

along with a denial and says he got a full share. Much rejoicing among bartenders.

Minor league magnates, angered at the way their star players were grabbed off by the majors at the draft price, are to fight for legislation that will protect them. If they are to lose their stars the minors want the equivalent in coin.

Under the old draft rules the sixteen major league clubs put the



Clark Griffith.

names of players into a hat and drew out. If there was one star on a team and two or three other players of more than average ability there was a chance that the star would not be drawn. For instance:

Suppose the minor club in question was Milwaukee. Suppose, further,

Larry Chappell had been held to the close of the season. Then, the Sox would put in a draft for Chappell, and the Cubs and Giants would put in drafts for Blackburne and Pitcher Hovlik, respectively. In the draw the Giants would be victorious, taking Hovlik. This would still leave Chappell with the Brewers, and he could be sold.

Under the new system the draft is executed by clubs. The fortunate major club gets the privilege of taking its choice of the minor team whose name it drew from the hat.

The Chappell case is not a fair instance, probably, as Larry had previously been sold, but it explains how the plan works.

Some minor clubs who held out for stiff prices for their stars were forced to turn the men over at the draft price, as they were not warned before the draft meeting that the system of drawing was to be changed. At a meeting of the minor league magnates a fight will be made on the new arrangement.

Willie Ritchie is in with a whoop that he wants to meet Harlem Tommy Murphy in a twenty-round bout on the coast New Year's Day. Negotiations for the match are on, and outside of the weight question, the money split, the referee and a few minor items like that, nothing stands in the way of the bout.

Ritchie says he believes Murphy is ripe for picking, taking the New York lad's fight against Packey McFarland as evidence.

Frankly, we don't believe Murphy will get the bout. Johnny Dundee has arrived in New York with his manager, and they claim to have an offer of \$14,000 for Ritchie from a coast promoter if the champion will agree to take on Dundee. That is some coin, more than Ritchie would get for a bout with Murphy. But prize fight money is one kind of currency that is elastic. Dundee may have tacked a cipher onto the pure offer.

Christy Mathewson, it is reported.