Ban and Davy Make Good Records During the Stove League Season

ROURKE SIGNS UP FOUR NEW PLAYERS

Gets Two Pitchers, a Slugging Outfielder and a Reliable Catcher.

MARTY O'TOOLE TO BE BACK

Four new athletes to fill the holes left in the 1916 pennant-winning machine by the graduation of hight of the champs to faster company were purchased last week by Pa Rourke. In addition Pa has procured Marty O'Toole again, Columbus, who farmed

O'Toole again, Columbus, who farmed him out to Omaha last year, having sold him to Rourke this time.

The four new players secured by the Omaha magnate include two pitchers, a catcher and an outfielder.

Harry Benton and Wayne Barham are the hurlers. Benton comes from the Winnipeg club of the Northern league and Barham from the Vancouver club of the Northwestern loop. Rourke also got Hal Brokaw, the outfielder, from Winnipeg. The catcher is Larry Pratt, who comes from Columbus.

Paith in Canadians.

Faith in Canadians.

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Rourke is putting a lot of faith in the two Winnipeg recruits. Benton ranked second among the hurlers of the Northern league for both sections of the split season. He pitched a total of 206 innings during the campaign, winning seventeen and losing five games for an average of .773. He allowed 140 hits and fifty runs. He struck out 155 batsmen and gave bases on balls to forty-five.

He is a big fellow who can stand a lot of work. He is said to have plenty of speed and a wide assortment of curves and hooks. St. Paul looked him over last spring, but, having a full staff of experienced hurlers,

ing a full staff of experienced hurlers, turned him back to the Canadian club. Brokaw was the class of the league in the outfield. He led the league

Walter Rehg is Victim Of Holdup in Wichita Robby to Give Merkle

Walter Rehg, Providence infielder, was held up at his home in Wichita one night recently by a couple of gummen and robbed of a diamond scarf pin worth \$300, money to the amount of \$23, a gold watch and a kerkle a tryout at the short field one with the last plant in mind to give Fred Merkle a tryout at the short field one with the last plant in mind to give Fred Merkle a tryout at the short field that

Evers Says Gaffney Is Greatest of All

Johnny Evers thinks that the greatest man who ever stepped into base ball was Jim Gaffney, formerly owner of the Braves. Gaffney is the man who paid Evers \$20,000 for signing a contract with the Braves. Evers had lost all of his base hall earnings in a shoe the Braves. Evers had lost all of his base ball earnings in a shoe store venture and was broke when Charles Webb Murphy dismissed him as manager of the Cubs. Through Gaffney's liberal terms, Evers was able to recoup his losses and is now on easy street.

OUIMET IS STILL CLASSED AS A PRO

U. S. G. A. Sustains Ruling that Will Keep Famous Star Out of Amateur Play.

PLEA FOR TRUE SPORT

New York, Jan. 13.-Several golfers of national reputataion will be driven from amateur ranks by the application of the new definition of amateurs, approved early today at the areurs, approved early today at the annual meeting of the United States Golf association. The meeting also sustained the rule under which Francis Ouimet, Paul Tewksbury and J. H. Sullivan, jr., of the Woodland (Mass.) Golf club were deprived of their amateur standing.

A motion for a direct vote on the

A motion for a direct vote on the A motion for a direct vote on the action of the executive committee in giving notice to the disqualified golfers and calling on the Woodland club to withdraw their names from the handicap list of the Massachusetts Golf associataion was ruled out of order of the three th

der after the vote on the main ques-tion had shown that Ouimet's friends were well in the minority.

After a spirited debate the dele-gates by 80 to 12 upheld a report of the executive committee sharply rein the outfield. He led the league in fielding, langing up an average of 991, which is considerable average. He ranked sixth among the league hitters. He made 106 hits and fifty-nine runs in 113 games for an average of ,303. He also stole thirty bases last year.

Benton, Rourke believes, will fill the hole left by Lou North, who went to the St. Louis Cardinals, while Brokaw is expected to prove even better than Shag Thompson in center.

Pratt Is the Goods.

Larry Pratt, Pa believes, will plug Larry Pratt, Pa believes, will plug the property of the status of an amateur. The rule, as amended and adopted, makes ineligible as an amateur the player "engaging in any business connected with the game of golf wherein one's usefulness or profits arise because of skill or prominence in the game of golf."

The interpretation put upon this is that it will class as players engaged "in laying out, construction or up-

Rennie Abramson, N. Lavinson and Vears.

Coach Benjamin will start his men Thorpeians, while Andy was the shinright for the mutes.

Walter Rehg is Victim

Vears.

Coach Benjamin will start his men from Atlantic highlands, has been with Creighton, Cotner, Doane, Wesleyan and probably the University of Omaha are booked.

Sterling Stryker, a semi-pro pitcher from Atlantic highlands, has been recommended to the Giants by Andy Coakley and will be given a tryout by Manager McGraw.

position next spring.

FOOT BALL YIELDS CASH TO NEBRASKA

Basket Ball, Track, Wrestling and Tennis Are Drains on Uni's Treasury.

BUT NET PROFIT IS LARGE

By JAMES E. LAWRENCE. In, Jan. 13. (Special.)-Foot ball is the only branch of Nebraska athletics which is self-supporting, the annual report of T. A. Williams, treasurer of the University of Nebraska athletic board, isued today shows.

athletic board, isued today shows. The report covers the fiscal year until August 31, 1916.

Basket ball, track, wrestling, and tennis have all proven a heavy drain on the finances of the Cornhusker athletic board and were it not for the popularity of the gridiron game there would be a big deficit at Nebraska.

Williams' report shows that foot ball cleared the season with the handsome profit of \$10,143,28. Basket ball ate into the treasury with a deficit of

ate into the treasury with a deficit of \$1,360.19; track entailed another loss of \$1,994.70; wreslting showed a deficit of \$153.41 while tennis, cross country and skating cut in to the tune of \$280.72.

Net Profit.

Net Profit.

With deficits in all branches of sport but foot ball the net profit for the year is shown to be \$4.541.18.

Receipts for the fiscal year set a new high water mark with \$38,128.52.

Treasurer Williams reports that he had \$1,813.15 left over from the preceeding year. The total expenditures for the year were \$34.580.34, but added to this must be \$1,000 which the Husker athletic management invested in a \$1,000 farm mortgage, drawing 7 per cent interest and which is a part of the fund for a new athletic field.

It was Jess Harper and his crew of

held.

It was Jess Harper and his crew of foot ball players from Notre Dame which drew the largest crowd. The Notre Dame receipts were \$11,768,25, with Kansas \$8,441,24 and Iowa \$6,937, following in the order named. Another \$4,776 was realized from the sale of season trickets, to students. sale of season tickets to students, which entitled the holder to admission

hitters. He made 106 hits and fiftynine runs in 113 games for an average
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to the St. Louis Cardinals, while Brokaw is expected to prove even better
than Shag Thompson in center.

Pratt 1s the Goods.

Larry Pratt, Pa believes, will plug
up the hole in the backstopping department. Pratt is a finished catcher,
was a receiver he is a better man than
Ernie Krueger and he's a wonder at
cutting down base stealers. He is not
as strong a hitter as Krueger, but
Rourke, who has seen him plays eve
rail times, says he will slug the ball
consistently even though he doesn't
quite reach the \$300 mark.

Of Barham little is known except
that Rourke has received excellent reports of him. He is a youngster wellhow to Vancouver, the latter part of
the 1915 season. He won a majory to
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thought of scouts who looked him over reported to Rourke that he has the stuff
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sarely potential big league timber.

By securing the return of O'Tobe
Rourke does not have to worry greatly over his pitching corps. North is
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By securing the return of O'Tobe
Rourke does not have to worry greatly over his pitching corps. North is
is the only loss and already he has
signed up Benton whom he thinks
will prove just as good a hurier as
Lou, and Barham he believes will also
make good.

Rourke still has a few vacant positions to fill. He must get another
catcher to assist Pratt, although there
cated the status of an amateur.

Another \$4.776 was realized from the
makes incligable as an amateur the
to death of such the game of gold wherein
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SPORTS SECTION OF THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 14, 1917.

The Supreme Court of Base Ball



The National Base Ball commission, photo The National Base Ball commission, photographed at the Sinton hotel, Cincinnati, immediately after the election to office of its members. Those in the picture are, sitting, from left to right, John K. Tener, president of the National league; August

Hermann, chairman of the commission; Byron Bancroft Johnson, president of the American league. Standing, left to right, John E. Bruce, secretary of the commission, and Joseph Flanner, assistant sec-

SIX GRID GAMES

Fight Miske of Battler Tom Gibbons, brother of the more celebrated Mike, is anxious to box anybody in the middle or lightweight class, Billy Miske, Battling Levinsky. Bob Moha or Knockout Brown preferred. Gibbons' manager states that though Tom can make 158 pounds, for a magnate rather expensive. The Toledo sleuth admits that he lost \$10,—100 last season. Bresnahan asserts that he had a pay roll of \$43,000.

Fight Miske of Battler Tom Gibbons, brother of the more celebrated Mike, is anxious to box anybody in the middle or lightweight class, Billy Miske, Battling Levinsky. Bob Moha or Knockout Brown preferred. Gibbons' manager states that though Tom can make 158 pounds, let is willing to allow Miske to come into the ring at catchweights if a match can be arranged between the that he had a pay roll of \$43,000.

Fight Miske of Battler Tom Gibbons, brother of the more celebrated Mike, is anxious to box anybody in the middle or lightweight class, Billy Miske, Battling Levinsky. Though well loaded with talent, the New York Americans will not reduce their scouting operations next year. Joe Kelley will again head the gumshoe brigade, with Bobby Gilks into the ring at catchweights if a match can be arranged between the men.

OMAHA REFUSES TO

Try to Throw Pesek

Twice in One Hour

Earl Caddock, the Anita (Ia.) flash, is scheduled to undertake a tough proposition at Shelton, Neb., Thursday night. Earl has agreed to throw John Pesek, described as the Buffalo county mat marvel, twice within one hour for a purse of \$400 and a 75-25 cut of the gate receipts. Caddock is on his way to the Pacific coast, where he is carded to clash with Ad Santel, alian Adolph Ernst, in San Francisco.

Yanks Will Keep Full

Crew of Scouts at Work

Though well leaded with talent.

The Peoria Three-I club has signed as a pitcher Joe Prendergast, now a pitcher to Mike Prendergast, now a pitcher start with Peoria. Joe has had no professional experience.

CREIGHTON QUINT

WESTERN MOGULS GATHER IN OMAHA

President Zehrung Calls Special Meeting of League for This City Tomorrow.

SWITCH TOPEKA FRANCHISE

Western league magnates will gather in Omaha tomorrow to attend a special meeting called by President

a special meeting called by President Zehrung.

The transfer of the Topeka franchise to Pueblo, the length of the playing season, and the salary limit are the principal topics due to come before the assembled magnates.

There seems to be little uncertainty about the disposal of the Topeka franchise now. Pueblo business men have promised to build a plant to accommodate 5,000 persons. This promise probably means the stands will seat about 3,000, but that will suffice. They also say they will build the park within five minutes walking distance of the heart of the city. Aud last, but not least, these business men have promised to sell a bunch of season tickets before the drive for the flag starts.

That John Savage, holder of the Topeka franchise, will accept the terms offered by the Pueblo men is believed. Topeka is unquestionably a dead issue. It would be suicide to remain there. Pueblo hasn't had base ball for a number of years and is considered about ripe. In addition the steel mills there are now working night and day, the population has been increased since the Western league was last in the Colorado city and the town and its surrounding country is more prosperous.

With Pueblo a member of the cir-

and the town and its surrounding country is more prosperous.

With Pueblo a member of the circuit the schedule division will probably be changed. Lincoln, Wichita. Pueblo and Denver Will be in the western wheel and Omaha, Sioux City, Des Moines and St. Joseph in the eastern loop.

That Salary Limit.

The salary limit issue is expected to recieve considerable attention. The limit last year was \$2,600 and accusations of violations by every magnate in the league were heard on every side.

Pa Rourke has a scheme to keep

in the league were heard on every side.

Pa Rourke has a scheme to keep the salary limit down. It also has a number of other advantages. Rourke's plan is to pass a ruling which makes it obligatory for each club to carry at least six players who have never before played in more than fifty games in Class A or better. This means each club will carry at least six young ball players. They do not necessarily have to be recruits from the bush; they can be turned hack from the larger clubs, but they can't have had more than fifty games previous experience in the laster company.

Sam Fitzpatrick, who piloted Jack Johnson to the championship of the world, is now managing Johnson Howard of Bayonne, N. J. Fitzpatrick desires to match Howard with Les Darcy, and believes that his record entitles him to a bout with the Australian. Howard has met Jack Dillon, Bob Moha, Gus Christy, Mike Gibbons and Billy Miske, and Fitzpatrick declares he is ready to pos \$2,500 to bind a match between Howard and Darcy