on the first floor and the kitchen and dining room will be situated on the second floor. Around the entire clubhouse will be built a veranda, which in summer will be screened off, making it possible for the members to find a shady spot at any time of the day.

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Developing Fast. The Philadelphia North American rises to remark: "With Catalabana winning the chess tourney and Marsman a leading batsman in the National league, Cubans are developing so fast that they may produce a Jim Thorpe."