

WHAT THE PLAYERS WANT IS EXPLICITLY STATED TO THE LEAGUE BY THE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION. THE MAGNATES GET TO WORK. First Annual Business Session of the National League of Ball Clubs Is to Be Held in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—After trying for two days the National league magnates finally got into session at the Fifth Avenue hotel tonight. When the meeting was called to order by the league's secretary, there were present: A. H. Soden, W. H. Conant and J. B. Billings, Boston; W. W. Kerr, Barney Dreyfus and P. L. Auer, Pittsburgh; John J. Bush, John I. Rogers, Philadelphia; F. A. Abell, Edward Hanlon and Charles Ebbetts, Brooklyn; Fred Knowles, New York; James Hart, Chicago; John J. Bush, Cincinnati, and F. De Haas Robinson and Stanley Robinson, St. Louis.

This was the busiest day that the league magnates have put in. The committee appointed by the league to hear the grievances of the Players' Protective Association went into session in parlor E. H. The committee is composed of Messrs. Rogers, Soden and Bush. The players' organization demand that the session be an open one and was accorded to, and when the session began the parlor was crowded with spectators. The session was opened by Mr. Soden, who stated that, as the result of correspondence between Mr. Taylor and the league magnates the committee had been appointed to listen to the demands of the players. The committee, he said, was appointed last September, but for various reasons could not meet the players' committee until the present time. Mr. Soden said that the committee had no power to act, but would report the conference back to the league.

In stating the demands of the players' organization to the league committee, Mr. Taylor said there were just three points in the program of the league that the players wanted corrected. They are a modification of the reserve clause, the entire elimination of the "farming" clause, and the modification of the clause relating to the power of club owners to buy and sell players or claim them without first getting the players' consent. He would not discuss the "farming" clause, but said that the league committee would report the matter to the league at its present session. Mr. Taylor demurred to treating with the committee at first on the ground that the league had no power to act. He asked that the matter be laid over until it could be presented to a full meeting of the magnates.

With Chairman Soden and Col. Rogers assured Mr. Taylor that the matter would be more expeditiously treated if presented to the committee. "This matter is a serious one," said Col. Rogers. "Contracts are nine-tenths of the success of a club. This committee will make a fair and truthful report to the league of what you say to-day. Mr. Bush said that officially the members of the league had not been informed as to the purposes of the players' organization and they looked upon it as a secret organization. The players—playing managers—had not been taken, Mr. Taylor denied this and after receiving a promise of immediate action he presented his demands.

"We believe," said Mr. Taylor, "that the players and club owners can get together and adjust these matters without resorting to the law of suits and demands. If we are simply moving in an idea of putting the game on a higher plane. The salary of the player, we think, is regulated by the law of supply and demand. If we can make it more profitable financially and then our salaries will increase.

THE PUBLIC'S IDEAS. "The public has ideas about the ball player. Today you see a man in a street suit, a ball player is looked upon as a slave. He is a slave under the reserve rule. We know that the reserve rule is the cause of the trouble, but it should not be abused. What can be done to modify it? The players suggest that it be limited and that no player may be reserved by a club for more than five years.

"We don't think you have the right, morally or legally, to hold a player for more than five years. It is not because it is improved by the change, but because players from club to club? What we want is a modification of the reserve rule. Let the club not reserve more than ten men.

"As to the farming out system, we want it abolished altogether. There is no justice in it at all for the player. If a man ceases to play, he should be able to go where he likes, or you have somebody that can play his position better, don't farm him out. Give him his release. Let him have a chance to play with some club that needs him.

"As to the system of buying, selling and claiming players, the player wants the contract to be made in his own hands. He has something to say in the matter. As the matter stands now the contract is all in the hands of the magnates. The player is powerless to do or say anything.

At this point Col. Rogers brought up the famous contract offered to the league in 1888, by John Ward, as showing the wisdom of Mr. Taylor's contentions. "That is an isolated case," said Mr. Taylor, "and dealt with the transfer of a player, but with an entire club. It is not a precedent. The magnates desire to transfer one or two players from one city to another, the players would not object.

TO IMPROVE THE GAME. "What we want is to help the magnates put the game on a better status. The players have talked all these matters over. They agree with you that rowdiness should be abolished as any cost. In this respect, the players have put the matter up to the magnates. The players are humane. In the heat of a game they lose their heads. But you have the power to stop it. You have the power to discipline intransigent players. Why not administer fines? The question of stopping the rowdy ball is up to you. We want these things put in the contract. We realize that you magnates could easily get together and have a secret understanding that would render inoperative the changes we ask, but we

RHEUMATISM. DR. RADWAY & CO.—I have been suffering from Rheumatism for more than six months. I could not raise my hands, my legs, or my arms behind me, or even take off my own shirt. Before I had finished a bottle of Radway's Ready Relief I could use my arms as well as my legs. You can see why I have such great faith in your Ready Relief truly. W. C. BAKER, Engineer at A. Montefiore's Factory, 1323 Julia street, New Orleans.

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Tomorrow, A. G. Cutler, of Boston, will play Charles S. Schmitt, of Chicago. In the evening Frank Billeter, of Minneapolis, will cross cues with William Paige, of Boston, for a spin which will be one of the closest games of the tourney.

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Following is the score of the afternoon game: Charles S. Schmitt, Chicago—Total, 300; average, 4:43; highest runs, 27, 19, 12 and 12. William Paige, Boston—Total, 256; average, 3:70-72; highest runs, 23, 24, 17 and 15.

WASHINGTON PARK STAKES. Four Rich Prizes Added to List of Fixtures.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Four rich stakes have been added by the Washington Park Racing club to the list of fixtures for the winter season. The stakes were announced some time ago for next summer's meeting, beginning Saturday, June 22. The new events follow: The Auburn stakes, one mile and half a furlong, selling, sweepstake, for three-year-olds and up, to be run on the nomination, \$25 additional for name to start, \$2,000 added, of which \$400 goes to the second and \$200 to the third. The Lakewood stakes, five furlongs, a sweepstake, for three-year-olds and up, to be run on the nomination, \$25 additional to start, \$2,000 added, of which \$400 goes to the second and \$200 to the third. The Lakewood stakes, five furlongs, a sweepstake, for two-year-olds and up, to be run on the nomination, \$25 additional to start, \$2,000 added, of which \$400 goes to the second and \$200 to the third. The stakes must be made on or before Jan. 15, 1901.

THEY HAVE HAD ENOUGH. Maroons Will Not Play the Gophers Next Year.

It is extremely unlikely that a football game between Minnesota and the University of Chicago will be played next year. Coach Stagg, of the Maroons, is said, does not want to arrange such a hard schedule for his team. He did for 1900, and the Gophers are to be dropped. Dr. H. L. Williams, athletic director of the Maroons, said that he has not officially notified me that he would decline to play Minnesota next year. I do not know what he has arranged. I wrote to Mr. Stagg some time ago, asking him if a contest could be scheduled for next year. He has not answered me, but he has heard from him as yet.

"At the annual meeting of Western colleges at Chicago shortly after Thanksgiving, when Mr. Stagg told Prof. Jones, of our athletic board, that Chicago would not play Minnesota next year. So I suppose the matter is practically settled.

HAD A CLEAN SCORE. Harold Money Wins Interstate Park Handicap Shoot.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Harold Money, of the Cataract Gun club, won the fifth round of the Interstate Park Handicap today on the grounds of Queens, R. I., by grasping his full allotment of 25 birds. Money, who is a member of the St. Paul H. C. of Baltimore, was his closest attendant in the matter of kills, his total score being 22 birds. Money's opponent, H. Fox, of Baltimore, was his closest attendant in the matter of kills, his total score being 20 birds. Money's opponent, H. Fox, of Baltimore, was his closest attendant in the matter of kills, his total score being 20 birds.

WARRANTS FOR FIGHTERS. Chicago Police Say McGovern and Gans Can't Fight.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Warrants will be served at 10 o'clock tonight on the principals and promoters of the fight. Capt. Hayes, of the Thirty-fifth street police station says McGovern and Joe Gans will be arrested and charged with disturbing the peace. B. H. Winston, agent of the building; Louis M. Houseman, the club manager; and William Harris, manager of McGovern, will be arrested on