

The Bee's Special Sunday Sport Pages

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 6, 1918.

All the Latest Sport News All the Time

CONFERENCE OF MINORS OF MIDDLE-WEST CALLED FOR PEORIA THIS MONTH

Representatives of Western, Central, Three-I and Central Association to Gather January 17 at Call of President M. H. Sexton to Discuss Plans for Rehabilitation of Circuits.

That promised conference of middle-west minor league club backers has been called for January 17 by President M. H. Sexton of the National association. The meeting will be held in Peoria.

FOUR LEAGUES.

These four leagues are to be represented at the confab: Western, Central, Three-I and Central association. It is possible the Western association also will be represented.

This conference was first proposed by Sexton at the Louisville meeting of the National association last November. It is Sexton's plan to rehabilitate the Western and Central association and effect a combination of Central league and Three-I cities that will result in a strong Class B circuit.

Just what details of this plan Sexton may have up his sleeve are not known, but the National association head is an old fox; he has been in baseball many years as a club owner and an association officer and he generally knows whereof he speaks or plans.

It is probable that the Western league will delay its plans for the coming season until this meeting is held. If the meeting develops a scheme of readjustment, the Western probably will fall in line. If not, Dickerson will continue to dicker for new territory on his own hook.

Hutchinson Shows Life. Hutchinson is trying to come to life. Business men and merchants of that city, learning that Jack Holland was contemplating moving his baggage, got their heads together and asked Holland how it would be possible for Hutchinson to retain its franchise. Jack's reply was to place a guarantee of \$15,000.

So the Hutchinsonites are trying to dig up the coin. Several of the wealthier citizens of the town have offered to donate \$1,000 each. They also are trying to sell season tickets for \$30 a crack, each ticket good for 70 games. The committee in charge is optimistic and expects to raise the \$15,000 and a bonus to boot. That being the case, Holland may remain in Hutchinson.

Brotten Goes South. Tony Brotten, first string catcher for the Rockies last season, will appear in a Little Rock uniform this season. Tony, who went up to the St. Louis Cardinals last fall, has been sold by the Cards to Little Rock.

Great Lakes Jackies Get Recognition From Colleges

Great Lakes, Ill., Jan. 5.—After months of effort Dr. John B. Kaufman, athletic officer at the Great Lakes naval station, has received official recognition from "Big Ten" coaches. The basket ball schedule shows games with Minnesota, Northwestern and Purdue and tentative bookings with Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

The jackies' success in carding the university teams practically means that contests also will be arranged in base ball. This assures the Great Lakes aggregations of plenty of high-class competition during the period of the war.

The Gophers were tackled at Minneapolis today. Purdue will be played at Lafayette, Ind., January 19; Peoria Collegians at Peoria January 30; Milliken university at Decatur February 1, Chicago at Great Lakes February 5 and Northwestern at Evanston February 16.

Before the schedule is completed it probably will show contests with 25 teams.

Benson & Thorne Quintet Still Looking for Games

The Benson & Thorne basket ball team is looking for more work to conquer.

Manager John Reel announces that his quintet is having a hard time finding enough opponents. He has several games booked, but he wants more. Any teams, in or out of Omaha, that would like to book games can reach Reel at 315 Brandeis Theater building.

The Benson & Thorne five played its first game last week, beating an all-star aggregation, 25 to 11. This, too, with several substitutes in the lineup.

New uniforms have been provided for the team. They are orange and black and the colors make a striking combination.

Jimmy Milota Now Teacher For Uncle Sam's Air Corps

Jimmy Milota, formerly secretary of the Omaha Amateur Base Ball association, has been made an instructor in the aviation corps of Uncle Sam's army.

Jimmy now is stationed at Ellington field, near Houston, Tex. He instructs aviators in machine gun work and even takes flights with student air men to show them how to work their machine guns while in the air. He is instructor of four classes and is busy with this from 7:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

Jimmy took the course in machine gun work at the marine corps school at the Savage arms works at Utica, N. Y.

Fred Luderus Headed for Discard; Can From Phils

Philadelphia report has it that Fred Luderus is slated for release by the Philly management and that George Whitted will be the first base guard-

Making It Pretty Soft for Mitchell



FRED MITCHELL.

Charlie Weeghman restaurant magnate, owner of the Chicago Cubs, millionaire and spendthrift, is making it pretty soft for Fred Mitchell, his hired hand who manages the Cubs from the bench.

Charlie has cut loose the strings from a bank roll the size of a bale of cotton and is squandering dollars all over the face of the globe. As a result, he is bringing to Chicago all the talent available.

And Mitch, with a grin on his map, sits at his case before the cozy, warm fireplace and says "Oh, boy, and he pays me ten thou a year to play with all these million-dollar kids."

Through Weeghman's liberality, Mitchell now has probably the best hurling corps of any ball club in any league. With Alexander, Vaughn, Douglas and Tyler, Mitch has four pitchers who are stars.

Behind him is Willie Killifer who will make the work of these hurlers even more effective because of his knowledge of batters and his knack of handling pitchers.

Then, too, there is Nick Carter, a youth with oodles of stuff and a lot of promise, and 'tis said all he needs

to become one of the greatest pitchers in the game is a catcher who can help him and teach him the fine points of the game.

Weeghman also got Dode Paskert, star outfielder for Mitch, and tied the can to Fred Williams because Mitchell and Williams failed to get along well. He put down \$15,000 in cold hard snacks for Barbour, an outfielder star from Baltimore. And he's still got more money to spend.

John McGraw may have been lucky at New York, but he'll be envious of Mitchell before long.

Pretty soft for Mitch? Yea bo.

TOUCHES OF HUMOR PICKED UP ALONG THE SPORTING PIKE

Modest? Oh! My Yes. There's no getting around the fact that ball players, or rather a goodly portion of them, never weary of talking about themselves, and going over their various exploits.

On one occasion last summer this peculiarity of ball players was being discussed by a couple of experts (3) when in the office there hove a ball player.

"Now, watch him," said one. "I'll bet you he doesn't say a thing about himself, for I know him well and he's as modest and shrinking as a whole flower-garden full of violets. He won't say a word about himself."

The ball player came up and after talking about a minute about things in general and base ball in particular, he sent this one across the plate: "You oughta see how I've been crowning that old apple here of late. The other day I hit the furthest ball I ever got hold of in my life and I'll bet it's going yet."

The losing expert (?) took the three over and bought the drinks. Hendricks Is Squelched. Jack Hendricks, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, was well taken down by Joe Cantillon on one occasion last season. One of Joe's ball players had kicked over the traces and the arbiter had waded him out of the game. It was a great joke to Hendricks, who chuckled all over himself at the ejected athlete, and it made Cantillon sore.

Joe called his player over and said in a voice loud enough for Hendricks to hear: "Come over here and take a seat where you can watch the greatest manager in the world. Keep your eye on him and you'll learn base ball that the books haven't even got onto yet."

Jack's mouth was closed, and he didn't have another word to say the remainder of the game. Justifiable Murder. Judge—Is there any reason why you should not be hanged until dead for the willful murder of Charles Trollis, as charged in this case?

Defendant—I am a sporting writer, your honor, and I found out that this man was one of those fellows who writes puzzles to the sporting departments about "A bet B," and also has been sending suggestions to the managing editor signed "Old Subscriber." I killed him in cold blood, and I'm glad I did it.

Judge—Case dismissed. Justifiable murder. Some Dream. Clayton Perry, manager and second baseman of the San Antonio team of the Texas league, is one ball player who loves only his life more than he does his money. He is the original money-hooverizer and when he ever clamps down on a dollar bill, nothing short of nitro-glycerine can separate him from it.

They tell a little story about a dream that Clayton was supposed to have had some time ago. Perry dreamed that he died one night after he had lost six bits in a poker game, and strange to relate, he found himself in heaven.

"Well, who are you?" asked St. Peter, the heavenly official scorer, as he adjusted his "specs" and started giving Clayton the critical up and down. "Perry, Clayton Perry, a ball player," answered Clayton, who had visions of one of those golden crowns that are given free with every permanent berth in the city where the streets are paved with gold.

"What did you ever do to deserve a place in heaven," asked St. Peter. "Well, I helped a blind man across the street once," replied Perry. "What else?"

"Yes, I gave a beggar 2 cents once." "Is that all?" asked St. Peter. "Yes, I reckon it is," said Clayton, trying to look pitiful.

"What are you gonna do with him Peter?" said St. Peter's assistant standing nearby taking in the pro-

ceedings and who acted as turnkey. "Guess you'd better give him his 2 cents back and send him to hell."

Tris Jokes Home Folks. Ray Chapman, Indians' shortstop, tells a little story of Tris Speaker and his popularity with the home folks down in Hubbard City, Tex., that bears repeating.

Chappie motored through to Hubbard City with Spoke. They arrived at 2 o'clock in the morning. Tris stopped his car at the outskirts of the town, went to the first alarm box, turned in the alarm, climbed back into his machine alongside of Chappie and waited.

They didn't have long to wait for not only the fire department but more than half of the inhabitants bustled out of their beds. When they arrived at the scene there was Speaker laughing as if his sides would

PAGE THE MINT, BOY! WEEGHMAN STILL HAS COIN

Chicago, Jan. 5.—The deals which brought Alexander, Killifer and Tyler to the Chicago Nationals will be eclipsed by one President Weeghman now is planning, according to Manager Mitchell. Mitchell said the \$250,000 with which Weeghman started out to buy a championship team is not nearly exhausted and that the biggest trade of the season will be announced in a few days.

While Mitchell would not intimate who was concerned in the reported trade, it was said last night that Roger Hornsby, shortstop of the St. Louis Nationals, would before many days come to the Chicago team.

Creighton Will Open Basket Ball Schedule on Wednesday

The Creighton university quintet will open its 1918 basket ball schedule next Wednesday night at the Creighton gymnasium. The Blue and White five will meet Coach Kline's crack squad from Nebraska Wesleyan.

The Wesleyans are reported to have as strong a team this year as the ones in the past that annually waltzed away with the championship of Nebraska. Coach Mills, however, expects his proteges to make a satisfactory clean-up on the Ministers.

The Creighton has not yet completed his cage schedule for this winter. Negotiations are still pending between the school on the hill and sport managers at Camp Dodge and Fanston and a number of high class teams in Kansas. It is very likely that games will be played on the local floor within the next two weeks.

Former Boxing Promoter Becomes Blue Sky Dealer

Eddie Pitts, former boxing promoter, has entered the oil selling game at Denver and is a full-fledged "blue sky" promoter, with engraved letter heads and all that goes with the job. They do say he even has carpets on the floor—but of course someone may be spoofing a bit.

Still Plenty of Smiths Left in the Big Leagues

The Smith family in the majors lost two more members, when Elmer Smith of Cleveland and Sherrod Smith of Brooklyn decided to go to war, but there is still enough of them left to make quite a ball team.

Athlete Made Officer.

Jess Legg, former catcher of the Little Rock Southern league team and before that a star in college athletics, has been awarded a first lieutenant's commission in the army. He took the training course at the officers' school at Leon Springs, Tex.

break. The Hubbard Cityites joined in the laugh and proceeded to give their idol a warm welcome.

Heart Failure.

Jim Buckley, the New York manager, was telling old ones the other night. "Do any of you fellows remember the crowd I had stuffed in my little old Sharkey club to see Sam Langford and Jim Barry box? That was one of the most successful shows I ever had there. No bigger than a cigar box, it took in \$8,000 at the door," said Buckley. "Langford and Barry boxed for \$150 apiece. Barry gave us a shock, though. With all that money in, Barry didn't show up until almost an hour after the regular time. When he walked in the said, 'Am I too late, Jim?'"

"Get into your tights quick. No! You're not too late—my heart, it's still beating faintly. Hurry up!"

OMAHA COLLEGE QUINTETS RESUME CAGE PRACTICE

Omaha intercollegiate basket ball quintets, idle for two weeks owing to the holiday vacations, resume practice this week and prepare for the opening of the 1918 season.

Creighton, Omaha university and Bellevue all start practice again tomorrow, as do the high school cage fives.

Omaha university will pry the lid off the college basket ball season Friday night when Burdick's charges will clash with Doane.

This is one of the biggest games of the season for the local school. It will be played at the local school's gymnasium.

Omaha uni has the best prospective floor squad in years. The team has suffered some from enlistments—Clyde and Donald Nicholson, both in line for varsity positions, are the latest to join the colors—but Burdick believes the material left will fill out a good floor combination.

At Bellevue, Coach Reel is struggling against odds. There are 11 male students in the school. Of the 11, Reel has eight on the basket ball team.

Tommy Mills at Creighton is more fortunate. Mills has several veterans and a number of new men who are showing all kinds of speed and ability. Creighton followers believe the blue and white five this year will be in a class with any other college quintet in this part of the country.

Southern Loop Umpire Is Winner as Foot Ball Man

Charley Moran, Southern league umpire as coach of the Center college (Danville, Ky.) foot ball team the last season, has shown his class as a gridiron general. His team cleaned up everything in the way of opposition and won the championship of Kentucky. He merely was repeating the success he had with the A. and M. eleven in Texas.

Gay Crusader Big Winner Of English Turf Season

Gay Crusader heads the list of winners on the English turf this year with \$50,625. In a normal year the amount would have been more than \$100,000. He has also placed his sire, Bayardo, and his jockey, Donoghue, and his trainer, Alex. Taylor, in first place.

Peoria Lad in Army.

Harry Laross, well known minor league outfielder, who finished last season with the Peoria Central league team, is a recent enlistment. He goes into the quartermaster's end of the war game.

DOC STEWART ANNOUNCES NEBRASKA GRID SCHEDULE, AND, OH BOY, SOME CARD

Cornhusker Mentor Evidently Working on Theory That the Bigger They Come the Harder They Fall Goes from New York to Washington Looking for Playmates for His Athletes.

NEBRASKA GRID SCHEDULE.

- October 5—University of Iowa at Lincoln.
- October 19—Notre Dame at Lincoln.
- October 26—Washington State at Lincoln.
- November 2—(Open).
- November 9—University of Missouri at Columbia.
- November 16—University of Kansas at Lincoln.
- November 23—Northwestern university at Lincoln.
- November 28—Syracuse university at Lincoln.

No matter what other faults Doc Stewart, Nebraska foot ball coach and athletic director, may have, you have got to hand it to him—and on a silver platter at that—he is a game guy and he bars nobody.

OH, BOY!

BIG AMATEUR TOURNAY WILL BE STAGED IN OMAHA

Simon Pure Grapplers Are to Clash for Championships at Young Men's Christian Association.

Omaha mat fans will have an opportunity to see their first amateur championship wrestling tournament in this city before the current season ends.

Physical Director Weston of the Young Men's Christian association and C. E. Seeley, wrestling instructor at the "Y," are making plans to stage this event at the Young Men's Christian association.

Omaha has always been a center of professional wrestling, but the amateur game has never thrived here and an amateur tournament never has been staged.

Other cities, however, have their amateur wrestlers and hold successful amateur tournaments. So Weston and Seeley decided that such an event could be held successfully in Omaha and they now are taking the first steps to bring it about.

Next Friday a wrestling class starts at the Young Men's Christian association. Seeley will be in charge. There are a number of active young huskies at the "Y," and Seeley believes some excellent mat timber is contained in their number. He is confident the class will turn out some classy amateur mat sharks.

The tournament will be staged when the members of this wrestling class show sufficient ability to enter championship competition.

All Classes. Championships will be determined in all classes, heavyweight, light heavyweight, middleweight, welterweight, lightweight, featherweight, bantamweight and paperweight and flyweight if any grapplers in these latter two classes can be found.

Coincident with the start of the wrestling class at the "Y" Friday, a boxing class will get under way.

Cards Will Take Fewer Players to Spring Camp

Fewer players will be taken on the spring training trip of the St. Louis Nationals next season than in several years. The squad, according to President Rickey, probably will number 25. Although the camp has not been selected, President Rickey said it would be "somewhere in Texas."

The Cardinals have trained at San Antonio for the last three years and it is probable the club will return there, although Houston, Temple and San Angelo are under consideration. There are no high winds in the vicinity of San Antonio and the climate usually is dry and warm in the early spring.

The Cardinals probably will put in two weeks in the camp, as they must return to St. Louis in time to play the Browns in the spring series and have a day or two of rest before the opening.

The Cardinals will play exhibition games at Houston, Fort Worth, San Antonio and Little Rock, according to present plans.

Owen Moran Gets Job as Constable in Home Town

Owen Moran, the English fighter, is now a constable at the water works in London, occasionally getting a chance to engage in a bout. Owen fought a 15-round bout at one of the clubs in England a few weeks ago and got \$295 for his end. Johnny Summers and Jim Driscoll, the English fighters, are at the front.

Rowdy Elliott of Cubs To Lead Salt Lake Club

Rowdy Elliott, Cub catcher, is to be made manager of the Salt Lake team of the Pacific Coast league. The job was first offered to Walter McCredie, but the latter will go with the Portland team to its new home in the Northwestern league.

Pacific Coast Managers Face a Stiff Proposition

Pacific Coast league team managers not only will have to use moe bushers under the new league regulations, but they also will have to get along with fewer players of any sort, for the league at its recent meeting cut the team limit to 16 men.

The doctor has just announced seven of the eight foot ball games in which the University of Nebraska eleven will be one of the combatants next fall. And, believe us, it is some announcement.

From the class of the teams upon which Stewart takes picks one would imagine the doctor had one or two Guy Chamberlains, Ted Coys, Willie Heaton, Walter Eckersalls and Elmer Opliphants up his sleeve.

To start the season and give the boys a little preliminary joust in which to feel their oats, so to speak, the doc chooses Iowa, a small, secondary university over in the Hawkeye state which never has much of a foot ball team.

Just a Romp. This will be just a practice game for the Cornhuskers, one of the easy games on the schedule. Next, the Huskers tangle with Notre Dame, another little early season fray in which the Scarlet and Cream takes picks on a college of little class on the gridiron.

Then comes Washington State college. Washington state isn't the University of Washington which was undefeated for ten years while Gilmour Dobie handled the reins; but even so, Washington state has considerable foot ball eleven and just for a guess is about as good as the University of Washington or any other Pacific coast team at that.

Looking For More. No game has been booked for November 2. This is the one open date on the schedule. Negotiations now are said to be under way with the University of Washington, University of California and Denver and that one of the three will be played.

Of Washington university we spoke before—that's where Mr. Dobie was located. California is about of the same class and, incidentally, beat Washington last year.

November 9 the Huskers invade Missouri for a clash with the Tigers, then on November 16 they play Kansas at Lincoln.

And then—and then, the Huskers fly right into the bull dog's face. They take a shot at Northwestern, which beat Michigan last year, and Michigan beat Nebraska, at Lincoln, and then come right back four days later to play Syracuse.

No Piker. Never let it be said Doc Stewart is a piker. Perish the thought. When Daniel entered the lion's den he never had a thing on Stewart. For plenty of brass and the nerve to back it up, all the laurels go to the doctor.

If we ever said anything against the doc, we tak'd it all back now. For if Stewart never did anything else he is putting Nebraska on the foot ball map and that's what we've been praying for for these many years.

If any college in the country shows a classier schedule than Nebraska next fall, show it to us. Opening the season with Iowa, then Notre Dame, Washington State, Washington, California, Missouri, Kansas, Northwestern, and Syracuse. Good night. The far east—Syracuse—the far west—Washington—the central west—Notre Dame—the Western conference—Northwestern and Iowa—the Missouri Valley—Kansas and Missouri. And only one of these games, the Missouri fray, is away from home and that game is the busher of the bunch.

Small wonder if the foot ball fans smack his lips and licks his chops in anticipation of next fall when he gives the above schedule the double o.

Sherrod Smith of Robins Reports at Camp Gordon

Sherrod Smith, the big left-handed pitcher of the Brooklyn Robins, has enlisted in the army and will report at Camp Gordon, Atlanta, Ga.

It has been known for some time that Smith was planning to enlist, but the formal announcement came in a telegram to Charles H. Ebbets, president of the Brooklyn club.

Mr. Ebbets wired his congratulations to Smith, who is the fourth pitcher of the Robins to join the colors. The others are Leon Cadore, Jeff Pfeffer and Jack Miljus.

Cincinnati Plans to Use Blackburne at Shortstop

Russel Blackburne did his best work of his base ball career at third base for Toronto last season, but it is the plan of Manager Mathewson of the Cincinnati Reds to play him at short. Groh, of course, will be left at third and Dave Shean is the favorite for second base.

Dallas Athlete Enlists.

Lyman Smith, a California player who was with Dallas in the Texas league for awhile last season, has enlisted in the submarine service at San Pedro, Cal.