

# State Pin Tournament Opens at the Omaha Alleys

## BILL JACKSON ARRIVES READY TO START WORK

### New Manager of Rourke's Assumes Duties as Omaha Manager; Jake Holderman Signs Contract.

Bill Jackson, newly appointed guardian of the Rourke family, arrived in Omaha yesterday to assume charge of his flock. Bill was on the job 30 minutes after his arrival and began to make plans for the opening of the season.

William comes to Omaha with a reputation as a boss pilot. Last year he led the Omaha club to a pennant in the abbreviated 1917 campaign and he did it with a very ordinary team. He had a staff of good hitters and by putting a lot of light on his players, won a great number of close games and provided the high end of Rock Island's only of the year.

Jackson not only is reported to be an A. No. 1 manager, but he is a good player. He has been a player for a number of years and at one time was the star first baseman in the now defunct Federal league. Jackson will occupy the first sack for Omaha as well as manage the team.

#### Here to Stay.

The new manager is in Omaha to stay. He brought his family with him and will make his home here in the future. Pa Rourke will turn over the management of the players and of the club to the new pilot and leave it all up to William.

Rourke has referred all correspondence to Jackson and from now on, Bill will do all the hiring or firing, buying or selling, signing or swapping. It is Bill's base ball club.

Jackson announces that he expects to snare three or four players from the Central league, which officially opened Friday. After the Thoburns tumbled over the cliff last year, seven pitchers, the season in the central league and Jackson signed several sweet looking athletes whom he now is trying to land for Omaha.

"We have a pretty good foundation for a team as it is," said Jackson yesterday, "except that we need some pitchers. Good pitching makes a ball club and we've got to get them. And we'll get them, too, because there will be plenty of hurlers available before long."

#### Holderman Signs.

A new outfielder has been signed by Rourke. He is none other than Jake Holderman, an conscientious objector last year. Rourke bought Jake a year ago from Fort Wayne, but Jake was a medical student and he refused to quit college to play ball for Omaha or anywhere else. So Rourke suspended him and retained him on the reserve list and Holderman played no ball last year.

This spring, however, Rourke sent Holderman a contract, because that happens to be the necessary legal process. And lo and behold, a contract signed with Jake's autograph was returned by mail.

Rourke purchased Holderman for first base. He played that position at Fort Wayne. Now Rourke has Jackson to play first. But it so happens that Holderman is an outfielder as well as first baseman, and a rather good one, too. So Holderman will be an Omaha outfielder this season.

Bill Jackson saw Holderman play on the Pacific coast and says Jake looked like a good ball player. Jake was just breaking in then.

#### Louisville Halts Deal.

The Louisville Colopels are holding up the Omaha-St. Paul deal which involves an exchange of Marty Krug, former Rourke manager, for Defate and Boardman. Louisville refuses to waive on Boardman.

Rourke believes, however, the Colopels will withdraw their claim for Boardman and the deal will go through. Even should Louisville demand Boardman, however, Krug will go to St. Paul and Defate come to Omaha. Then Rourke would either get another player or the waiver price.

Rourke, though, wants Boardman. He believes Boardman is due to arrive as one star southpaw hurler. Apparently Louisville has the same hunch, which would indicate Rourke's judgment probably is correct, and that should he finally land Boardman he will have captured a coming star.

#### Assignment of Tennis

#### Tourney Dates This Week

New York, March 16.—The annual assignment of dates for sanctioned tennis tournaments will be considered at the scheduled meeting of the executive committee of the National Tennis association to be held in this city next Saturday. At that time the applications for dates for the 1918 tournaments will be presented and various other questions affecting the policy of the national association for the current season will be considered.

Applications received thus far indicate that the 1918 schedule will be shorter than the one adopted last spring, when 225 dates were sanctioned exclusive of those for junior and boys' tournaments. The bulk of the important fixtures probably will appear on this year's schedule, but its make-up cannot be definitely determined until the executive committee has acted.

#### Camp Funston Nine Will

#### Play Exhibitions in K. C.

The entire proceeds of the exhibition games between the Kansas City team of the American association and the division team from Camp Funston, to be played at Association park in Kansas City on April 27 and 28, will be donated to the camp's athletic fund.

George Muelbach, president of the Kansas City club, is interesting civic organizations in the movement to bring out record-breaking crowds. There will be a parade headed by the Funston band. The games with the soldiers will help keep the Blues in the condition for the opening of the American association season, May 1,

## BIG LEAGUE BALL TOSSERS START TRAINING GRIND

### Doping Winners This Year Is Tougher Than Getting the Coin at Havana or New Orleans

The last week marked the beginning of the annual spring training season for the major league ball players. From now until the opening of the regular season the pastimers will be busy working the kinks out of their satiny stockings and limbering up their legs.

The program of training at the various big league camps will follow the established routine. The first week or two will be devoted to scrub games, with plenty of batting and pit-ting practice. Then will come a series of games with actual base, strike, and transfer features, while the teams are working their way northward.

Some of the more courageous of base ball scuffles have dotted out the coming season from April to October, but the one who can call the turn on the 1918 pennant scramble—well, he's certainly some Solomon.

Will the White Sox repeat? Can the Grays come through again? Are the Red Sox a stronger or a weaker outfit than last year? What will the Cubs do, now that they have secured a bunch of stars: Will Connie Mack's new pastimers bring the Athletics to life? Are the Phillies shot to pieces and headed for the cellar? Where do the Detroit Tigers and Cleveland Indians get off? Will Miller Huggins bring the Yanks into the limelight? Can Jack Hendricks make a winner of the Cardinals? Do the Dodgers, Reds, Braves, Pirates, Senators and Browns fit, or will they be dogging it from the first tap of the song to the last?

#### Foolish to Forecast.

No sane guru would attempt to forecast the important prospects of all the big league teams, for the simple reason that for quite some few of 'em there is no such thing as prospects.

But even a violent bug can see wherein some of the big toppers have been materially strengthened at the expense of some other member of the same circuit.

For instance, no reasonable doubt can exist that the Cubs, through the acquisition of Alexander, Killiter and Easker, are a stronger aggregation than they were in 1917. By the same line of reasoning the conclusion is reached that the loss of this trio of great pastimers puts the Phils in the nine-hole right at the blowoff.

Next on the list of juggled lineups comes the Red Sox. Through the call to the colors and the trading of pastimers, the old Sox are no longer of the hooper-of-variety. According to latest announcement, "Stuffy" McInnis is to tackle the job at third base for the Sox and Johnny Evers is to start the season at second. These two crack-neck players holding down two important positions should prove a big help to the Sox in weathering the storm.

#### As to C. Mack.

The Athletics is another outfit that has made a considerable revision of its roster since last season. Manager Mack has disposed of nearly all of the pastimers he raised and educated to big league life. To take their places he has secured Gardner, Cady and Walker, the Red Sox veterans. Perhaps Connie has played his hand wisely and the Mackmen will arrive, perhaps.

The world champion White Sox and the Giants, champions of the National league, remain practically intact, which spells considerable trouble for the other teams in their respective leagues.

The "it" stuff goes for the pennant chances of several of our best known base ball teams. If Ty Cobb continues his merciless warfare against pitchers and Tigers will be up and doing. If Walter Johnson can return to his old time teasing of the hitters with his time tearing up and down, the Senators will stick in the league at any rate.

Of the other big yard entertainers there is little to be said. Base ball is a peculiar institution, and there's no telling what sort of a stunt will be pulled off next. The champs of last year may again be champs this year. The fly of 1917 may again become stalled in trying to climb the treacherous old pennant slope. Then, again, some might of last year may uncover a wonder from Fainted Post and tear the old pastime wide open before the season of 1918 is very far advanced.

#### No Change in Uniforms of Title-Winning White Sox

Uniforms to be worn by the Chicago Americans this season will be exact duplicates of their outfits of last year. "It would never do to make a change of any kind in the uniforms after the boys won the world's championship," explained Charles A. Comiskey, owner of the club.

Trainer Bruecker, who has rubbed the aches and pains out of the players' muscles for several years, will be in charge of the conditioning work again this year, Comiskey has announced.

#### Columbus Gets Catcher From Semi-Pro Champions

The Columbus club of the American Association has signed for trial Frank Kohlbecker, who was the catcher on the Cincinnati Norwads, the team which won the national semi-pro championship last year. Kohlbecker is said by his Cincinnati admirers to be a sure major league prospect.

#### Former Western Manager To Play on Pacific Coast

Clyde Wares, who once managed the Wichita Western league club from the Keyston sack, and who was at Little Rock last year, is to be in the Coast league this season. He is to be seen in a Sacramento uniform.

## Men Behind Nebraska State Bowling Event Now Being Held at Omaha Alleys



L. M. HOLLIDAY.



J. J. ISAACSON.



RICHARD GROTTÉ.

## Willard and Fulton Will Meet on April 1 to Sign Articles for Go

### Oklahoma Promoter Guarantees Minnesota Man \$20,000, But Refuses to Disclose Terms Offered to Champion; Length of Fight Depend Upon Location; \$5,000 Side Bet.

Kansas City, Mo., March 16.—Singing of final articles, selection of the place, agreement on the length of the contest and naming officials remained today to be completed for the fight July 4 between Jess Willard, champion, and Fred Fulton for the heavyweight title. After two days of negotiation, Mike Collins, manager for Fulton, and Colonel J. C. Miller of Bliss, Okla., who has a contract with Willard for his services July 4, agreed that the principals should meet April 1, and sign final articles.

Under the agreement reached by Collins and Miller, Fulton is guaranteed \$20,000 for the fight, win, lose or draw, and Willard will cover a side bet of \$5,000. Colonel Miller would not say what Willard's share will be.

The length of the fight will depend upon the limit placed by the laws in the state which is selected for the scene of the contest. Miller said, declaring Willard is willing to fight to a finish. Miller has not committed himself to a place for holding the bout, but this may be decided by the time of the meeting, April 1, it was said.

The fight will not be permitted in Oklahoma, according to S. E. Freeling, attorney general of the state, who made this announcement in connection with news that Colonel Miller was planning to stage the bout on his ranch.

## CITY ATHLETIC CARNIVAL TO BE HELD MARCH 27

The second annual municipal athletic carnival will be staged at the Municipal Auditorium March 27. Recreation Director Isaacson announced yesterday.

The municipal carnival this year will be staged on an even bigger scale than last year, Isaacson declares. All of the community centers in the city will enter teams in the competitions, and take part in the other events. Relay races will form the principal competitive events on the program.

Drills and folk dances by the women are also included in the program. A brass band will furnish the music and Isaacson promises a novelty in folk dances to "rag" music.

## Omaha Gun Club Will Stage Trophy Shoot This Afternoon

The Omaha Gun club will hold a trophy shoot at the club at 2:30 this afternoon. A number of attractive merchandise trophies will be awarded the marksmen who shatter the largest number of blue rocks in the various events.

## Western Loop News Notes

Hutchinson has sold Billy Sommer, southpaw pitcher, to Topeka.

First baseman Miller is the first St. Joseph athlete to accept terms and sign a contract.

Jack Coffey, manager of the Minors, will help Athletic Director Griffith at Camp Dodge this summer.

Spencer Abbott, new president of the Topeka club, is the same Spencer Abbott who used to play first base for Topeka and later managed the team.

Bud Hulsvert, who will manage Joplin, already is on the job. He has reported at Joplin and is signing his men to contracts.

Leroy O'Dual, string base southpaw who pitched for the Los Angeles Boosters last season, has been shipped to San Francisco.

Tom Connelly, third baseman and center fielder for the St. Joseph team, has joined the army. His job will be taken by the Saints.

## SPECIAL EVENTS ADDED TO DRAKE RELAY CARNIVAL

Des Moines, Ia., March 16.—With a view to increasing interest in the annual classic, several events are being arranged for the Drake university carnival to be held here April 20. A special 100-yard dash has been added to the program as one of the features and it is expected the race will attract such sprinters as Howard Drew of Drake, Charles Hoyt of Grinnell, now in the army, and Sol Butler of Dubuque college.

In addition to the usual relay entries a crack half-mile soldier team from Camp Dodge will participate and some of their cartmatters may send representatives. The Dodge team will be composed of Shearer, Jones, Kasper and King, all former collegiate stars.

It is hoped that this year's meet will attract a larger field than last year, as several of the schools that called off track athletics last season have signified their intention of sending relay teams. Invitations were sent to the following institutions, a number of which have already accepted:

University section, Ames, Chicago, Drake, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Northwestern, Purdue, Michigan, Wisconsin and Kansas Agricultural college.

College section, Coe, Cornell, Des Moines, Grinnell, Hamline, Highland Park, Iowa Wesleyan,orningside, Penn, Simpson, Wabash, Yankton, University of South Dakota, South Dakota Agricultural college, Carleton, Nebraska Wesleyan, Dubuque, Beloit, Knox.

Invitations also were sent to more than 30 high schools.

#### Plank Builds Carage.

Eddie Plank says he is in real earnest about retiring from the national pastime. He is building a garage at Gettysburg and says he will spend his summer right there.

## ASSOCIATION TO START MAY DAY; SHORT SCHEDULE

### Playing Chart Calls for Only Seventy Games, With Season Opening May 1 and Closing September 22.

Chicago, March 16.—The American association base ball season will open on "May day," according to the official schedule which was given out tonight by T. J. Hickey, president of the league. The playing chart calls for 70 games, which will require three swings around the circuit for each club. The season will close on Sunday, September 22, with double-headers scheduled for some of the clubs.

On May 1 the league champions, Indianapolis, with Nanoleon Lajoie in Jack Hendricks' shoes, as manager, will be pitted against Joe Tinker's club at Columbus, Louisville, is scheduled to play at Toledo, St. Paul will be at Milwaukee and Minneapolis will open at Kansas City.

The league champions will be on the road seven days before they open at home on May 8 with Columbus as the opponent. Louisville also opens before the home folk on that date with Toledo. The western clubs will play only six days at the start of the season, May 7 being left open for traveling. On the 8th, Kansas City will cross bats with Minneapolis at the latter city, while Milwaukee will be at St. Paul for the first home series there.

#### Choice Dates Divided.

The Saturdays and Sundays are evenly divided. Columbus, Louisville, Kansas City and Minneapolis have 11 of each while Toledo, Indiana, St. Milwaukee and St. Paul have been awarded 10 of each.

Independence day double-headers are scheduled with Indianapolis at Toledo; Columbus at Louisville and Kansas City at Milwaukee, Minneapolis and St. Paul will divide the day's program for the home folks, playing in the morning at St. Paul and journeying over to Minneapolis for the afternoon games. Decoration day, May 30, and Labor day, September 2, also are arranged for split bills in the "win cities." St. Paul playing the morning end of each of the holiday games at Minneapolis, while the afternoon contests will be staged at St. Paul. Other Labor day games held are Toledo at Indianapolis, Columbus at Louisville and Milwaukee at Kansas City. Memorial day Toledo will be at Columbus, Louisville at Indianapolis and Milwaukee at Kansas City.

## Coach Richards Is Given Long Contract at Wisconsin

John Richards will be head football coach at the University of Wisconsin for three years, a new contract offered him having been signed, Richards is a Wisconsin alumnus. He made a good record with mediocre material last fall.

## AUTO MEN SHOOT FIRST GAMES IN MAPLE CLASSIC

### Metcalfe, Ridgell, Holliday, Dahlman, Butler and Parks Roll First Balls on Six Drives.

The Nebraska state bowling tournament opened at the Omaha alley last night.

Lee Metcalfe, representing instructor Neville W. S. Ridgell, president of the state bowling association, Mayor Dahlman and City Commissioners George Parks and Dan Butler rolled the first balls on the six alleys.

Metcalfe registered a strike, the only man of the six to mark. He was way of the Haynes Auto team. The first man to shoot in the tournament proper, also registered a strike. Before the opening at 7 o'clock, Metcalfe made a short talk, the behalf of the governor. During his brief address he told a story on Neville, which excited a particular appeal to the pin men.

Metcalfe was teaching the governor how to bowl. As is usual with the novice, the governor's marksmanship was nothing to brag about. After several more or less wild shots a disgusted pin boy yelled "Get some size boards for that guy."

"Nix," cautioned a co-writer, "don't you know who that is? That's the governor of the state."

"Whadda I care?" demanded the pin boy. "I can beat him bowling."

## Jack McGuigan Quits; Bad Health the Cause

Jack McGuigan, the well known boxing promoter of Philadelphia who has been compelled to retire from the sport as a result of a serious illness. He has been matchmaker and manager of the National A. C. of that city for over 10 years, has just received \$1,200 from the sporting fraternity of Philadelphia which was collected at the boxing show of the Olympia A. A. Harry Edwards, manager of the latter club, started the collection with \$100 and the fight fans and fighters contributed so liberally that they had no trouble in getting together the above sum. During his career McGuigan staged many of the most important bouts that have been held in "Philly." He was famous as a referee.

## Toronto Reserves Zabel, But George Worries Not

George Zabel, former Kansas City and Chicago pitcher, is held in reserve by Toronto of the defunct International league. George has just organized base ball, being employed by the Fairbanks-Morse company at Beloit. He pitches in the summer and says he will never return to the professional ranks.



## A Man's Shirt Deserves Special Attention

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If they fit perfectly, are of correct style and made of approved fabrics, they add to your dress.

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