

# UNION CIRCUIT AWAITS VERDICT OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC

## OUTLAW LEAGUE DEPENDS UPON CAPITAL FANS

If Successful Here It Will Expand Westward.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

The announcement that the "outlaw" Union League is about to bid for the baseball patronage of the National Capital seems better grounded now than ever before, and it is not at all unlikely that the new organization will have a team here this year or next.

The experiment of putting Union League clubs in this city and Baltimore will be watched with great interest by baseball fans and promoters. That the Washington public is astonishingly fond of baseball is proved by its liberal and constant support of the poor teams the city has had in the American and National leagues, and the large attendance at amateur games. Also, on special occasions, such as the visit of the Seattle high school team here last summer to play an All-Washington high school team, the patronage has been decidedly flattering.

### Hard Problem for Promoters.

Now the question remains, would the baseball enthusiasts give up money regularly from day to day to see minor league team perform while the Washington American League club is on the road? Is their interest strong enough to loosen their purse strings? Until the new proposition is given a thorough trial a conclusive answer to this problem is absolutely impossible, but there are many fans in the Capital who have loudly announced their willingness to pay admissions to see professional games of good quality while the major team is on the road. Whether they will back their assertions with the nimble quarters and halves remains to be seen, but many shrewd observers think it is well worth a trial. Baltimore, as a good town for sporting enterprises, in recent years it has improved greatly in this respect, and hundreds of dollars are being made there now where thousands would have been lost a decade ago. Amateur and college baseball have attracted the attention and crowds which they have done in Washington, and it has been only recently that there was enough money in some professional baseball to cause the promoters to be accused of attempting to corrupt amateurs.

### Success Means Expansion.

No serious attempt has ever been made to give Baltimore a ball team to compete with the regular National Agreement team, and the Union League experiment in the Monumental City will be as novel and as interesting as in the Capital. Should it succeed in both places the new circuit will be much more formidable than has been supposed and might eventually branch out to Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, which must necessarily be among the objective points of the slightest enterprising backers of a general Eastern baseball league not acknowledging the territorial rights of existing leagues and the jurisdiction of the National Commission.

Jimmy McAleer had in the St. Louis Browns last year the most brilliant ball team that it appeared in the columns of American League standings. For some reason the nine men on the field were going into the game with a slight provocation and staying there long enough for its opponents to come from behind and win the game. McAleer was roasted and so were his players, but nothing could stop the ballooning tendency. It was charged by many that McAleer could not get the work out of the men and that they were seriously disaffected, while others attributed the disastrous failure to the lack of victory to pure cussedness of fate.

### Should Retire Waddell.

If internal dissensions had anything to do with McAleer's failure, it is hard to see where he has benefited himself or the St. Louis fans by obtaining Rube Waddell. As a joke Waddell is about all in. He was forced out of the Athletics in Philadelphia because of his deliberate shirking of work when a little exertion on his part might have landed the pennant for the Quaker City and the hundreds of dollars of profit that would have meant for his clubmates.

Likewise, there is no reason why the fans at large should have any kindly feelings for Waddell. His antics and dissoluteness go to Connie Mack and his fellow-players were largely, if not entirely, responsible for the triumph of the New York Nationals in the world's series with the Athletics last year. Waddell is not a credit to baseball from any angle in which he may be regarded and the sooner he is allowed to drop out of sight the better it will be for the game.

## PENN NINE RELIES ON RAW MATERIAL

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 24.—Baseball practice in Penn's gymnasium will begin in earnest this afternoon when last year's freshmen will report to Coaches Biskaley and Irwin.

Last week the men, who had never played on a varsity or freshman team began work, but it soon became evident that little could be hoped for from that quarter. The number was very small and the quality poor, so that Penn's team must be made up entirely from 1908 material.

Although six members of last year's varsity are in this year the coaches are banking mainly on the members of next year's freshman team. Since the disqualification of Forte by the faculty, it is proposed to bring Paustle in from first base and try him out behind the bat.

The members of last year's varsity are the candidates for this year's freshman team will not report for another week.

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## Classy Pool Player



IRVING LONG, New England Champion, Who Starts 1,200-Ball Match With Frank Sherman in Washington Tonight.

## SHERMAN AND LONG TO PLAY TONIGHT

Start in 600-Ball Pool Match in Washington.

The opening game of the 1,200-ball pool match between Frank O. Sherman, of Washington, and Irving Long, of New York, will take place tonight at the Brunswick Pool Parlor, Sixth and C streets northwest, beginning at 8 o'clock.

## STATE SKATING TITLE WON BY HARRY KAAD

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—Harry Kaad, representing the Northwest Skating Club, won all five of the championship races at the Logan Square rink yesterday and earned the State championship title for 1908.

Alfred Horn, of the Slesper Athletic Club, captured the second honor with four seconds and one-third. A C. G. Anderson did not compete because of an injured knee.

## BLACKBURN TO FIGHT GUNTHER ON THURSDAY

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 24.—Only one good card has so far been arranged by any of the local clubs, and that is the Jack Blackburn-George Gunther bout, which takes place at the Broadway Athletic Club Thursday night.

Billy McCorney's club was to have opened tonight, but the authorities have refused the club a permit. Other bouts scheduled are Wednesday, Wayne Club, Harry Berger and Tommy Coleman, and a double wind-up at the Ontario Club Friday night.

## WESTERN HOLIDAY DATES.

CHICAGO, Feb. 24.—President Joseph D. O'Brien, of the American Association, this morning issued a list of the holiday dates of his league for the coming season. They are as follows: Decoration Day (May 30), Indianapolis at Columbus, Louisville at Toledo, Milwaukee at Minneapolis, St. Paul at Kansas City.

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## LOOKS LIKE TENNEY HAS REAL GROUCH

Persistently Parries All Questions on Relations With Giants.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 24.—That some serious hitch exists between First Base man Fred Tenney and the management of the Giants was evidenced by the manner in which he parried questions when seen at his home at Cambridge.

Tenney had just returned from a hunting trip, and baseball seemed to be far from his mind, although all of his teammates are either on the ground at Marlin Springs or else packing their duds preparatory to migrating to the Texas resort.

"I will not discuss my relations, either actual or problematical, with the New York club," declared Tenney to a newspaper correspondent.

"Are you dissatisfied with the contract offered you, or have you decided to quit baseball?" was asked.

"You must get your information from the club itself. I have nothing to say," he replied.

"Are you going to make the trip South and settle your differences later?"

"I ask to be excused from answering that or any other question about baseball," was the way Tenney closed the interview.

**Situation Serious.**  
All of which makes it appear that the originator of the "Tenney double" upon whom McGraw relied to strengthen and steady his infield, is not by any means a certainty for the Polo Grounds club.

Tenney is a man of independent means. If he decided not to be reduced from the managerial ranks to the position of ordinary deck hand unless certain conditions were granted, he would take exactly this method of going about it. On the other hand, if he intended to join McGraw at once there would appear no good reason for his declining to answer the questions put to him.

## FIGHTERS AT WORK DRAW BIG CROWDS

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 24.—A packed house greeted both Battling Nelson and Jimmy Britt yesterday afternoon.

The novelty of having a real top-notch lightweight in their midst created quite a flutter of excitement among the sporting element at San Pedro, where Nelson is now training, with the result that over 2,000 people occupied the main floor and the balcony of the San Pedro A. C. when the Dane showed up for his gymnasium work-out.

Jimmy Britt entertained a house full of fight followers at the East Side Athletic Club. Britt worked for one hour, keeping up a terrific pace, and afterward tipped the scales at 129 1/2.

Nelson put in a hard afternoon's work. He will weigh in for the newspaper men tonight. But says the change from Arcadia to the seaside has been most beneficial to him.

The men meet Thursday, March 2.

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## TURF MEN WAKE UP TO FULL IMPORT OF RULE CHANGE

Code Affords Privileges For Pros. as Well as Amateurs.

As the time draws near for driving clubs and track managers to make their plans for harness racing in 1908 the new rule relating to records, which was adopted at the recent biennial congress of the National Trotting Association, is being pondered with unusual interest by those who intend to hold trotting meetings this year and also by those who will campaign harness races.

No change in the turf code has ever been made which seemed to go so far in the direction of revolutionizing the sport. Though it is generally referred to as the amateur rule, it applies to all classes of drivers and all classes of meetings alike, giving no privileges to amateurs which are not given to professionals and extending no license to the amateurs that is not available at the Grand Circuit meetings.

**Races Without Records.**  
The new rule will make it possible for any track affiliated with the National Trotting Association to hold races without giving records or bars to the winning horses, even though pool-selling, bookmaking, gate money, and all the accessories of ordinary racing are present, so long as the race is not for a money prize and no entrance fees are collected from the competing horses.

So broad is the rule that horses may trot for a diamond or even a bar of gold of ascertained value, probably, without incurring the penalty of a record. And such races may be trotted at Grand Circuit meetings where money prizes were given in other events, and the horses may be driven to sulks by professional drivers, with a free gate and all betting barred, at bona fide matinees.

There is every reason to believe that the new rule will be construed as liberally as it was framed, and all signs point to a "wide open" campaign.

**Breeders Question Revision.**  
Breeders and nearly all horse men who have the best interests of the sport at heart are disposed to look askance on the radical departure which has been made possible for horses to race in this way without taking records.

"They feel that it discriminates unfairly against the horse that races for money, and that it will operate to justly deprive many trotting stables of the credit which rightfully belongs to them."

"There is every reason to believe that the new rule will be construed as liberally as it was framed, and all signs point to a 'wide open' campaign."

**High School Men Star Attractions At Coming Meet**

Local Athletes Will Be Well Represented in Georgetown Games.

The classification for the relays to be run at the Georgetown collegiate games March 7 will be made this week.

The relay teams from Fordham, Columbia, Wesleyan, Cornell, Virginia, Johns Hopkins, Washington College, Maryland Agricultural, St. John's, Richmond College, Catholic University, and four representing the varsity and reserve, from Georgetown will be matched according to their athletic standing.

High schools which will battle for scholastic honors will be Western, Central, Business, Technical, Eastern; from out of town, Episcopal High, Central High, of Philadelphia; Villanova Prep School, and other entrants from Philadelphia, will complete the roster.

Special events for the local athletic clubs should prove as interesting as they are novel. This is the first time in the history of Georgetown indoor meets that so much attention is being given these events, and judging from inquiries in this direction to the management, it is evident that Georgetown's endeavors to make this meet one of especial interest to local enthusiasts, will be amply rewarded.

Central High will be out with a large squad for the first time this season, numbering thirty men, and including such good ones as Captain Dick, Hamilton, and many other young athletes.

It is said one of his first moves will be to appoint a keeper for Rube Waddell.

"Boots" Brennan is the man who gets the prize for suggestions along this line. He nominates Albert Bond Lambert, the airship pilot, for the job.

"Lambert handles balloons, says Brennan. 'He is able to take care of Waddell. He would be a big help to McAleer, too, because he could always tell when Waddell is going up. Some people would rather sit in an electric chair than handle Waddell, not so Mr. Lambert. I believe he would be glad to get the job. He's quite a sportsman.'"

It looks like things will be serene with Lambert in charge—unless—his down Sided!

## BOSTON ENDURANCE RUN.

BOSTON, Feb. 24.—Over rough and frozen roads, in many places piled high with drifts of snow, the Bay State Automobile Association conducted its first winter endurance run Saturday from Boston to Providence, Worcester, and return, a distance of 155 miles, fourteen of the twenty cars entered finishing with perfect scores.

## MIDDY STRONG MAN WILL TRY FOR CREW

ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 24.—Middie's man Archibald H. Douglas, captain of the football team, who recently set a new figure for the strength tests at the Naval Academy, will try for the crew this year, and may be in the boat with the Harvard crew.

Besides great strength, he has the ideal build for an oarsman, being 6 feet 2 inches in weight and weighing 130 pounds.

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## ANNUAL WINTER CROP OF SHREWD SUGGESTIONS FOR BETTER BASEBALL

Wild Dreams of Fans Got Careful Consideration and Cool Turndown at Major League Meetings This Week.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—Annual meetings of the American League and the National League will be held in this city this week.

Delegates to the former will convene at the Hotel Brezlin, those to the latter at the Waldorf-Astoria.

The principal business for the club owners is the adoption of the playing schedules for the coming season. These have already been prepared by committees, working in union, and will very likely be sanctioned as they stand, except for some minor differences which may be necessary here and there to meet local conditions.

**Technical Points.**  
So far as the American League is concerned, except for the matter of adopting the schedules the meeting will be given over largely to technical affairs and to the final arrangement of the details necessary to send the teams South for their annual practice.

In the National League most is likely to be added to the proceedings owing to the stand which Harry Fulsam, president of the organization, has announced that he will take in reference to the so-called blacklist resolution adopted last October by the National Association composed of the minor leagues. It is not his intention to permit the subject to be dropped as a dead issue. He has made the statement that he will insist upon being supported by his organization or will resign from office.

**No Radical Changes.**  
The members of both leagues will discuss the playing rules before they leave the city, but if any changes are made it is not probable that they will be very radical.

The National League has expressed a desire to lower the pitcher's box on all diamonds to the same level as the remainder of the field. It would not work

much of a hardship to any of the pitchers. Frank Chance captain of the Chicago club, who is now a member of the rules committee, is in favor of providing a pitcher from soiling a new ball.

**Sanitary Ball Proposition.**  
There is little probability that this will carry, as the ball would be soiled in some way, whether the pitcher were forbidden to do so or not, and he might as well have the privilege and prevent constant quarrels between the umpires and the players.

There has been some discussion in regard to numbering the players conspicuously, in order that the spectators may distinguish one from another, but judgment in favor of conservatism in both the American and the National League, it is probable that the time is not quite ripe for that innovation.

**Dreyfuss Is Out For More Action And Shorter Game**

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 24.—Barney Dreyfuss, of the Pittsburgh club, is out with a suggestion for shortening games and will submit it to the rules committee.

He does not believe in tampering with either the ball or the pitcher's box, and thinks the game is now short enough.

"In cases there is a change for a shorter game," said Dreyfuss, "it can be shortened. There is too much dilly-dallying between the infielders and the pitcher."

"Let us have a rule prohibiting any infielder going up to the pitcher and engaging him in conversation when one of them wants a rest. It is surprising to know how much this will shorten the game. The people don't want so much a shorter game, as they want to see action all the way."

## MALEER'S BROWNS MOSTLY CAST-OFFS

Great Job to Weld Them Together—Waddell's Keeper.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 24.—Can Jimmy McAleer take a team of cast-offs and put the St. Louis Americans in the first division?

Rube Waddell is a cast-off from Philadelphia! Jimmy Williams is a cast-off from New York!

Hobe Ferris is a cast-off from Boston! Charlie Jones is a cast-off from Washington!

Davey Hoffman is a cast-off from New York! Bill Dineen is a cast-off from Boston!

Bill Powell is a cast-off from New York! Jack O'Connor is a cast-off from Cleveland!

Joe Yeager is a cast-off from New York! Harry Howell is a cast-off from New York!

Why not nickname the Browns the "castaways?" If McAleer can keep the Browns together and assemble them in one harmonious whole, and win a pennant with them, he will be dubbed the most wonderful manager who ever handled a major league ball team.

McAleer is an extraordinary man. He is a remarkable man. If he wins, he will be the greatest aggregation of castaways!

If he wins, he will be the greatest aggregation of castaways! If he wins, he will be the greatest aggregation of castaways!

## S.S.S. DRIVES OUT RHEUMATISM

A good liniment or plaster, or some good home remedy will usually give temporary relief from the pain of Rheumatism, but the disease is more than skin deep and cannot be rubbed away, nor can it be drawn out with a plaster. Such treatment neither prevents nor cures; the excess of acid, which produces Rheumatism, is still in the blood and the disease can never be cured while the circulation remains saturated with this irritating, pain-producing uric acid poison. The trouble will shift from place to place, settling on the nerves and causing pain and inflammation at every exposure or after an attack of indigestion or other irregularity. When neglected or improperly treated, Rheumatism becomes chronic and does not depend upon climatic conditions to bring on an attack, but remains a constant, painful trouble. S. S. S. drives out Rheumatism by neutralizing and expelling the excess of acid from the blood. It purifies and invigorates the circulation so that instead of an acid-laden stream, constantly depositing uric acid in the joints, muscles, nerves and bones, the entire system is nourished and made healthy by rich, life-giving blood. Book on Rheumatism and any medical advice desired will be sent free to all who write.

**THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.**

## MOTORING DRIVERS WANT MORE STRICT AMATEUR RATING

Owners Compete Side By Side With Racing Drivers.

The Amateur Athletic Union and the National Cycling Association, both of which bodies are affiliated with the American Automobile Association, make the act of competing against a professional sufficient cause for forfeiture of amateur standing.

The A. A. A. rules, on the contrary, permit an amateur driver to compete against a professional, without even stipulating that the amateur must not accept a cash prize. This has been defended on the score that automobile racing is an expensive pastime, even for a very wealthy man, and that automobile owners who drive their own cars in races should be permitted to take cash prizes if they wish, just as gentlemen jockeys are permitted to take cash prizes if they win steeplechases with horses that are their own property.

**Should Encourage Amateurs.**  
A number of automobile racing enthusiasts, especially those who have been interested in athletics or cycle racing, declare that the amateur rule for automobile racing should be drawn more strictly if any hope is to be entertained of arousing the interest of automobile owners to the point where they will enter the lists themselves.

They assert that the practice of permitting professional drivers to compete against amateurs should be stopped and that if this were done it would be possible to secure more entries of owners in track and beach races and hill climbing events.

**Too Greatly Handicapped.**  
Several New Yorkers, who formerly drove their own cars in races and hill climbing contests, have said they lost interest in such events because they considered it unfair to expect them to compete on even terms with regularly employed racing drivers who have the assistance of a force of factory mechanics in keeping their cars tuned up all the time.

Owners of automobiles who use their cars for driving around town a good part of the time cannot afford to keep a force of mechanics to work on their machines, and while many of them would like to race occasionally, they refuse to risk practically certain defeat in events where professionals would compete against them on even terms.

**WELSH STILL GAME; WANTS ANOTHER TRY**

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 24.—Fred Welsh, the English lightweight defeated here by Packer MacFarland, wants another chance at the stock-yards idol.

"Perhaps I can't beat Mac," said Freddie. "He is certainly the greatest fighter I have ever met. But I am eager for another chance, and can secure a good offer from a high-class club. I therefore challenge MacFarland to another battle. Packer to name weight and conditions of money division, and I hereby offer Packer a side bet of \$1,000—my own money, which I will deposit at once if he accepts. Furthermore, I will make it winner take all if Packer wishes it."

**KELLY EXPECTS LITTLE TROUBLE TO MAKE WEIGHT**

Displays Quick and Aggressive Work in Practice Rounds.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 24.—Eddie Kelly, the Buffalo featherweight, who is to box Abe Attell in this city Friday next, looked so big when he was introduced at the Ketchel-Sullivan fight Saturday that many of those around the ring could hardly believe that he would be able to weigh in at 122 pounds at 6 o'clock on the night of the fight.

That he should be able to do so handily was shown yesterday, when Referee Jack Welch visited the little fighter and found that he balanced the scales at 122 pounds.

A big crowd was in attendance when Kelly started his work at Shannon's yesterday. After going through the regular exercises of a training camp, he put on the gloves with Jimmy Carroll, and went two fast rounds. Ralph Worthington took a turn for two rounds, and Johnny Frayne, boxed two more as a windup to the day's work.

Kelly pleased the spectators by his quickness and aggressiveness. At Millet's Attell went through his regular work in the morning, and boxed with his brother Monte in the afternoon.

## Specials in Sporting Goods at Walford's

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We are offering a reduction of 50 per cent on our turtle V-neck and Coat Sweaters. \$6.00 Sweaters, \$3.00

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\$30 English Worsted Cloth, \$16.50 reduced to measure. Special trousers of regular fit trousers, \$4.00

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See years old, 31.25 per bottle, \$1.00