

LOFTUS IN THE DEAL

ROBISON WILL GO TO ST. LOUIS, CLEVELAND TO THE WEST-ERN LEAGUE

COMISKEY WILL HAVE A PART

St. Paul Base Ball Magnate Was Not in St. Louis for His Health Nor to Renew Old Friendships—Capitalist Becker Buys the Browns From the Original Purchasers of the Club.

CHICAGO, March 17.—The Inter Ocean of today says: "Here is a base ball story that is worth the reading, for every word of it is true. In a word, it is the true story of the recent auction sale of the St. Louis plant and franchise. The facts are these: The Cleveland club is to be transferred to St. Louis and its present owner, Frank Robison, will continue to pose as the official head of the organization, but the good Mr. Brush is financially interested in the venture, and is expected to find the money necessary for buying out Gruner and the other creditors of the old club.

"Tom Loftus, of Dubuque, and Comiskey, of St. Paul, have a hand in the deal, and, in consideration of their retirement from St. Louis, they will receive, free of charge, the Cleveland territory. This means that Loftus will transfer his Columbus team to Cleveland, and that the latter city will become a full-fledged member of the Western league. Last of all, but most important of all, the National league playing circuit in this year of grace will consist of ten clubs, Baltimore and Cleveland being literally wiped off the league map.

"Creditor Gruner bought the St. Louis club at the recent sale, on behalf of his fellow creditors, but before that sale was consummated he perfected a deal with the men most interested in the future of the St. Louis club. By the terms of this deal, Loftus and Comiskey arranged with the creditors to take the club off their hands after the sale, if such a step was found to be advisable. In fact, Loftus was given an option, which he still holds, and it is through him that Brush and Robison must conduct their dicker for the possession of the franchise and plant. The men Gruner represents have given Loftus the choice of either running the club or of selling it. They will do no business directly with Welsh and Robison.

LOFTUS GETS CLEVELAND.

Loftus has decided that it is best for himself and the interests of the Western league to decline this offer and accept the Cleveland territory.

The details of this deal will be perfected

BABIES ON FIRE

With Itching, Burning Skin and Scalp Humors

Will find Instant Relief, as well as rest and sleep, from the most torturing and disfiguring of itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, and crusted skin, scalp, and blood humors, with loss of hair, in warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, followed by gentle anointings with CUTICURA Ointment, purest of emollients, and greatest of skin cures.

at a conference to be held in St. Louis within the next three or four days. Loftus and Comiskey will not attend the "hot air" session, but their interests will be looked after by Judge McCafferty, of St. Paul. McCafferty is the lawyer who won Comiskey's latest lawsuit, and from all accounts he is capable of meeting Brush and Brush's lieutenants without losing any points. This diplomatic game will be played in Missouri's biggest village before the end of the week.

"Comiskey and Loftus arrived in Chicago yesterday morning and quickly made their way to the office of President Ban Johnson, of the Western league, where the trio indulged in a three hours' conference behind closed doors. Loftus started for Dubuque in the afternoon, but Comiskey remained in the city. They were not in the mood to talk for publication, but appeared to be more than pleased with the result of their visit to St. Louis.

"Last night Ban Johnson was seen, but he firmly declined to be interviewed. He would neither deny nor affirm the report that the Western league had secured the Cleveland territory. What he did admit was that he was more than satisfied with the outcome of the St. Louis muddle.

"Appended are the make-ups of the two leading base ball circuits in the country. The National league will consist of Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, Cincinnati and Pittsburg in the West, and New York, Brooklyn, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington in the East.

"This is the Western league circuit: Cleveland, Indianapolis, Detroit, Buffalo, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Minneapolis and St. Paul."

BECKER BUYS THE BROWNS.

ST. LOUIS, March 17.—Edward C. Becker, a capitalist of this city, has purchased the St. Louis Browns from the creditors, who bought the club's assets last Tuesday, at sheriff's sale. The price paid is not stated, but is in excess of that offered today by Frank Tate, the theatrical manager. Mr. Tate offered to pay the creditors \$35,000, and in addition meet the dues of the club to the National league, and the debt due Chicago, a total of \$37,900.

It is said that Becker telegraphed all over the country, asking the league men if they would stand by him in case he bought the club. He received several favorable answers and that was the reason he made the purchase. The sale carries with it all the stands and property now in Sportsman's park, a fifteen-year lease of the grounds and the following ball players: Pitchers, Hill, Hughey, Carsey, Sudhoff, Stivets; catchers, Clements and Sugden; first base, Tucker; second base, Quinn; third base, L. Cross; left field, Harley; center field, Stenzel; right field, Dowd.

CYCLE RACE REVIVAL.

The Twin Cities May See the Crack Riders This Season.

Minneapolis may see a revival of cycle racing the coming season. Negotiations are now under way which, if carried out, will result in a racing carnival in that city some time during May or June. The meet will be held probably at the old ball park, or at Minnehaha. The day following the Minneapolis meet there will be a days' racing in St. Paul.

Among the riders who will come to Minneapolis, in case the arrangements for the meet are concluded, will be Jimmy Michael, the middle distance champion; Harry Elkes, Michael's old time rival; "Baby" Gibson, the Cincinnati boy who has made a phenomenal record in middle distance races; Eddie Bald, the short distance champion; Arthur Gardner, Charles Miller, of Chicago, six-day champion of the world; Louis Gimm, twenty-four hour champion; Frederick, the Swiss, long distance champion of Europe; McFarland, the California champion; Frank Waller, the "Flying Dutchman;" Teddy Hale and Nawn, of Ireland; Julius

of Sweden; Lawson, the "Terrible Swede;" Frank Albert, Burns, Pierce, Orlando Stevens, the speedy Buffalo rider; George Turville, Jay Eaton, the indoor king; Teddy Goodman, Faral, Harry Terrill, Thomas Barnaby, of Boston; Harvey Pihlinton, Charles Turville and John Chapman, of Atlanta, Ga.

Fournier, champion of France, will exhibit his petroleum moto-cycle, and Foreman will also bring his petroleum machine to the meet.

The programme of races has not been definitely arranged as yet, but it is expected that there will be an open professional event, a professional handicap, a twenty-five-mile race for the long distance men, and a number of handicap races at which an effort will be made to induce local riders to enter.

Long John Healey Dead.

CINCINNATI, O., March 17.—John Healey, who ten years ago was known as a great base ball pitcher and familiarly designated as "Long John" Healey, is dead in this city of consumption. In 1887 he was one of the American players who made the trip around the world and played in Europe, Asia and Australia. He quit the diamond two years ago and became a St. Louis policeman, but was obliged to give up his position last year on account of ill health.

Spears Won It.

Spears won the second night's play in the inter-city billiard tourney at Carney's rooms, St. Paul, last night, the score being 100 to 87, as follows:
Spears—0, 1, 3, 1, 4, 3, 4, 5, 8, 1, 2, 1, 3, 6, 2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 3, 0, 0, 2, 8, 0, 0, 2, 0, 2, 8, 5, 0, 2, 0, 5, 0, 0, 0, 4—100.
Carney—2, 11, 1, 0, 0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 4, 0, 0, 3, 5, 3, 0, 1, 3, 0, 0, 0, 3, 5, 0, 1, 5, 1, 4, 7, 9, 0, 0, 1, 1, 4, -2, 0, 1—87.

The next match will be played in Minneapolis Tuesday evening.

Ryan and Creedon Matched.

ST. LOUIS, March 17.—Tommy Ryan has been matched for a twenty-five-round battle with Dan Creedon before the club offering the largest purse. The boxers are negotiating with the Memphis Athletic club.

INJURED FOR LIFE.

"Hazing" Makes an Invalid of Student James J. Blount.

CHICAGO, March 17.—Hazing, as practiced at the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, may make James J. Blount, of the class of 1903, an invalid for life, if it does not cause results even more serious. He is now in the Presbyterian hospital. The cords of his neck are injured, and the doctors think he has been hurt internally. Blount is the victim of the custom of "passing up." "Passing up" consists in seizing a man in the class room and passing him from one tier of seats to the one just above or below, until the outer or inner circle of the seats occupied by the class during a clinic is reached. Then the victim is started on a journey in the opposite direction.

Student Blount belongs to the freshmen class. He has been ill for some time, but during the hazing process he was tossed back and forth from tier to tier of the seats and then shot down to the floor, where he lost consciousness. Blount's parents reside in Petersburg, Ind. The faculty of the college have suspended six students for complicity in the hazing and more are threatened.

1,000,000 Sailors From One Ship.
The U. S. Receiving Ship Vermont, now over 50 years old, has been the school house for over 1,000,000 sailors in our navy. The age and the accomplishments of the Vermont are much the same as Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which has been before the public for 50 years and has cured innumerable cases of malaria, fever and ague, besides dyspepsia, constipation, indigestion, blood disorders and kidney affections.

BUSINESS IS A PUZZLE

NOTHING TO INDICATE A DECREASE IN THE PROSPERITY THAT HAS PREVAILED

IRON AND STEEL ENIGMAS

Prices Based Largely Upon Ability of Mills to Turn Out Orders Already on Hand—Figures Have Been Named for the Purpose of Avoiding Taking More Work Than Can Be Accomplished.

NEW YORK, March 17.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review tomorrow will say:

In business, this year cannot be compared with any other. It can be said that payments through the principal clearing houses for the past week have been 57.4 per cent greater than in 1892, and 45.9 per cent greater than in 1898, but that exaggerates the gain in some branches of business, while in others it falls far short of the gain. Thus, the February exports of manufactured products have about doubled since 1892. Omitting New York clearings, where speculation in stocks is most active, payments through the other principal clearing houses for the same week show increases of 37.6 per cent over 1892, and 27.1 per cent over last year. But without regard to such details all realize that the volume of business in all branches is the greatest ever known.

The nation's prosperity rests on more solid foundations. The exports of breadstuffs, provisions, cotton and oil in February showed a decrease of \$6,000,000 but other exports, mainly manufactured, were \$36,406,943 in value, against \$31,275,396 last year, and were sufficiently large to cover 60 per cent of the entire imports. The merchandise exports exceeded imports for the month by \$33,324,117, the gold supply increasing, and there appears no occasion for monetary disturbance. The treasury recorded its first payment of the \$59,000,000 for the Central Pacific railroad, having previously received \$59,000,000 for the Union Pacific, and over \$8,000,000 for the Kansas Pacific.

Rapidly advancing quotations for iron and its products would mislead if it were not kept in mind that more than nine-tenths of the iron manufacturing capacity is engaged and will be until July or later, in the execution of orders taken months ago at low prices. If 1,000,000 tons of products go out this month 900,000 at such prices as \$18 to \$20 for steel rails, at which the entire output of the Illinois Steel company for this year was sold some time ago, it hardly indicates the true character of the iron business, that less than 100,000 tons are going out at such prices as \$26 to \$28 per ton for steel rails made here for small lots this week. Belated buyers now have to pay fancy prices to get orders accepted at all. Withdrawal or postponement of business because of high prices begins to be a significant feature, and much foreign business is evidently lost, though there are still sales for export, 3,500 tons of pipe for South America and 3,000 tons bridge material for Burma.

The Connelville coke works, with an output of 167,240 tons weekly, and many operating Sundays to catch up with orders, have advanced prices only fifteen cents.

Wool sales at the three chief markets have been only 4,305,600 pounds, of which 2,761,900 were domestic, against 5,078,400 pounds in the same week of 1892, of which

2,507,200 were domestic; but prices are soft and some dealers are said to have yielded as much as two to three cents per pound clean, because nobody can guess what effect the new combination may have. Prices are largely nominal, and yet there is a somewhat better demand for goods. Nor has the strong demand for cotton goods been helped by the weaker market for cotton, which has fallen to 6.37 cents in spite of a volume of reports about the bad condition of the late picked product. The price of goods has been strongly advanced, and is held, but yet depends upon the price of cotton.

The grain market has lost most in that which has least statistical reason to lose, because no estimate of wheat in farmers hands March 1 would provide more than about last year's exports and domestic demand to July 1. The actual exports, flour included, from both coasts during the past two weeks have been 7,596,938 bushels, against 7,367,892 last year. But such exports imply a foreign demand which is not unlikely to exceed last year's, and the corn exports are also a little larger than last year. The Western receipts for the week have been 3,339,000 bushels, against 2,557,666 bushels last year.

Failures for the week have been 183 in the United States, against 208 last year, and 30 in Canada, against 27 last year.

APPROACH OF SPRING.

One Cause for the Buoyancy Shown in General Markets.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: An activity which in some directions represents the continuance of pre-existing conditions and in others reflects a special impulse communicated by the near approach of spring, forms the leading note of this week's trade advices. In iron and steel industries activity continues unabated, the upward tendency of prices being strikingly maintained, and the eagerness of consumers to take the product remaining unchanged.

The more spring-like weather has induced a greater keenness in the demand for reasonable goods, and from most sections of the country come reports of a marked activity in jobbing lines, having to do with dry goods, millinery and footwear.

Cotton fabrics generally are in a strong position. Wool does not display any animation, though prices are maintained. The lumber trade shows every indication of activity, reports from widely separated points indicating a strong demand, more particularly for hardwoods which, in some sections, are reported to be scarce, high and advancing in price.

The cereals weakened during the week, probably in sympathy with wheat, which experienced a marked drop on Thursday, in part as the result of heavy liquidation in Chicago, and in part owing to reports of the break in the drought in California and better news from other wheat growing sections. Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregate 4,114,046 bushels, against 4,398,821 last week; 3,679,052 bushels in the corresponding week of 1898; 1,629,444 bushels in 1897; 1,522,123 bushels in 1896, and 2,998,635 bushels in 1895. Since July 1 this season the exports of wheat aggregate 177,225,801 bushels, against 172,620,570 last year. Corn exports for the week aggregate 4,211,823 bushels, against 3,736,586 last week; 8,841,874 in this week a year ago; 5,939,318 in 1897; 1,802,832 in 1896, and 486,327 in 1895. Since July 18 this season corn exports aggregate 121,453,958 bushels, against 126,587,669 during the same period a year ago.

Business failures for the week number 205, an increase of twenty-eight as compared with last week, but a noticeable falling off as compared with the corresponding weeks of the four preceding years. Failures in the Dominion of Canada for the week numbered only twenty-one, as compared with thirty-seven last

week, twenty-three in the corresponding week of last year; thirty-six in 1897; forty in 1896, and forty in 1895.

IRREGULAR STOCKS.

Peculiar Action of the Market During the Present Week.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Bradstreet's review of the New York stock market will say tonight: Firmer tendencies in money caused irregular declines in the stock market during the earlier part of week. In spite of this, there were advances in specialties or manipulated securities, and, when the sensation of the week came, on Thursday, it took the form of an extremely large and rapid advance in American Sugar Refining stock. This advance continued on Friday, the street being inclined to believe that the reports of negotiations for a settlement of the trade war had a real foundation. The absence of any details or confirmation seemed only to increase the apprehension of the bears, not only in Sugar, but in other stocks, and, although there was little evidence of a healthy buying demand for long account, the covering of shorts, enforced or otherwise, caused marked appreciation in various parts of the list. This was notably the case with granger shares, which had been depressed and sagging early in the week on expectations of unfavorable net earnings reports for February, and on account of serious damage to the winter wheat crop. Burlington, Atchison and other stock, which would be affected by the latter circumstance, became the objects of liquidation and pressure, the latter resulting in short sales in a sufficient amount to furnish material for the subsequent rally, which was helped on by manipulation.

At the same time the entire stock was more or less influenced by the hardening of money. In spite of the distrust of the industrial stocks shown by lenders of money that part of the market was a feature in the trading. London was not an important factor in this market. In fact, the quotations there followed ours closely. Speculation on the other side was apparently influenced in its action by the expectation of higher money here.

While the anthracite stocks were dull and the grangers heavy, until rallied by short covering, the lack of public buying and the predominance of manipulation found their chief expression in the industrials and a few specialties.

DISCRETIONARY POOLS.

Promoters of the Scheme Held to Answer Charges of Fraud.

NEW YORK, March 17.—D. R. Kellogg, Samuel Keller and Myron S. Bernard, members of the old bucket shop firm of E. S. Deen & Co., were each held in \$2,000 bail for trial in the court of general sessions today. The three men were charged with acting in conspiracy to defraud several thousand persons throughout the United States who forwarded them money to put in what was known as discretionary pools. The concern failed, with liabilities of over \$200,000.

WAGENMAN'S SHORTAGE.

Missouri's Lexow Committee Places It at \$8,270.

ST. LOUIS, March 17.—A comparison of figures from two sources, submitted to the senate Lexow committee, showed that Clerk Wagenman, of the court of criminal correction, is short \$8,270 on naturalization papers issued from 1895 to 1898. Mr. Wagenman claims there is a considerable amount owing him from the central committees of the political parties for naturalization.

HE WAS A SIGHT.

EYES PUFFED OUT AND LIMBS SWOLLEN BY DROPSY

After Three Years of Suffering Mr. Freeborough Is a Well Man—How the Cure Was Effected.

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 15.—"I was a sight," said A. H. Freeborough, of 191 Frank avenue, this city, to an interviewer, "and the agony I bore was intense. I had Dropsy for three years. My eyes were puffed out and my limbs were badly swollen. All the doctors could not help me. I had about given up hope when I read of positive cures of Dropsy by Dodd's Kidney Pills. I purchased one box of the pills, and after taking part of them the swelling began to go out of my limbs and the puffiness around my eyes disappeared. I have used four boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills and am completely cured."

This awful malady, Dropsy, yields to Dodd's Kidney Pills alone. Many men and women who have been given up by the doctors have been rescued from the grave through the use of these wonderful pills, which are a positive and permanent cure for all forms of diseases arising from disordered kidneys.

R. H. Altman, of Raze street, this city, was troubled with Rheumatism for 10 or 11 years, being confined to his bed much of the time, "after using four boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills," he says, "I have thrown my cane away, as now I can walk without it."

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by Drug-gists at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50. Sent by mail on receipt of price by Dodds Medicine Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

MRS. PLACE RESIGNED.

Has Abandoned Hope of Escaping the Electric Chair.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Warden Sage, of Sing Sing prison, will send out some time today the invitations to the witnesses who will be present at the execution of Mrs. Martha Place, for the murder of her stepdaughter, Ida Place. It is generally understood the execution will occur on Tuesday, at about 11 a. m. The warden said today that Mrs. Place had passed a quiet night, and seemed to be resigned. She has now given up all hope, and when her spiritual adviser, Rev. Dr. Cole, of Yonkers, left last evening, she assured him that she would place her trust in God.

Mrs. Place has had but little appetite since she learned Gov. Roosevelt's decision yesterday that the law would have to take its course, and she ate sparingly of the breakfast which was sent to her apartments this morning. She wrote a number of letters to her fifteen-year-old son, who was adopted in a family in Newark. The boy has not answered any of the letters, although his foster parents allowed him to visit his mother after her arrest for the murder in Brooklyn.

By order of Gov. Roosevelt the execution of Mrs. Place will be conducted as privately as possible. There will be present only the required number of doctors, including one female physician, the warden's deputies, a woman attendant for Mrs. Place, who will adjust the electrode at the leg, and a limited number of newspaper men, possibly but two. The warden has secured a woman who will attend Mrs. Place as she is strapped in the chair.

The removal of hair from the back of the woman's head, where the electrode must be placed, will probably not be done until everything is prepared for the execution, and just before she is taken from her cell to the execution chair.