

Sports From Every Corner Of Sportdom

OWNERSHIP OF WINNIPEG CLUB STILL WORRIES MAGNATES OF NORTHERN

DEGNAN CLAIMS HE HAS OPTION

H. C. Webb, Who Was Awarded Franchise, Confers With Him.

Minneapolis, Minn., Nov. 30.—In an effort to reach an amicable settlement of the affairs of the Winnipeg club of the Northern league, H. C. Webb arrived here yesterday to confer with John D. Degnan, also of Winnipeg. Webb was awarded the Winnipeg franchise at the recent meeting of the magnates when they reorganized the circuit. Since that time the arbitration board of the National Association of minor league clubs has ruled that the action of the northern magnates in reorganizing at the September meeting was in violation of the league constitution, which states that the annual session must be held in December.

Northern league magnates will meet December 7 at the Spalding hotel, Duluth, to adjust their difficulties. The opposition raised by the Winnipeg and Winona clubs to the proposed reorganization may not materialize if Webb and Degnan are able to reach an agreement here.

Webb claims an option. Degnan says he has an option of the Winnipeg club, including the stock owned by A. H. Pulford. The option price is reported to be \$25,000. Degnan says that if he is able to put over the deal for the franchise, he will make whatever improvements in the park the league may designate.

Just what action the magnates will take at their coming meeting is problematical. They may go ahead with their original plans and try to oust Pulford from Winnipeg and drop Winona and Virginia, or they may reorganize with the present circuit intact. The league is a one-year organization and must be reorganized, otherwise the players will become free agents. A president must be elected and it is likely that the period of organization and the terms of office for the league's executive will be raised to five or ten years.

Rebels at Work. The Winnipeg and Winona magnates have been conducting an active campaign during the past few weeks, attempting to line up the other magnates of the league in their behalf. What success they have met with is not known, but surprises have been out of the range of possibility if the magnates should reverse their vote when the question comes up again. Webb and Degnan were in conference yesterday. Nothing definite materialized at the session and they will meet again today. Webb is said to have spent considerable money in

looking up park sites at Winnipeg and perfecting his organization and is likely to be given first choice at the franchise at next week's meeting. However, if he should arrange a deal whereby his organization consolidates with Degnan's interests, providing the latter takes over Pulford's holdings, the league is not likely to offer objection.

ARMY AGAIN WINS FROM THE NAVY

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.—The Army's powerful football eleven completely outclassed the Navy and won a brilliant 20 to 0 victory before a crowd of 30,000. West Point was one of the best balanced teams that has been seen here this year, while the Navy possessed a mediocre offense.

The Army line so far outclassed the Navy forwards that the midline backs with the exception of Substitute Quarterback Niles were absolutely helpless. The Army backfield defensively also completely outclassed that of the Navy. The Navy backfield was helpless before the forward passing of Pritchard to Merrill and his defense was spread to such an extent that Pritchard, using rare judgment, sent his backs through the line for large gains time and again. When the Navy secondary defense would close up, then Pritchard would cut loose a forward pass to Merrill for a large gain.

ED PLANK MAY BECOME A TIGER

Detroit, Nov. 30.—Whether Eddie Plank, veteran left hander of baseball and the Athletics, will wear a Detroit uniform in 1915 will be probably decided soon.

President F. J. Navin of the Tigers conferred with Connie Mack, manager and part owner of the Philadelphia, when Mack was in Chicago, and at the conclusion of the interview Navin declared there was a fair chance that Plank would change his baseball livery—provided he did not demand too high a price for his services.

"While I am not going to make a determined effort to get the pitcher, I am not adverse to talking terms with him and making an attempt to reach a satisfactory understanding," said Navin. "Plank is a fellow worth taking a chance on. While he is the oldest pitcher in the major leagues, he is a fellow who has always taken care of himself and there isn't any question in my mind but that he is good for two or three years more of service. Again, he would be a valuable instructor to young talent."

Mack insists that Plank is still a capable hurling artist. Mack attended the American league meeting with one purpose. He wants to unload Bender and Plank, and judging by the way he was engaged in conversation with Branch Rickey, manager of the Browns; Charles Somers, owner of the Naps, and other officials, he will not have much difficulty accomplishing his purpose.

As things now go, there is a good deal of money that isn't even whispering.

KANSAS CITY FEDS CLAIM TO HAVE SIGNED TWO CLASSY 'FRISCO PLAYERS

Fitzgerald (left) and Schmidt. San Francisco, Nov. 28.—The big bombshell expected for weeks in coast league baseball circles has just exploded in San Francisco in the form of a dispatch from St. Louis, in which it is stated that Walter Schmidt and Justin Fitzgerald, the two best base runners on the local outfit, popular men and hard hitters, have jumped



to the Kansas City Federals. The statement is attributed to President Madison of the Kansas City team of the outlaw organization. Both Schmidt and Fitzgerald are out of town, the former being in the Imperial Valley Winter league, and the latter on the Honolulu trip with Happy Hogan's barnstormers. If the statement of Madison is true, Schmidt will not be allowed to play in the Valley league any longer, as he will be blacklisted by organized baseball.

The Federals have secured stars in the two Seals. Schmidt is of big league caliber, and would have gone to the majors long ago were it not for the unwillingness of the local magnates to weaken their team by sale. Fitzgerald saw big league service with the New York Americans a couple of years ago. He later played with Portland, from which club he was secured by San Francisco.

Marsans is said to be playing ball just now in Havana, stationed at first base under an assumed name. It is not generally believed here that Manager McGraw of the Giants will undertake to have the Cuban's name stricken from organized baseball's black list.

If China wants commercial advice we will give it—buy only American goods.

SECTIONAL GAMES TO BE REPEATED

Western Teams Will Invade East Again Next Year, Despite Defeats.

Although the four inter-sectional football games played in the east this year have resulted in victories for the home teams, it appears almost certain that these contests will be repeated or even added to in 1915. Michigan at Harvard and Notre Dame at Yale both made splendid impressions, and sentiment in both sections is apparently strongly in favor of a continuance of these meetings. Assistant Coach Rockne of the Notre Dame team, in discussing these east vs. west games, said recently:

"I am strongly in favor of inter-sectional football, and hope to see Notre Dame on Yale's schedule next year again. I think that it will bring about a better understanding between the east and west, besides making the task of judging individual players easier."

"I think that within a year or two there will be many eastern teams coming west for games. It also will give variety to the game, as teams will have to prepare to meet every kind of offense in these games. So I am one who wants to see inter-sectional games increased, even if the eastern teams did defeat the western teams this season. It will be good for the game and is good for the country."

The sentiment appears to be spreading throughout the college athletic world, and it appears certain that next autumn will see more inter-sectional games than ever before. Not only are the eastern and middle western institutions moving in this direction, but the south as well. Several of the large universities south of Washington are already planning 1915 schedules which will include contests with the leading eleven of the east. Yale met Virginia on the gridiron early this season, and it is understood that Princeton, Harvard and Pennsylvania have all been sounded by managers of southern teams regarding the possibility of securing a place upon their schedule for next year.

If the war is a long one, keeping up its present rate, human endurance will establish a new record. Self confidence is a good thing, yet there is nothing so productive of absurdity as an excess of it.

LENNON TO QUIT BASEBALL GAME

Owner of St. Paul Association Club to Leave Sport First of the Year.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 30.—Whether or not the option to purchase the St. Paul franchise of the American association is exercised by J. W. Norton, acting in behalf of a syndicate of St. Paul business men, Owner George E. Lennon, according to confidential information received from the Twin City, will sever his active connection with baseball, probably by January 1.

The option held by Mr. Norton expires with the end of this month, but there will be no difficulty in securing an extension providing the bidders with either cash or check book in hand are not already on the scene, for Owner Lennon wishes to give St. Paul first chance to retain its franchise. There seems to be considerable difficulty in arousing financial enthusiasm for the Saints lost so much money last year that the proposition does not look attractive as an investment in these days of tight money.

Lennon on Retired List. Mr. Lennon has decided to retire not only from baseball, but from all active business. He is liquidating his clothing store interests and subdividing the space held under his lease. This long term lease on a favorable Wabasha street corner will yield him an income of \$20,000 or more per annum if the remaining space is as favorably disposed of as that already rented.

It is not generally remembered that Magnate Lennon was a semi-pro player back in the early '90s. He played shortstop on the Palace Clothing company nine and held a position with the firm. The Palace nine frequently met on the diamond the Oak Lakes, of which Tom Chivinton, present league head and recent bridegroom, was catcher, a shortstop, Ed Dickinson, secretary of the Minneapolis club, also was a member of the Oak Lakes.

MILLIONS SPENT IN GOLD. Statisticians estimate that gold costs Americans \$50,000,000 annually, that the mere caddy fees amount to \$12,500,000 annually. The most remarkable part of it is that the sport, from a competitive angle, is only about a quarter century old, twenty-six years, to be exact, in this country.

NORTHERN LEAGUE PUZZLING AFFAIR

What Will Happen to Circuit When Magnates get Together in Duluth.

(By Bruce.)

Duluth, Minn., Nov. 30.—Northern league officials don't know where they are at. Some of them admit it themselves. Herr Blume is among the bewildered. It is not known whether or not Grand Forks will be in the league the coming season. Certain officials at Grand Forks do not like John Burmeister. In the meantime it is to be presumed that Pulford is doing all he can to curry favor in his own behalf. The meeting at Duluth should be interesting and productive of news. If Pulford fights, hurray for noise and scattering items of news; if Pulford sulks in his tent, like Achilles, the meeting may fall as flat as another meeting held in this city several months ago.

As one of the very prominent magnates of the league placed the situation to us:

"We didn't ask Pulford to the Minneapolis meeting, because there was no league at that time. Mr. Pulford was invited to the Duluth meeting and failed to attend. That was the final meeting of the year, or was supposed to be. All of the business of the league was wound up there. At Minneapolis we met as individuals and organized a new league."

"We thought we elected John Burmeister for a term of three years. We told you newspapermen so. Now as a matter of fact our constitution automatically makes the election of a president for a term of three years unconstitutional. Therefore Mr. Burmeister is in reality not the president of the league until the annual meeting, though we recognize him now as the head of the league."

This is some complicated condition of affairs. The more complicated the affairs of the league the more interesting the forthcoming meeting may prove. All of the magnates fighting shoulder to shoulder with John Burmeister state that Pulford will go. At the same time some of the magnates admit that they do not know what the league makeup will be. The meeting may bring forth some neat surprises.

UNPOPULARITY GETS FIGHTER THE MONEY

Philadelphia, Nov. 30.—Al McCoy, middleweight pretender, seems to have discovered a new way to incite interest in his ring doings. Evidently he borrowed the idea from the fake wrestlers, who have long used the trick. These gentlemen found that when it was impossible to gain popularity unpopularity would serve their purpose just as well. That gave McCoy his cue, and now it appears his one ambition is to rouse the ire of his spectators by making use of every foul trick known to the ring. The natural result is that when McCoy's name appears on the bill the clubhouse is crowded with those who come to see him soundly thrashed.

HERE IS ECKERSALL'S ALL-WESTERN TEAM

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|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| First Team— | Miller, Michigan Assies..... | Left End..... | Second Team. |
| | Ruck, Wisconsin..... | Left Tackle..... | Cherry, Ohio State |
| | Chapman, Illinois..... | Left Guard..... | Armstrong, Illinois |
| | Des Jardin, Chicago..... | Center..... | Rosenthal, Minnesota |
| | Routh, Purdue..... | Right Guard..... | Raynesford, Michigan |
| | Halligan, Nebraska..... | Right Tackle..... | Mucks, Wisconsin |
| | Solon, Minnesota..... | Right End..... | Cochran, Michigan |
| | Bergman, Notre Dame..... | Quarter Back..... | Clark, Illinois |
| | Pogue, Illinois..... | Left Half Back..... | Rutherford, Nebraska |
| | Maitlhesch, Michigan..... | Right Half Back..... | Hightower, N. W. (Capt.) |
| | Julian, Mich. Aggies (Capt.)..... | Full Back..... | Eichenlaub, Notre Dame |

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