

mony Wednesday to mark the game as the first of the season. Believing that the fans are coming out to his park to see a ball game rather than a cabaret performance, however, President Thomas plans to button down on much of the pre-battle stuff and get the combat under way promptly at bell time.

The Cards are due to arrive tomorrow morning and both teams will have a session on the diamond. Morning practice will be a regular thing for the Cubs during their first home stay.

Joe Tinker's Whale team looks like a major league aggregation. One game is not enough on which to pass final judgment, but the north side squad goes about its work impressively. As was predicted, there is nothing of the slam-bang nature in the Whale bating, as the men lacked practice on their spring trip.

Various batters went after the slants of Eddie Plank Saturday in an uncertain manner, Wickland and Beck, left-handed walloppers, being particularly weak. Tinker used his double-entry outfield, and the first trial indicates that the plan will prove valuable. He is fortunate in having two sets of gardeners of almost equal strength.

Jimmy Smith, the new shortstop, is the center of interest. At the bat the youngster shows some rough spots which will have to be ironed out. He was having his baptism Saturday before a big crowd and was naturally nervous, which may account for some of his shortcomings. His swing appeared too full for the class of pitching that will be encountered in the Federal league this season. Men who swing like Smith knock the ball a considerable distance when they connect solidly, but their percentage of failures is large.

In the field the new fellow looks like a star. He and Johnny Farrell form the youngest keystone combination in existence. Their youth will result in a few mistakes, but it also

means the defensive work around second base will be fast and furious. In practice the pair worked well together and gave promise of many double killings.

Mann looks good in left field. The entire team is alive on the bases and run with excellent co-ordination between head and feet.

St. Louis also looks fair, though the infield can stand for some improvement.

There are still a few people who believe Jack Fournier can be kept out of the regular White Sox lineup. Evidently they have not perused last year's American league batting averages or followed the work of the Frenchman on their recent exhibition trip. No matter how slow Fournier may be, he can slam the ball. And he can hit it far enough to progress around the bases and send in men ahead of him.

Quinlan, the youngster from the coast, has also done well since being put at the head of the batting order, and the fact that he is kept there makes it appear that Rowland will start him against the Browns in St. Louis Wednesday. Collins and Felch have also hit. But Fournier has done better than bat in exhibition games. He has hit over .300 in a major league season, and such batting insures a regular position. Either Quinlan or Felch will have to give way to him before the season is very old.

On the last lap of the homeward journey the Sox have been batting viciously against good pitching. Eddie Collins seems to have imbued his new playmates with the idea that they can hit, and Felch and Brief do not feel the hoodoo of a Sox uniform. For the first time in many seasons it appears that the Sox pitchers in their noble work are to be backed by strong bating.

Browns lost St. Louis city series to Cards, getting only two games in six.

John McGraw retains the title of the most licked manager in baseball. Yesterday a Richmond, Va., fan