Bringing Up Father

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Drawn for The Bee by George McManus

Judgments

PA ROURKE has his young men assembled here now where he can cast his fatherly as well as his critical eye over their performance, and judge how closely it coincides with their promise. On paper, he has something of a job before him, just about what besets the minor league magnate each spring—a bunch of raw and undeveloped material, among which he is to discover the gems that are later on to glisten in the diadem of base ball. At present he has little idea of what the Rourke lineup for the coming season will be, but he knows that he is going to try to get a real ball team together if it can be done. Some of the places are safe. It is sure that Schleibner will be on first, that Artie Thomason will be in center, and almost certain that Scanlon will play at short. And then the rest of the picture has to be worked out. Manager Krug may be seen at third, and he may be on second. If young Thomas comes through in good form, he'll get the third base job, and Marty will be found mounting guard over the keystone of the diamond. This will make an infield that looks mighty serviceable, even though Scanlon and Thomas are youngsters. Behind the bat it looks as if Kafora will be the mainstay, but this isn't determined yet, and may be switched to one of the other backstops on the string. Two positions in the outfield will have to be filled by choice from four aspirants. With Red Styles and Willis to start, the pitching staff is to be built up from a long string of youngsters, and it is Pa's most earnest hope that he can develop a pitcher capable of going through nine innings and winning a game. That's something Omaha has not seen in several seasons. At any rate, Pa has the problem under consideration.

The list of lawn tennis fixtures for the season doesn't contain the name of Omaha, which makes the list somewhat unique. It doesn't seem right that Omaha, where the game was given its life and developed to its first-class importance, should be permanently deprived of participation in the clay court championship. Here's a chance for some of the boosting organizations to get busy and take the steps necessary to bring this important sporting event back to its real home.

The Feds are not so much concerned about O. B. B. just now, for the good and sufficient reason that they have troubles of their own. Aside from getting a manager for Kansas City they have to show a court in Indianapolis why the team at the Hoosier capital didn't pay the 6 per cent devidend a stockholder expected to gather in last season. And that's about as much as Prexy Gilmore cares to handle at one sitting.

Enterprise doesn't always pay. Pa Rourke slipped off down east and bought a couple of players from one of the little leagues in the wooden nutmeg country, and just about the time the check was being cashed the league blew up and turned all its players loose, and now the other Western league managers are picking up what they want of them for nothing. Oh, very well.

Ban Johnson's comment on the game sounds as if the old boy is developing a pretty fair quality of hindsight. If he had had some such notions a couple of years ago, maybe the trouble wouldn't have been so desperate at the present writing.

Tom Chivington rises up to announce that the greedy player is ruining the game. All of which shows that Thomas is well qualified to become a major league president as soon as the bars are lifted and his loop advanced.

When you look over what the national racing board handed the promoters of the Omaha speedway you wonder just what there is in the game, aside from control. It begins to look as if somebody is in bad some place.

It's a shame that Chief Dunn didn't get his suppressing machine into working order before the Hussane-Connolly affair came off. But it's better late than never.

You'll have to wait a day longer to find you guessed right on the smoke-four-flush meeting. This suspense is awful.

At least, Pa can't be accused of picking the little ones this season. Look at Schleibner, and Hulswitt, and Kafora.

If Judge Landis doesn't hurry up he'll find the crowd all watching the game and paying no attention to the court.

Now, if the weather man will only let up for a minute.

Freddy Welsh is getting his—in real cash.

SANDLOTTERS TAKE CHANCE

Try to Fool the Weather by Starting Practice, but the Old Man Beats 'Em to It.

DIRECTORS MEET WEDNESDAY

By FRANK QUIGLEY.

One day last week when Old Man Sun beamed upon us all the boys around these jungles became inoculated with the base ball fever and even went so far as to make their preliminary arrangements to waltz out on the terra firma today and try out their lunch hooks. Guess the majority of them changed their thought reservoirs when the white flakes oozed in last Thursday. Of course, the base ball bugs registered their usual kick against the inclement weather, but, as customary, these complaints never prove very effective. It is approximately time for climatic conditions to favor us with a few torrid days so that the local pill-shooters can round into shape without using corsets. If the weather is anyway near favorable today the local sandlots will be well fortified with horsehide heavers.

Now that the majority of the leagues recently organized have completed all the preparatory arrangements essential to become a member of the Omaha Amateur association, the directors of said organization have decided to congregate at the city hall next Wednesday and elect officers for the ensuing season. In all probability the present officers will be reelected in appreciation of their valuable support and their hard, conscientious work which was instrumental in making the association a distinct success last year. The Omaha Amateur association waltzed in last season, and as this venture was new to all concerned, all kinds of credit is due to the gents that lead the association over the rocky roads affiliated with a new organization of this kind.

Leagues to Meet.

Friday the city hall will again be invaded by a couple of leagues when the Booster and American leagues will conclude their unfinished business. Several new teams applied for the franchise left open in the American league by the departure of the Walter G. Clarks, but the Mandy Lee team drew the lucky number. Now that this league is amply fortified with teams that will stick, they can go ahead and complete the other things necessary to put them on a strong footing.

Last week, the Inter-City league let a couple more teams slip under the wire, namely, C. B. Antlers and Spring Lake Parks. They adopted their schedule, which will commence April 18 and terminate August 15. Their constitution will be adopted at their next meeting on April 8. All entry fees must be paid on or before their next meeting.

Open on April 18.

April 18 is the day set aside for the Greater Omaha and City leagues to open the season. Arrangements are now under way to see that all the pomp and splendor necessary for such an auspicious occasion will be available. The City league has got a card out, one side of which gives the officials and teams and on the other is their schedule. The Greater Omaha band will have another meeting in the very immediate future. They are now practically ready for the whistle.

Ducky Holmes has been inveigled into base ball again this season. He will back a fast class "A" troupe which will parade around under his monicker. The old timers will remember Ducky because he used to be a star pill shover on our local sand lots.

Joe Wavrin will lead this troupe. For games call Harney 925 or address him at 2973 Creighton avenue.

Diamond Dust.

According to the dope, Horace Erickson will stick around the old fireside this season. He used to be with Kearney.

Louis Kleny, the irrepressible leader of the Commercial league, says that every thing looks lovely for a prosperous season.

Leonard Tibke is seriously contemplating the organization of a team to be known as the Twenty-fourth Street Merchants.

The King-Peck paraphernalia is now in the possession of Pete Peterson. He is undecided whether or not he will organize a team.

Wally Drummy, formerly the star first cushion gent for the Storz, will probably play on Saturdays this season with one of the class A tribes.

In Edward Hansen the Ramblers sure have some hitsmith. He is there and back again with the billy. He will be located in the sunpatch.

Manager Bradford of the Storz has already booked the Leland Giants, All-Nations, Crawford's All-Stars and Union Giants for this season.

With the assistance of Aleck Mongerson on the slab the Ramblers will give their opponents in the National league a good run for the pennant.

Tomorrow night at Chris Lyck's place the Chris Lyck base ball congregation will hold their annual banquet and spread the salve relative to what they are going to do this season.

The magnates of the Saturday Class A league re-elected Frank Quigley president. This league went through all the trials and tribulations last season without much trouble and they intend to do likewise this season.

Herewith the Rambler lineup: J. Mongerson, catch; A. Mongerson and S. Runka, pitchers; Norgard, first; M. Mongerson, second; Swanson, short; McAndrews, third; Urban, Christiansen and Hansen, outfielders.

Mickey Gibson Expert Bowlers Are Among the Leaders in Local Race

Left to Right—B. Bowers, Jim Dougherty, C. Patten, Mickey Gibson, O. Dettmen, M. Stunz, Pa. Kimmau.

Encourage Base Ball in the Army And Navy Posts

WASHINGTON, March 27.—Base ball as a means of encouraging recruiting for the army and navy is the latest plan being tried by the government services. Secretary Garrison of the army strongly favors the plan, and the various recruiting stations are already on the lookout for recruits who can play the game.

It is proposed to form leagues among the various recruiting stations and promote interest in the camps. In Chicago the scheme has gone so far that President Weeghman of the Federal league club has given permission for the soldiers to use his park to play their games. It is now expected that the clubs in other leagues will make similar offers.

In accepting President Weeghman's offer, Secretary Garrison of the army wrote:

"It is the aim of the military authorities to make the army as attractive to young men as is possible to make it consistent with the purpose for which they enter the service of the United States. With this end in view, athletics are always encouraged, and base ball is one of the most popular of athletic sports throughout the army. Furthermore, I am keenly interested in securing good clean men for the army and feel satisfied that there is no better field for securing such men than among base ball players."

In the Navy department word has been sent out to many of the officials in charge of recruiting stations to pay special attention in making reports of recruits to mention about the knowledge and experience is base ball. Last season there was a team of recruits in Norfolk, Va., which played ninety-two games during the season and lost only twenty-two, a record which they boast of and maintain is not equaled by any amateur club in the country.

STALLINGS LETS WRATH GET THE BETTER OF HIM

Because the Augusta club of the South Atlantic league forgot its allegiance to Organized base ball so far as to invite the Pittsburgh Federals to train in Augusta, George Stallings has declined to play an exhibition game in Augusta, from which it was expected the Augusta club would receive all the receipts. Stallings also has returned four season tickets that he agreed to take at $25 each as a donation to the Augusta club's treasury.

AUSTIN WANTED TO BE FED MANAGER. BUT COULDN'T

The latest version of the tale of Jimmy Austin's rebound to the ranks of Organized ball is that after signing he sought the job of Manager Oakes, of the Pittsburgh Federals, and when turned down cold, became disgusted and sent back his bonus and advance salary, and jumped back to the St. Louis Browns. Another story is that he wanted to be captain and was denied even this honor.

BATTERS HAVE FUNNY POSES

Odd Stunts Calculated to Upset the Pitchers Are Pulled Off by Many Heavy Hitters.

TY COBB MAKES A BIG NOISE

Batters have their peculiar notions about taking their position at bat, and most of them have some little oddities they indulge in just before stepping into the batsman's box. A few really believe that by going through a certain set of motions and ridiculous didos it will bring good luck. Others do it for effect, a grandstand play, or for their own amusement. However, the great batsmen of the game, with few exceptions, rarely indulge in any of this fancy stuff either before or after getting to the plate. Sam Crawford, L. Lajoie, "Honus" Wagner, "Home Run" Baker, and a few others of our famous batsmen have a very businesslike air about them when taking their positions at the plate. The fact that they are there is sufficient to worry any pitcher.

A chap by the name of Lewee, who used to play with Kansas City, had a stunt he always pulled off before hitting at a ball that reminded one of an Indian medicine man going through his mysterious incantations invoking aid from the Father of the Great Waters. Just before his turn came to face the pitcher Lewee would take his cap in his left hand, then, swinging it slowly around, would face the sun—that is, if it were visible—then walk slowly to the plate, step on it with both feet, carefully turn round twice, step back, and hit the ball—that is, if he did not strike out.

"Ty" Cobb makes a great fuss before going to the plate, and generally creates a great fuss after reaching it. "Ty" swings an armful of bats for a long time before he stalks to the plate, but he only uses one, although many pitchers imagine he still has the armful by the manner in which he lambasts the ball. Cobb has some stunts that are annoying to the pitcher that he pulls off in between balls and strikes, whichever the case might be. He will pose as if ready for the onslaught, then suddenly stoop down and grab a handful of dirt just as the pitcher is about to pitch. "Ty" does not seem to worry whether the ball goes over the plate or not, for Cobb takes a strike about as meekly as any man in the league—but he can afford to.

Both "Mike" Kelly and Arlie Latham have the credit for being the first players to take their bats and draw a line indicating his position, or where he would stand and dare the pitcher to put the ball within a mile of it. Sometimes after drawing the line Latham would pull his cap over one eye, cross his legs and lean on his bat and challenge the pitcher to stick three out of eight over (eight chances those days).

"Cap" Anson never said much before coming to bat, or when at bat, for he, like Cobb, had very little regard for balls or strikes, for he knew he could hit it when he was ready. But after hitting, if the umpire's decision robbed him of what he thought was a safe drive, or a decision at first went against him, then you would hear "Pop's" roar a mile away.

Old Baltimores First Nine of Men Who Used Brains

NEW YORK, March 27.—The old Baltimore team of 1894-5, one of the greatest teams ever gotten together, originators of the new style of ball play, was a galaxy of athletes who were endowed with brains and brawn, and made them count in the game of base ball. With a pitching staff composed of such mediocre hurlers as Hemming, Esper and Hopper, with the old stars who were in the sear and yellow, such as Tony Mullane, "Kid" Gleason and "Dumpling" McMahan, the team won three pennants. Later it added Arlie Pond and Jimmy McJames. All these hurlers made records in games won owing to the brilliancy of the team behind them.

A most peculiar fact about the famous Baltimores of 1894-5 was that they were all at one time or another battery men. John McGraw began his career on the diamond as a pitcher, and was credited with being very tricky but a fierce kicker. Hugh Jennings was no false alarm as a catcher, and his friends declare that he made a mistake when he switched for an infield position. "Wee Willie" Keeler was a left-handed hurler, but lacked weight for pitching, but seemed to have the necessary avoirdupois to hit a ball as hard as the best. The noted Ed Hanlon, manager of the team, used to pitch before taking to the outfield.

Then there was Manager Joe Kelley of the Torontos. When Joe was a full-fledged Oriole he played the outfield, but Mr. Kelley won considerable fame as a hurler of curves and otherwise. Even "Big Dan" Brouthers began his base ball career as a pitcher, but that was away back. Reitz, the second baseman, also Infielder F. Bonner were good catchers and spent part of their minor league days behind the bat, and the famous Walter (Steve) Brodie, was a clever backstopper at one time. So every player on that famous old team won his spurs either as a pitcher of curves, or as a receiver of them.

Four of the famous squad are now four of the greatest managers in the game and "Kid" Gleason is in line for a big league job as manager and it is not to be wondered that the Baltimore team of those days won pennants with J. McGraw, Hugh Jennings, Wilbur Robinson, Joe Kelley in its ranks and Edward Hanlon, the manager of managers at the helm.

LOYALTY TO COUNTRY IS FIRST, SAYS JULES GOUX

Jules Goux, winner of the 1913 500-mile race, who is now driving a car for the military governor of Belfort, on the Franco-German frontier, in a letter to the Indianapolis speedway, writes:

"It would be a great pleasure for me to compete in the international 500-mile race this year, as I did in 1913 and 1914, but the position I hold on the German frontier is very important, and I simply haven't the heart to ask my release under any pretext while France is at war. France must come first, always."

AMATEUR QUESTION IS OVER

United States Golf Association Revises By-Laws Explaining What is an Amateur.

BUT REVISIONS ARE BROAD

In order to settle once and for all the irritating question of "What is an amateur golfer?" the United States Golf association has revised sections 7 and 8 of the by-laws. The revisions say officials of the association are perfectly clear and everybody shall know what is an amateur. However, the new rulings are sufficiently broad to inspire no kick from the said amateur golfers, who would have an awful time trying to prove their standing if the game was anything but golf.

The revisions are as follows:

Revision of sections 7 and 8 of the by-laws of the United States Golf association:

Section 7. An amateur golfer is one who has not accepted, directly or indirectly, any fee, gratuity, money or its equivalent as a consideration for the performance of any act or service arising in connection with the game of golf and who is not or has not been a professional in any other branch of athletics. Provided, however, that the above shall not apply to writing, editing or publishing articles, magazines or books on golf, or to laying out, constructing, supervising or giving advice concerning the layout, construction or upkeep of a golf course or any part thereof.

Any person who becomes ineligible by reason of this by-law may be reinstated by giving to the executive committee of this association satisfactory evidence of meriting such reinstatement.

No occurrence prior to January 8, 1915, shall affect the status of any person who was in good standing as an amateur golfer on said date.

Rulings by the executive committee:

The following are violations of the above rule:

1. Playing or teaching the game of golf for pay. This includes accepting traveling or living expenses for playing over a course or for participating in a golf tournament, contest or exhibition.

2. Personally making or repairing golf clubs, golf balls or other golf articles for pay.

3. Serving after reaching the age of 16 as caddie, caddie master or green keeper for hire.

4. Lending one's name or likeness for the advertisement or sale of anything except as a dealer, manufacturer or inventor thereof in the usual course of business.

5. Permitting one's name to be advertised or published for pay as the author of books or articles on golf of which one is not actually the author.

Section 8. The executive committee shall take cognizance of every apparent violation of section 7 that may come to its attention in any manner whatsoever; it shall exercise absolute discretion in the interpretation and enforcement of the by-laws for the purpose of safeguarding the best interests of the game of golf and shall have power to inflict such penalties as the circumstances of each case may in its judgment justify.

Cantillon Saves Money for Street To His Displeasure

Sweeney, the Highlanders' classy receiver, tells a good one. It's at Gabby Street's expense. "Washington and Detroit were tied up in a stiff battle in Detroit back in 1909, when the Tigers were champions," states the husky one. "Gabby had had a great day. He had walloped George Mullin for three hits and had pegged out five Tigers on the base lines. He went up in the ninth with the tying run on third and one down. Gabby soaked the ball on a line to Mullin, who speared it with his gloved hand. A double play followed and that ended the game.

"Joe Cantillon rode Street the instant Gabby got back to the bench. And maybe Gabby didn't flare up! He told his manager what he thought of him and, beating it to the hotel, got a quick dinner and packed up. Coming down in the rotunda about 8 o'clock, with his mind fully made up that he was going to quit the club, Gabby butted into Cantillon.

"'Come here, Gabby,' said the manager. His voice was kind and Gabby thought Joe was weakening and was going to apologize for the call he gave him at the park.

"'What does this mean; why did you come down stairs with your baggage?' asked Cantillon.

"'Well, Joe, you see you sort of made me mad this afternoon,' replied Street, 'and I had about made up my mind to leave the club.'

"'Is that so?' was Cantillon's rejoinder. 'Well, old sport, wait until morning. I'm going to chase a bunch of the others, so you all can go on a party ticket and save some money.'"

Boxing Now Permitted In Eighteen States

Of the forty-eight states in the union boxing is permitted in eighteen. The following will give an idea as to how the sport is regulated:

Colorado—Twenty rounds to a decision.

Pennsylvania—Short bouts—no decisions. No commissions.

New York—Ten-round, no-decision bouts, with commission to regulate the same.

Louisiana—Twenty-round matches with decisions.

Wisconsin—Practically same law as in New York.

Maine—Six-round bouts, with decisions, but no commissions.

Tennessee—Eight-round contests, decisions and no commission.

Ohio—Ten-round bouts with no verdicts, optional.

Kentucky—Ten-round bouts, optional in various communities.

Washington—Optional contests, but not permitted to any extent.

Texas, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Missouri, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wyoming and Georgia—Short round bouts, optional.

Umps is Great, But President Greater

Charley Rigler, National league umpire, is full of good base ball stories and is in great demand as a speaker at base ball banquets. Charley knows how to tell a story, too. Here is a sample:

"The first year I broke into the National league I was assigned to umpire a game between the Army and Navy teams.

"I was quite proud of my assignment, and a few minutes before the game I walked out of the dressing room to the home plate. I had to walk the full length of the field, and, as to my great surprise and pleasure, every step I took was marked by the loudest cheering I ever heard.

"My chest swelled to twice its normal size until I found Teddy Roosevelt had entered the field just as I had emerged from the dressing room, and that all the cheering was for him."

JACK HOLLAND CALLS OFF TRIP TO PIRATES' CAMP

Jack Holland has had to abandon his trip to Hot Springs. He had hoped to visit the Pirate camp so as to get a line on the recruit pitchers and see how his additions to the squad are getting along, but he couldn't spare the time to get away with his own training season only three days away.

JACK THOMAS WOULD EE UMPIRE IN THIS CIRCUIT

Jack Thomas, who saw some ten years of service in the Western loop as a member of the Omaha and Lincoln clubs, wants to come back to this circuit, but this time as an umpire. Thomas has filed his petition for a job with Prexie Tip O'Neill, and Omaha fans who remember old Jack hope he is successful.