

WITH THE AMATEURS

Hughes Receives Offer from Memphis (Tenn.) Club.

HIS PARENTS ARE OPPOSED

Do Not Want Him to Play Professional Baseball—St. Martin's Has Unusually Strong Pitching Staff. Twisting Signs Several New Players—Other Notes of the Diamond.

By N. T. WOHLBY.

Unless the scouts for minor professional teams seek another field in Washington, the amateur ranks will soon be depopulated to such an extent that most of the organizations will blow skyward. The latest youngster to get an offer to play professional ball is Walter Hughes, the crack pitcher and first baseman of the Car Department here. Hughes has been asked to come South for a trial, but, owing to parental objections, will probably turn down the inducements of the Memphis club.

Last season Hughes—who weighs about 150 pounds, is of medium height, and pitches with his right arm—was a member of the Southern Railway nine and one of its best players. This year he signed with Car Department, and much of the success attained by this team may be laid at his door. For a nineteen-year-old twirler, Hughes certainly has the "stuff," and his record bears out the assertion that he will break into big league company before many seasons roll by. He has participated in seven games of this year, pitching three and starting another, and has played first well around the 350 mark, and his fielding is good. He has a strike-out record of twenty-seven for three and a half games, or thirty-four innings. In these three and a half contests his opponents found him a puzzle. He has made ten hits in the seven games he has played and has scored ten runs.

Parents often object to their sons leaving home to play ball. In the first place, they fear that in some way their offspring will stray from the beaten path and fall into bad company, or, sometimes they doubt the money-making ability of their son on the baseball field. There is no doubt that many a good ball player has been kept out of the big leagues by the refusal of his father, mother, or guardian to allow him to compete in the greatest of all games for a salary.

The St. Martin's team is unusually strong in pitching with "Al" Ogile, Green (when in Washington), Halzer, and Wilkinson to fire the pellets across the pen, and it is upon this fact that the manager of the Church team is basing his hope to land the Independence League pennant this year. In addition to their good pitching corps, the St. Martin's crew is composed in the main of heavy hitters who are liable to fall on a pitcher and drive him off the mound in any inning. This is a great thing and installs confidence into the boys and the manager. One game won in the ninth inning will do a club's business good than several won hands down. There is one thing that the Churchmen should get firmly in the head, and that is the race is going to be a hard one, possibly the hardest ever fought out at McDevitt's, and Kraft's men have proved that they are a hard lot to beat hereabouts.

The batting records give Donnelly, second baseman for Manhattan, the leading mark for the games played to date. Twining has braced up since Manager Dilaver severed his connection with the team, and the new leader, Harry Burke, has hopes of obliterating the New York boys back into form. He has struck Hower and Brek, two Kendall Green collegians who have already made their mark in the baseball arena, and who should be a big brace to the Twining aggregation. Hower probably will prove to be the best third sacker in the league, judged by his performances in the college battles this spring, while Brek is a pitcher who can be relied on to win his quota of games with any kind of support.

The Bloomingdale will play at Falls Church, Va., this afternoon at 5:30. Washington rooters are welcome. Le Mat, the new third baseman of the St. Martin's team, is handling his chances in an able manner and getting his share of hits. Le Mat was a player on the Bethany team last season.

Order out the lifeboats if it rains to-day. This dings-dinged atmospheric disturbance will have to stop soon, or the amateur editor will be unable to find words to express himself. Moral: No games, no dope.

Ebert, National Union's crack epithal artist, is attracting attention by the way in which he is hitting the ball these days. A glance at the recent scores shows how good his eye is for the sphere.

Pension Bureau plays G. P. O. to-day at the Marquette League grounds at H and M streets northwest at 5:30. The grounds, while pretty well soaked, are in better condition than they were several weeks ago, and if the sun shines to-day a good game should be the result.

"Big Cy" Young of the Pension Bureau aggregation, connected for his first hit of the season Wednesday, and just to nail the old horsehide in style, he ran up four bingles for the day.

Some good games are promised Marquette League fans next week, as there will be three top-notch battles among the leaders. On Monday the Pensioners will try to throw the hook into the Diamond A. C. Friday, Columbia 101 will play Bureau, and Saturday Columbia 101 will clash with the Diamond team.

Car Department ousted Adams from the top in the Terminal R. R. Y. M. C. A. League by trimming them in a loosely played contest last week. Fifteen errors were made by the two teams, and it is no wonder the Expressmen lost, they being the chief offenders.

Speaking of the Adams-Car Department contest, reminds us that Hughes pitched and made four hits in the game.

BASEBALL NOTES AND COMMENT.

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Help! A sporting editor has jumped into the umpire game. Eldridge, former sporting editor of the Little Rock Gazette, is doing the stunt, and well, too, in the South. He will be given next month. Members of this committee are empowered to name subcommittees to assist them in selling tickets. Prospective players will be given no security screens for the city almshouse and making other improvements at that institution. Other matters concerning improvements proposed in the city were not discussed by those present. Another meeting of the league will be held Thursday night next.

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Republicans Meet in Mass Convention.

EIGHT DELEGATES ELECTED

Civic Improvement League Plans for Excursion to Raise Funds for Almshouse Improvements—Delegation of F. O. A. No. 5, Pays Fraternal Visit to Washington.

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WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU, 623 KING STREET. Alexandria, Va., June 10.—A mass meeting of the Republicans of this city was held at 8 o'clock this evening at Odd Fellows' Hall, at which time eight delegates with one-half vote each were elected to the Republican Congressional convention, which will be held here June 29 for the purpose of electing a candidate for Congress from the Eighth district to oppose Representative C. C. Carlin, the Democratic nominee. The meeting was presided over by H. B. Quinn, and W. H. P. Kelley served as secretary. The following were elected delegates: Joseph L. Crupper, J. A. Egborn, Worth Hulsh, John Agnew, John Reed, Willard P. Graves, W. H. P. Kelley, and H. B. Quinn. The following committees were also elected: First ward, Donald L. Atcheson and David E. Robey; Second ward, C. M. Hancock and S. A. Forrest; Third ward, Thomas B. Henderson and William G. Wells; Fourth ward, John Brenner and William Luskett.

The delegates were not instructed for particular candidates. The meeting heartily endorsed the work of Joseph L. Crupper, State committee man. Attention was also called by the chairman to the fact that the personnel of the committee consisted of the best men in the city. Doubtless give their hearty support to the party's work.

A largely attended meeting of the Civic Improvement League took place last night at the room of the chamber of commerce. Mrs. F. J. Paff, chairman of the committee on the almshouse, presided, and a committee of forty-one ladies was named for the purpose of selling tickets for the excursion which will be given next month. Members of this committee are empowered to name subcommittees to assist them in selling tickets. Prospective players will be given no security screens for the city almshouse and making other improvements at that institution. Other matters concerning improvements proposed in the city were not discussed by those present. Another meeting of the league will be held Thursday night next.

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