

SPORTS---Winter Activities In all Athletic Lines---SPORTS

BUYING STARS IS RISKY PRACTICE

Tests Nerve of the Baseball Magnate—Figure on Collins For a Whole Lot.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 23.—Few people have any idea of the risks taken by baseball promoters in the acquisition of really made stars at heavy cost. The general impression always is that when a club owner purchases the services of a great player the promoter will get all back at the gate in a few games. That is not true, unless the said great player makes a winner out of the owner's team, thereby greatly enhancing the drawing power of the whole club.

Eddie Collins will have to attract 250,000 patrons through the turnstiles of Comiskey park to even up the investment which the owner, the White Sox made, or contracted to make, when he closed the transaction which brought the keystone marvel to Chicago. That includes Collins' salary for five years, and gives the player five years in which to reimburse the master of the Sox for the investment. It means, and grand that Collins personally must draw 250,000 patrons in addition to those who would patronize the south side park without Collins as an attraction.

Three hundred and fifty thousand patrons is more than half the aggregate attendance at a major league park in an average year. It is more than half the major league teams drew last season on their own grounds.

Collins Must Draw Crowds.

In order to reimburse Comiskey for the purchase price paid Philadelphia for Collins and his salary for 1915 that player must attract 250,000 people to Comiskey park, and that means 200,000 more than would have gone there next year without Collins on the team.

For Comiskey park it is comparatively easy to figure the dope. For the average crowd there, distributed as the average crowd is in bleachers, pavilions, and grand stands, the box office will show close to 42 cents per person. Threatening weather, or extremely warm weather will send more fans into the covered seats and raise the average admission price above 52 cents. Cold weather will send a larger proportion of the crowd into the bleachers and lower the average a little.

CHAFFEE ATHLETE INJURED.

Fargo, N. D., Dec. 23.—Walter Wyckoff, star basketball player for the Chaffee club, badly dislocated his shoulder in a match game held at that place recently. The injury was quite a bad one and caused him considerable pain.



Take Your Knitting and go Over To the Y. M. C. A. and Watch the Volleyball Men Pastime Grandly

(By Ben.)

Didst ever see a volleyball game? We didn't until last night. After a shot of caffeine, we rambled over to the Y. M. C. A. and lapped some of the villagers pastiming thursty.

"These be perilous days, when one has to depend upon a volleyball game for excitement. It's a good appetizer and lots of mirth for the pastimers, but for the spectator—well, he might just as well see the family check-board and give a Sioux war cry every time he spills gore upon the table.

A good neck is the only thing a volleyball spectator needs. He wants a well-rolled swivel between his shoulders and his ivory dome. And, then, if he wants to sleep after the thing is over, he wants to be laid down to the side of the bed, else the ivory will continually roll over and strike itself against the blankets.

They had four of those volleyball games last night. It seems that the Old Stiffs had a meal of Poor Prunes and that the Spavins kicked the Sufferin' Cats all around the ranch.

When the referee announced the names of the teams, we thought we were in for some good, old holiday baseball excitement, but imagine our surprise when ten husky looking fur-nurse nurses commenced to spit an inflated ball over the top of a fly net. The idea, they said, was to keep the ball chasing back and forth in the net. It was necessary to keep the net in the air, and to do that, one of serving, but we never got anything. And we'll swear that none of the players stopped long enough to take anything out of their mouths.

The Poor Prunes and the Old Stiffs were the first to take the floor. The Old Stiffs, you remember, ate the Prunes—though why the pure food inspector didn't rush in and save them is more than we can determine. The official figures were: 21-19 and 21-14. The 21-19 game was supposed to be a good exhibition. It was one of those thrilling ninth-inning-two-men-out-and-the-bases-choked finishes. But we got about as much excitement out of it as we would at our funeral.

The Old Stiffs—piloted by C. W. Graves—led 19-15 at the end of the eighth inning. When Gravy walked into the box in the ninth, a Rude Prune stepped up to the plate and slammed one of his hooks out for a home run. The Old Stiffs saw that the Cats a change. Then, W. C. Stebbins, whose known to all the kids of the town, served. Then, followed Efring and Tuttle, who had to substitute for his assistants, W. C. Stebbins, an array of talent, the Cats could do. The score was 21-11.

Captain Raymond of the Sufferin' Cats had for his assistants, Dr. A. Peake, Walter Hawkins, L. S. Tompkins and P. H. Lehman.

Ruppert will find that running a ball team is slightly different from making joy water out of hops. He'll have to deal with a different kind of hops, too—for he may find that the Federal league will have more money tied up in the Highlanders than he has. (That N. B. was positively necessary.)

"Wild Bill" Donovan, it is said, will manage the Yankees. Hughes Jennings was one of the rumored leaders, but it appears that the Tiger tamer has been given the flop. Donovan is the only one that should care about that, though.

Poor Old Winniepec.

Up Winnipeg way, they're having an awful time with Aunt Ennui. Since the Duluth Northern league season, they've had a thing to disturb them—their daily thoughts about war and war tax.

A string artist of that village is endeavoring to start something. He's trying to stir up the baseball populace. But with Old Santa's visit near and nothing but a last year's toothless sock in the house, he's having a sweet, little time arousing things.

To a man up an oak, it looks very much as though the Winnipeg Philiberts are tired of baseball wranglings. All they want is good baseball, and they seem to care very little about a gazook that delivers the goods.

Touring the World of Sport

A Few Side Lights Throats

By Ben

Important Action.

It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the Indiana-North Dakota football game, which has been scheduled for October 31, 1915. The contest means more to the university and North Dakota than one would first imagine.

Yesterday, when informed of the game, a prominent local man said: "Good. That means a lot in immigration."

Few of us ever tied a university football game to immigration prospects. It is here, there, North Dakota gets many men from Illinois and other states in that section of the country. The educational advantages of a state mean much to these men who contemplate moving. Sending the football team to Indiana is one way of letting them know that North Dakota has a good university. Then, too, it means a great deal to the university. With two "big eight" conference games scheduled for next year, North Dakota high school graduates are going to consider the institution on a par with other big universities.

Must Like Trouble.

It beats all how some men flock to Trouble. Take Col. Jacob Ruppert, for instance. The colonel, who is known as a wealthy brewery magnate, has just purchased the New York Yankees. With him, in the deal, is T. L. Huston. Along about next July 4, each one will be blaming the other guy for their fool step.

ALL WRONG

The Mistake is Made by Many Grand Forks Citizens.

Look for the cause of backache. To be cured you must know the cause.

If it's weak kidneys. You must set the kidneys working right.

A resident of this vicinity shows you how.

Mrs. J. Handlon, 604 N. Third St., E. Grand Forks, Minn., says: "I suffered for over two years from a dull, grinding pain through the small of my back, accompanied by a disordered condition of my kidneys. My health was badly run down. I had but little energy or ambition and my household duties seemed very burdensome. My head ached severely and when I stooped over, I became very dizzy. I got Doan's Kidney Pills at I. Kingman's Drug Store. In a few days my condition became better and continued use completely cured me." Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Dr. H. C. Doan had. Foster-Milburn Co., Prop., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

NEW YORK YANKS ARE TRANSFERRED

Ruppert and Huston Buy Team—Deal to be Completed Today.



Colonel Jacob Ruppert, who has purchased the New York Yankees.

The purchase of the New York Yankees by Colonel Jacob Ruppert and T. L. Huston was practically completed yesterday. The deal will be consummated in New York today.

The new owners were in Chicago yesterday, when they conferred with Ban Johnson, president of the American league.

"Wild Bill" Donovan, former pitching star, has been chosen as manager. Donovan managed the Providence, R. I. team last season.

The deal, it is said, also involves the transfer of five American league players to the Yankees. The men are: Rehg, Boston; High and Pipp, Detroit; and Mills, St. Louis.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS FOR 1915 IMPROBABLE

New York, Dec. 23.—Uncle Sam's chances of winning back the polo and tennis championship cups in 1915 are remote because of the general European war.

It is unlikely that there will be an international polo match between England and America next year. Most of the men who made up the 1914 English polo team were army officers. They are fighting in the war now. It is possible that one or more has been killed or wounded.

Even if war is over by next spring, it is not likely that a match will be arranged, as it will take England a year or more to readjust itself commercially and in a military way, and it will not have much time to think of or indulge in sports.

The same is true concerning the Australian tennis team, which won the Davis cup last summer. Anthony F. Wilding and Norman E. Brookes, the main come in the championship team, are on the firing line for the allies, and have given up all tennis thoughts.

McGraw and Comiskey will take their outfits to South America on a chartered vessel next winter.

Valuable Talent Has Brodied to Federal League Since Last Year Nearly \$750,000 in Players Leave

(By Frank G. Menke.)

New York, Dec. 23.—About \$750,000 worth of baseball talent has jumped to the Federal league since the "outlaw" organization began its flirtation with the diamond stars.

Joe Thicker was valued at \$25,000; "Tub" Maguard was worth \$21,000 when he came from the minors. Lee Magee, the great Cardinal outfielder, was worth at least \$10,000. "Cy" Falckner, former manager of the Philadelphia Athletics, was worth \$10,000 at the very least.

Ed Konetchy was valued at \$15,000 at the beginning of the 1914 season, but his work during 1914 fell off. Ivy Wingo, the Cardinal catcher, was rated as a star of the first water, and, no doubt, would have brought \$10,000 had he been offered for sale. Ivy Plank and Chief Bender, former Athletic twirlers, had a big value.

Benny Kauff, the sensational outfielder of the Indianapolis Feds, was a minor leaguer before he jumped to the Feds. His value then probably was \$2,000, but he's worth \$25,000 to-day.

Raymond, former manager of the Browns, ranks as a first-class player and probably was worth \$7,500. "Hap" Myers, the lanky Brooklyn first baseman, was worth \$5,000.

Scaton Worth \$20,000.

Pitcher Tom Seaton and Shortstop Mike Doolan, who jumped from the Phillies, rank among the greatest players in the game. Seaton was worth \$20,000 at the least. He was rated as one of the greatest pitchers in the National league. Doolan, in the opinion of Charles Egan, now manager of the Phillies, was the best shortstop in either league, with the exception of Walter Maraville of the Feds.

Hal Chase, who jumped the White Sox, was valued at \$20,000; Howard Camnitz, former Pittsburgh pitcher, was worth \$10,000; and Ed Hendrix, another former Pirate pitcher, Earl Moore, who jumped to the Buffalo Feds, was worth \$5,000 at the least.

Among the other major league pitchers who have jumped to the Feds.

Geers May Race in Exposition Events During the Next Season

(By Al Wilson.)

There are possibilities that Ed F. Geers will yet ship a string of horses next spring and race in the Panama-Pacific exposition events. The veteran stated yesterday that he had such in mind, but the winter weather has been one regarding the proposition.

Mr. Geers announced last winter that there were possibilities of his going to California for the winter of 1914-15. Plans were then to ship west after the close of the grand circuit take in the races at Dallas, Phoenix, Los Angeles and then go into winter quarters at the R. J. MacKenzie track at Pleasanton. These were to be the winter quarters still entered into ideas of entering an American about five of his horses at San Francisco next June.

He said that he had a few trotters and pacers which he thought should be shipped there. There has been nothing definite regarding this, however, and no steps will very likely be taken before the first of the year.

As prospects are now, the string will be composed of about five horses—two trotters and three pacers. Mr. Geers has in his stable this winter three green pacers, both of which have worked miles this fall, after plenty of training, right around 2:10. This fall he intends entering in the 2:08 Brouse race, which event is scheduled by the exposition racing officials as one of the features of the spring circuit in the event of the opinion that these performers ought to go, and he further states there are other horses here of this gait which might do well on the coast.

Trotted Nice Mike.

J. Malcolm Forbes, which has been turned over to Mr. Geers by his own J. R. Magowan, after the stallion has spent a year in the stud, is one of the trotters which the harness dean is considering for the trip. The trotter is eligible to the 2:08 class, and would find some of the best racing should he train south. Recently this hitother unfortunate son of Bingen trotted a mile in 2:12 1-4 for his

COACH PITMAN HAS TEMPORARY LINEUP

With the first team practically decided upon, Coach Pitman yesterday began the work of developing the high school basketball quint. He announced the final lineup for the present: Rain and Loughlin, guards; Cole and Jackson, forwards; Jacobs, center.

The following compose the reserve squad: Duggan, Graves, Dow, Finch and Barnes. Carter, a member of last year's team, is not trying for a position.

CANADIAN CHAMP WINS

Montreal, Dec. 23.—Frankie Fleming of Le Prairie, Que., Canadian featherweight champion, forced Joe Godney of New York to leave the ring in the fifth round of a scheduled 10-round bout Monday night.

In the fourth Fleming pounded the New Yorker continually, knocking him down at the bell with a right cross to the jaw. The men fought at 122 pounds.

CUBS START EARLIER

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The Chicago National League club set forward the beginning of spring training from February 25 to February 27, according to an announcement yesterday.

OVER THE POLICE TELEPHONE

Mr. Scraggleigh—"That you, dear? Sorry, but I won't be home to-night. I was discussing the war in a downtown cafe and I've been interested in a neutral port."

HIRSHBERGER RINK WINS FIRST ROCKS

Went into Semi-Finals Last Night by Trimming the Gray Four.

By defeating the Gray rink last night, 14-8, the Hirshberger quartet won one pair of rocks given by the Winnipeg devotees. The Hirshberger-Gray match was played instead of the Sheppard-Lovejoy contest. The Hirshberger rink is now in the semi-finals of the rock tourney.

The Fletcher rink had little difficulty defeating the Williamson crew, 15-6.

Tonight, the Sheppard-Lovejoy rinks will play and the Rex-Fletcher crews will compete. At 9 o'clock the Bond rink will play the Porte four, and the winner of the Sheppard-Lovejoy match will meet the Cameron rink.



THE UPS AND DOWNS.

Homan—One of the waiters at this place was formerly a duke, one of the chefs was a count and the bell boy was a prince.

Ryonto—I suppose the manager was formerly a king or emperor?

Homan—No; he was a milk wagon driver.

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