

CHANCE FOR ROURKE

AMERICAN WILL PROVIDE OMAHA MAN WITH OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO COURT

NEW ASSOCIATION PUSHES WAR

Handie and Hickey Are Looking for Ball Park Site—Western May Desert St. Paul or Kansas City.

It Bill Rourke is serious in his threat to carry the American association-Western league war into the courts, the American association provides the Omaha man with an opportunity to make good.

At its meeting in Kansas City, the American, after waiting for Rourke to appear, voted him no longer a member of the league organization, and awarded the Omaha franchise to Frank Handie, a man well known in Omaha baseball circles.

Rourke notified the American magnates that any attempt to meddle with his Omaha holdings would land the matter in the courts. Yesterday, according to the Associated Press reports, President Hickey of the league organization, with another ball park in Omaha, and are now negotiating for the grounds. The American Omaha team has already secured several players for the 1902 season, and with all this Rourke now has a chance to find out in the courts just how real his claim to the Omaha American association franchise is.

It is hard to discover just what Rourke is about in his attempt to hold onto the American Omaha franchise. He has, ever since the St. Joe meeting, connected himself with the American league, and has at all times announced himself as one of the magnates fighting the new organization.

At first glance Rourke does look like a man to work a clever move against the American league, but a second look makes this claim appear at all clever. Rourke by claiming and holding to the American's franchise could tie up things until the opening day of the American season and then pull out. This would leave the American with but seven clubs. The season would be on and it would be too late to secure a park and a new team for Omaha.

Can Outwit Rourke.

But the American association includes in its list of magnates men just as clever as Rourke, Whitfield and Manning. Rourke and his friends may carry the matter into the courts, and Rourke may secure his title to the new association's Omaha franchise, but Hickey and his friends understand Rourke's position, and will watch him out. Rourke may win for his friends in the Western. If the courts did decide against the new league, the decision would not prevent any Omaha man from erecting a ball park and would not prevent the American from holding the franchise.

Latest reports have Whitfield and his friends do not intend to let Rourke get the Omaha man and the new park. They will wait three years for a chance to participate. The other American teams would take care of the players signed for this season, and the Western would, as usual, finish with the losing end in its grasp. If Rourke at the last minute decided to throw the American, then in the Omaha man is there to step in. If Rourke figures that he will not be able to overlook his threat to go to the court house.

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THEY GOT ON EVEN TERMS WITH FISHER AND CHEVALIER, THE FRENCMAN. HE USED LITTLE GENERALSHIP, HOWEVER, AND CHEVALIER AND FISHER WERE VIGILANT.

AMERICAN AND NATIONAL MANAGERS HAVE PRACTICALLY SECURED THEIR TEAMS

COMISKEY HAS MANY STARS

Magnates Have Used Up Numerous Contracts, and Weeding Out Must Follow Spring Training Season.

Leaving the plotting and fighting to their employers the managers of the two big leagues have been hard at work for the past two months closing down every ball player of promise, and though the season is far away, most of the managers have already decided upon the line-up of their respective aggregations.

The baseball manager having secured his team in his own quiet way is not just at the present time making public his list, but from semi-official sources the line-ups of the teams of the two leagues are being made known to the public.

Something like the following: The Chicago team: Manager, Clark Griffith; pitchers, Griffith, Callahan, Garvin, Katal, and Scott; catchers, McFarland and Sullivan; first base, Isbell; second base, Tom Daly; third base, Coughlin; shortstop, Marley; left field, Davis; center field, Mertes; right field, Green; right field, Jones.

The Cleveland manager, Jimmy McAleer, will present this line-up: Powell, Sullivan, Harry, pitchers; Douglass, Maloney and Donohue, catchers; Anderson, first base; Madden, second base; Friel, third base; Burket, left field; Heidrick, center field; Hartland, right field.

Chicago's Frank Dwyer has good reason to be proud of the Detroit team. This is the line-up: Miller, Siever, Yeager and Crystal, pitchers; Green, catcher; Gleson, first base; Gleason, second base; Casey, third base and captain; Monte Cross, shortstop; Barrett, center field; Keeler or Holmes, right field.

Cleveland's new manager in T. O. Armour, and a reorganized team of high class. The line-up is: Wright, Moore and Anderson, pitchers; Schreckengost, first base; Bonner, second base and captain; Bradley, third base; Shindler, shortstop; Martini, left field; Pickering, center field; Harvey, right field.

Manager Connie Mack has not been idle in Philadelphia this winter, and has secured a grand lot of men to represent Quakerdom in the new season. The team is: Fraser, Bernhard, Plant and Townsend, pitchers; Stockman and Powers, catchers; Doherty, first base; Cole, second base and captain; Lave Cross, third base; Monte Cross, shortstop; Harste, left field; Fultz, center field; Flick, right field.

Manager Collins has completed his Boston team, and it is an impressive one. Study the line-up: Young, Winter, Prentice and Blinn, pitchers; Catchers, Warner and Brannan; first base, Ferris; second base, Collins; third base, Collins; shortstop, Martini; left field, Hickman; left field, Stahl; center field, Freeman, right field.

McGraw has packed a strong team for Baltimore, and will line up in this order: McGinnity, Hughes, Foreman and Nops, pitchers; McGinnity, Foreman, Nops, catcher; McGraw, first base; Williams, second base; McGraw, third base and captain; Donlin, center field; Seymour, right field.

Tom Loftus will give the Washington fans an outburst of joy. The line-up of this team: Carrick, Lee, Orth, pitchers; T. Donohue and W. Clark, catchers; Carrick, first base; Carrick, second base; Keister, second base; Coughlin or Wolferton, third base; Ely, shortstop; Barry, left field; Root, center field; Getman, right field.

Despite the wholesale loss of star players the club owners of the National League are not without playing talent. It is a fact that the National League has as yet shy of players, but at this writing the following men will work under the banners of the National League.

Chicago presents a new manager, and a new team. President Hart has the signed contract for the new manager, and the final selection of the regular team will be left to Manager Frank Chance. But on the eve of the season, West Siders will in all probability be made up as follows: Eason, Waddell, Flett, pitchers; Gattus, shortstop; Chance, Kling and Kehoe, catchers; Eason, first base; Long, second base; Tinker or Lowe, third base; Kennedy or McCormick, shortstop; Slagle, left field; Williams, center field; Jones, right field.

Pittsburg will present this team: Phillips, Tamm, pitchers; Phillips, catcher; Leever, pitchers; O'Connor, Zimmer and Smith, catchers; Bransfield, first base; Rittsby, second base; Conroy, shortstop; Conroy, shortstop; Clarke, left field and captain; Beaumont, center field; Wagner, right field.

This team won the National League pennant last year, and will in all probability repeat the feat. The team from the pirate crew outclass all rivals. The St. Louis team is far from being completed, but the following men are expected to be in the line-up: Doherty, pitcher; Ryan, catcher; Richardson, first base; Brasher, second base; Hartman, third base; Barkley, left field.

Cincinnati will be represented in the campaign by: Phillips, Hahn, Swormstedt, pitchers; Phillips, catcher; Beckley, first base; Magson, second base; Steinfield, third base; Corcoran, shortstop and captain; Dougherty, left field; Crawford, center field; Bey, right field; McKee, manager.

This is a lightweight team, Hahn, Corcoran, Crawford and Dougherty being the only stars. The Philadelphia team is yet to be picked. Roy Thomas, the outfielder, and Jackits are the only players of the first class now under contract.

The situation in New York is even more serious. Freedman's club is without a manager, and the only two players eligible are Matthewson, the pitcher, and Outfielder Van Halften.

Boston's Luckenberger as manager, and he has secured the following players: Willis, pitcher; Kitzinger and Moran, catchers; Gattus, shortstop; Demontreville, second base; Grimminger, third base; Long, shortstop and captain; Conroy, center field.

Brooklyn has lost a number of high-class men, and it is up to Manager Ned Hanlon to show his ability to develop a winning team out of rather uncertain material. Unless Hanlon changes his mind between this and spring he will line up as follows: Kennedy, Donovan and Joss, pitchers; McGuire and Farrell, catchers; Gattus, shortstop; Dahien, third base. A first and second baseman and three outfielders are yet to be picked. Hanlon has all probability fill all these positions with young players who are new to the league. The team looks very bad on paper.

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About 1,000 enthusiasts turned out to see the game, and they were well repaid for their trouble, as they saw a fast lot of fellows who were in every way, and while Minnesota had the best of it, the team was in doubt until the whistle blew for the call of time, and the score at the time was in favor of the boys in maroon and gold.

During the last half Minnesota looked as though she would swamp the boys from the east by an overwhelming score, but in the second half Yale took a brace and showed some fine team work. As a whole, the team work of Minnesota excelled that of her opponent.

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EDUCATION SPREADS RAPIDLY

Strong Views Expressed in Favor of the Right of Laborers to Organize Themselves into Unions.

PORTO RICO'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE IS CONCISE AND FORCEFUL IN HIS MESSAGE

San Juan, P. R., Jan. 2.—Gov. Hunt's message to the legislature of Porto Rico was read at 11 o'clock this morning before a joint session of that body held in the theater of San Juan. The building was crowded. The message congratulating the legislature upon the fact that its work in 1901 had been vindicated was wise, conservatively, progressive and conducive to the establishment of free trade between Porto Rico and the United States.

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