COAST LEAGUE MAY JOIN OUTLAWS IF A. A. GETS MAJOR LEAGUE STATUS

Hap Hogan, of Vernon Club, Says Elevation of American Association Would Be in Direct Violation of Agreement With the Coast League Providing For Draft Only by the Two Big Leagues.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 2.—With the announcement from Indianapolis that the American association baseball league was to be lifted in rating to that of a major league, a bombshell was thrown into the Coast league camp and there came immediate discussion of possible secession and of "outlaw" baseball in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Salt Lake.

According to official announcement made in Indianapolis by James C. McGill, head of the club in that city, it is the plan to make the association a major league in rating, drop St. Paul and Cleveland from their circuit and put Chicago and St. Louis or some other two large cities into the schedule.

This is a part of the general plan of war against the Federal league.

In this announcement no mention is made of the Pacific Coast league, in spite of which fact a written agreement with organized baseball exists which specifies that at no time will any league be raised in rating above that of the Pacific Coast organization.

Agreement Made.

This agreement was a part of the price exacted when the Coast league came under organized baseball, after having successfully combated it for years as an outlaw league.

Happy Hogan, manager of the Vernon club in the Coast league, when informed of the announcement made in Indianapolis, made the following statement:

"If this is done it will be a direct violation of the written agreement made with the Coast league by organized baseball, which specifies that at no time will any league be raised in rating above our league and which states that the only organizations with the privilege of drafting from the Coast league are and shall remain the American league and the National league, the two leagues which have been the only real major leagues ever since the agreement was reached."

Morley Says "Fight."

Jim Morley, former owner of the Los Angeles club, believes that the Coast league magnates would be foolish to allow the major leagues to get out of their agreement with the Coast league.

"When the Coast league was induced to enter organized baseball it had an agreement with the majors that the big fellows never lived up to," said Morley today. "A special rating was promised and never secured.

"Then in 1907 the majors entered into a 10 year compact with the Coast league, granting it an AA rating and agreeing that no league should be rated above the class of the Coast league.

"The Coast league should compel the majors to respect their agreement. Geographically the Pacific Coast can conduct baseball as it sees fit. The best financial seasons local club owners ever had were when outlaw ball was being played and they can again go outlaw and make good.

"Personally I believe the Coast league could affiliate with the Federals and baseball locally would be benefited.

"The only benefit the Coast league ever received from being in organized baseball was the protection afforded players in the league, and with a third big league that protection is a thing of the past and the Coast league should assert its rights, and it will win."

Big League Profits Are Not Great

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Six or Seven Percent a Year Is Average

BY FRANK G. MENKE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 2.—It seems as if the dear old public has been bunked into believing for a large number of years that the baseball game is a gold mine proposition for all those who horn their way into the ownership of a big league baseball club.

The real facts are that very, very few of the big league clubs have averaged more than a six or seven percent return on their investment during the past eight years—the socalled "golden era" of baseball.

This statement is based on the financial showing of the New York Giants during the past four years—the best possible basis for arriving at estimates on baseball returns.

The profits of the Giants covering the regular season, follows:

1910 (actual)	$85,020
1911 (actual)	76,518
1912 (actual)	84,802
1913 (estimated)	75,000
1914 (estimated)	80,000

Giants Biggest Drawing Card.

The Giants for many years have been the greatest drawing card in baseball. At home and on the road they outdraw practically every other club from three to one to four to one. The Giants play 77 games each year on their home grounds. Because there is such a large transient population in New York, as well as such a big crowd of home fans they average around 10,000 and 12,000 a day in attendance.

Against this, clubs such as the Cincinnati Reds, Cleveland Naps, St. Louis Browns, Brooklyn Dodgers and other habitual second division clubs draw an average that rarely goes over 3000 per game.

Others Made Less.

If the Giants with an average of 10,000 or 12,000 attendance can return profits of only about $80,000 a year during the regular season, it means that the clubs averaging 3000 daily attendance made only one-fourth that amount each year—or about $20,000.

Most of the major league clubs have about $200,000 invested in stands, equipment, etc. A return of $20,000 a year on $200,000 means a dividend of about 6 1-2 percent. And that's about the best return that major league clubs outside of the pennant contenders and winners have averaged in dividends over a five year stretch.

Of course, during some years one or another of the habitual tailenders may have been in the pennant fight and instead of returning $20,000 profits that year, they doubled the income. That was the case with the Cleveland Naps in 1908 and again in 1912. The Philadelphia Phillies acted as runners up in 1911—to the benefit of the bankroll. The St. Louis Cardinals spurted in 1914—and drew crowds that meant bigger returns.

Slump Follows Big Year.

But usually the next year the club slumped. It played miserable ball. The fans quit. It wasn't a drawing card on the road and was lucky to break even during that year. So the average profit over a long stretch of years for any but a consistent pennant contender rarely has gone above $20,000. In naming that figure we are probably putting our estimate higher than it really is.

Managing With the Second Guess

BY BILLY EVANS

Written Especially for This Paper by the Famous American League Umpire.

IN THE opening game of the 1911 world's series between the Giants and the Athletics, manager McGraw, coaching at third base, insisted that the base runner take a long chance to score. McGraw has the play before him and figured that, with a break in the luck, the runner had a fine chance to turn the trick. It was at a very critical stage of the game, the Athletics leading, 1 to 0. The runner managed to score, which, of course, made manager McGraw's judgment look real good. The Giants eventually won the game, 2 to 1, said result showing what a prominent part one run played in the outcome of the game.

With Bender and Mathewson doing the pitching, and both in fine shape, it was a good bet that the contest would resolve itself into a pitchers' battle. The Athletics scored in the second, the only run of the game made by the Mackmen. Baker hit safely to right and was sacrificed to second by Murphy. A clean hit to left field by the veteran, Harry Davis, scored Baker. In the first three innings, four of the nine Giants retired, went out on strikes, so effective was Bender's pitching. McGraw realized that the Indian was at his best, which meant that the Giants must take advantage of every opportunity offered if they were to have a chance against the wily Indian.

Snodgrass Goes Safe.

Snodgrass was the first man to face Bender in the fourth inning. His patience at the plate was rewarded with a pass to first. On the hit and run play, Murray drove a hard one at Collins, which the great second sacker fumbled. Snodgrass, who had got away to a big lead, kept on for third on the play. McGraw took in the situation at a glance. No one for a moment thought that he would send Snodgrass to the plate. McGraw felt sure that Collins thought that way, and moreover, he knew that Collins was in a poor position to make a hurried throw. As Snodgrass neared third base, McGraw ordered him to keep on for the plate, which just suited Snodgrass, who is a player prone to take a long chance. Not only did Collins lose Herzog, but he hesitated so long about the play at the plate that he threw short to catcher Thomas, and Snodgrass was safe after a great slide, the play being very close.

Giants Scored Again.

That inning proved the turning point of the game. McGraw insisted that his player take a long chance and it had been successful. The scoring by Snodgrass with the run that evened up the count, put new fighting spirit into the Giants, and gave Mathewson something to work on. In the seventh the Giants managed to score another run, which proved to be the deciding tally of the game. The fact that Bender allowed only five hits and struck out 11 men is proof conclusive that he was in his best form.

McGraw's daring had been successful; the taking of a long chance and the getting away with it, made McGraw look great. The second guessers agreed that it was a great play and that both McGraw and Snodgrass had shown that they were alert to every opportunity by taking the chance. The classy Eddie Collins, who seldom slips in the pinch, was criticised for having failed to be prepared for just such a move. I recall many of the nice things that were said about McGraw and Snodgrass for the way they engineered the play.

Took Chance Again.

I regarded it as a good piece of judgment on the part of McGraw to take the chance and excellent base running on the part of Snodgrass that carried it to a successful completion. It was good baseball and was deserving of the praise it received. I cite this play because in a later series McGraw again insisted that one of his players take a similar chance. In this latter case the player was retired at the plate. Of course, that put a different aspect on the play, but I'll save the recital of it until tomorrow. Do you regard with favor the system of always taking a long chance?—Copyright, 1915, by the Wheeler Syndicate, Inc.

KILBANE OUTBOXES "KANSAS"

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 2.—Johnny Kilbane, of Cleveland, featherweight champion, outboxed Young Kansas, of Buffalo, in the last three rounds of a 10 round bout here Monday night. Kansas had held the champion even for seven rounds. Neither fighter suffered much punishment.

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Bowling Scores

LAUNDRY TEAM TIES WESTON'S

Second Game of Match Is Feature Event; Globe Mills Beats Cement Plant.

In the bowling at the Cactus club Monday night in the Industrial league the Laundry and the Weston teams split even in the first match with two points each, while the fast coming Globe Mills team took three of the four points from the Cement Plant team, which is running second. The results of these two matches served to fur ther bunch the three leaders and to put the Globe Mills team in a little better position to come up on the leaders. The three to one victory of the Millers over the Cement Plant leaves the former team only one point behind the Cement Plant and six behind the leading Weston team. A month ago the Globe Mills appeared to be a cinch for the cellar championship. However, the injection of new blood into the team strengthened it to such an extent that it appears that the fight for the leadership of the league will be between the Millers and the Weston team.

The feature of Wednesday night's bowling was the second game between the Laundry and Weston teams in the first match. At the end of the tenth frame both teams had the same score, 857, making the first time in two years that two teams had been tied and necessitating an extra frame to decide the winner. Despite the fact that both Smiths, rolling for the Laundry, got splits in the extra frame, that team had the game well in hand when the two anchor men came up. It looked like a cinch for the Laundry when Dutch Nagle failed to double, but DeBruhl, the Laundry's anchor man, was attacked by a severe case of stage fright.

His first ball he rolled off the alley and on his second he got only two pins. Good old reliable Dutch came through with a strike and a spare, giving his team 28 pins and the game by the narrow margin of four pins. In the last game the Laundry team showed a fine game and not only won the game, but came from 49 pins behind and went into the lead by a margin of 70. The fine showing of the Laundry team against the leading Westons was to a large extent due to the bowling of the team's latest acquisition, Cunningham, whose consistent rolling gave him high total for the night with 535. Nagle had high game in this match with 212.

The victory of the Globe Mills team in the second match was again largely due to the splendid bowling of Buddy Ward, who had high total for the night with 517. When Buddy joined the Millers they were hopelessly in the rut. That was about a month ago. Now the team is right on top of the second team and well within striking distance of the leaders. Since Buddy joined the team the Millers have won the majority of the points in every match which they have played. K. H. Aber had high game in the second match with 189. Tuesday night the Federal league will roll.

Weston team—				
J. A. Sherman	205	141	116	462
J. Rosner	149	160	114	414
B. Berghauer	157	182	173	512
G. Keye	171	142	129	452
R. Nagle	152	212	164	528
	825	857	697	2369

El Paso Laundry—				
H. A. Smith	128	147	168	443
Ray Smith	142	197	154	493
J. Cunningham	168	182	185	535
S. Vaughan	169	167	186	512
H. E. Debruhl	150	162	138	452
	749	857	829	2440

Globe Mills—				
N. Fowler	175	164	176	515
Bud Ward	183	182	187	517
Ad Buquor	161	125	131	427
C. Drehner	161	161	149	471
C. G. Mueller	170	139	135	444
	855	761	758	2374

Cement Plant—				
A. C. Hinsdale	144	150	158	452
K. H. Aber	157	169	189	504
J. C. Hanson	124	119	173	416
B. Henry	125	142	156	423
C. Gring	161	147	144	452
	721	716	820	2259

Industrial League Standing.

Team—	Won	Lost	Pct.
Weston	32	27	.574
Cement Plant	32	27	.590
Globe Mills	31	23	.654
Laundry	28	26	.423

FORMER LOCAL BALLPLAYER ALLEGED INSANE FROM REVIVAL

Charles J. Gurtz, well known to followers of baseball in El Paso, is being held in Coridon, Ind., his home city, charged with insanity. In 1912 Gurtz played with the 22d infantry team in the City league here, playing shortstop for the team and leading the league both in batting and base running. In 1913 he played second base for El Paso in the Copper league and in this league, too, was up in front in batting. Last season he was again signed to play with El Paso in the Copper league. When the team failed to get the use of Washington park Gurtz went to Silver City, where he played for a short time early in the season. He was then signed by Bloomington in the Three-I league.

As he had done in other leagues, Gurtz led the Three-I league in batting in his first year having an average of .382. At the end of the past season Gurtz was drafted by the Chicago White Sox and was to have made the spring training trip to Paso Robles, Calif., with that team.

Since his return to his home town, Coridon, several revival meetings have been held, and it is believed these were responsible for Gurtz's mental condition, as his alleged insanity has taken a religious trend.

SURE, HE'S RIGHT -:- -:- -:- -:- BY TAD

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WILLARD SPARS WITH PARTNERS

Long Boy Needs Big Playmates to Practice With to Prepare For Negro.

Jess Willard, the long legged white hope who is expected to meet negro Jack Johnson at Juarez on March 6, had a good workout Monday afternoon at his training camp down at the Knoblauch ranch, near Ysleta. The big fellow showed good spirit, but not unusually good fettle, before his boxing partners, all of whom are under the six foot mark. They looked like midgets alongside of Willard's six-six.

Monahan Swapped Punches.

Walter Monahan, a boxing instructor of Los Angeles, put on the best go. Although suffering from a peeled nose, Monahan gave and took with Willard in good fashion. Monahan, although his weight was given by Willard's manager, Tom Jones, as better than 200, was not up to the championship hoper in either height or heft, and Willard's range was far different from what it will be when Johnson meets him. And Monahan was quite the biggest of the three partners who went on during the day. Jack Hemple, who was keen to jump off his feet and plant himself on Willard's face, did very well with the gloves, while "Tex" O'Rourke did some wrestling exercises with the principal.

Willard Is Mouth Breather.

Willard gradually is shaping into form. His wind, although not affecting his willingness, seemed far from perfect. He sparred with his mouth open and quite a bit before his first someron got through with him. He has, however, quite a start on Johnson.

Johnson was due at the Barbados late last month from his stage career down in Buenos Ayres, but how he will enter Mexico with the "white slave" charge hanging over him in the states, has not been explained by Jack Curley, the fight promoter. Curley will return Thursday from a trip east.

No Negroes in Camp.

When Jess Willard first started training it was arranged to have Jack Thomas, the negro pugilist, box with the big fellow in his daily workouts. The big cowboy, however, put his foot down and absolutely refused to have a negro about the camp in any capacity.

Jack Curley's office has received a wire from George Josephs, manager of Benny Chavez, Rocky Mountain champion, requesting a match for Chavez with Gene Delmont either the night before or as a preliminary to the big fight. Curley has not taken action on the matter as yet.

Will Johnson Come?

How Jack Johnson will enter Mexico and arrive at Juarez for his next battle is still unexplained. It is feared by some that the confused condition in the interior of the republic might delay his arrival since, on account of an indictment in Chicago, he may not without danger of arrest pass through American territory either at Panama or through the states.

It was learned today that federal officials are on the lookout should the big American negro attempt to smuggle himself to Juarez through the United States. Villa's attack on Tampico, which if captured would allow Johnson to enter that port from the Barbados, has not developed, and Mexico City's occupation by the Carranza troops has done away with any chance of his entering from Central America. Jack Curley, the fight promoter, will not return here from his eastern trip until the middle of the week.

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