

JUDGMENTS

THE failure of the American association and Eastern league to accept the concessions granted by the National commission in January and the consequent revocation of those concessions by the commission because of their nonacceptance leads up to this question: "What is it Mr. Tebeau has in mind?" Of course, we don't mean to say that President Powers of the Eastern league and President O'Brien of the American association have nothing to do or say in the matter, but when George Tebeau has anything to say the rest of the folks don't have much. Tebeau is too shrewd a man to let anything in the form of a concession get by him unless by so doing he can secure greater concessions. And that's precisely the point. The American association's agreement with the National commission has this year and next only to run. At the end of 1910, if not before, something big is going to be demanded. Doubtless the conclusion has been reached that it's well not to be fettered or hampered by lesser concessions when the time comes to go after the big game. There is a belief in some minds that Tebeau will not wait two years to pull off his coup; that he is secretly planning an invasion of major league territory and may undertake it next spring, precipitating a general base ball war. This belief is shared by President Kavanaugh of the Southern league, affected by the proposition. He plainly says he believes the Eastern and American are preparing to outlaw and he protests to the commission against its action. But that is idle. Tebeau is going to get a bigger piece of this base ball pie and his mouth is checked full now. He has planted his interests in several cities and he could mobilize his forces without much difficulty to make a good start. How successful such a move would be is purely problematical. One thing is plain—the situation must change. Too many good towns want admission into faster company to be long barred. Tebeau, no matter what his personal popularity or unpopularity may be, is a force, a dominant force, in base ball and he will be reckoned with.

Isn't the National commission a little supercilious about the authority vested in it? Some base ball managers are beginning to think so. It has suspended Dode Criss of St. Louis for failure to re-sign up by May 1 and Manager McAleer is indignant about it. He excuses Criss, saying that neither he nor President Hodges was available at the time Criss wanted to sign, hence he couldn't affix his name to a contract. The Browns' management is perfectly content to allow Criss to play and is very much displeased at the commission's conduct. Johnny Evers had the consent of President Murphy and Manager Chance to stay out until he was needed and when he was needed he promptly hastened to the rescue of the team. But here came the commission with the notification that Evers was ineligible because he failed to sign a Chicago contract by May 1. Evers observed the formalities and is now at work. In the case of Evers President Murphy says he was given a leave because the death of his mother necessitated certain adjustments of business and family matters. It looks like the commission is going pretty far when it transgresses a point beyond which the owners and managers of teams can see no reason or cause for going or no good purpose to serve. Of course, the commission can't be guided by the whim of every team owner and manager, but as McAleer says, "Evers is a policeman who arrests a man upon judgment." President O'Neill's notification several days in advance that any player in the western league not signed by May 7 would be suspended was only fair to the players, for he gave them ample warning.

Frank Smith says he will pitch every day if necessary to keep the Sox in the lead. That's what Walsh started out to do last year and you see what he got for it. By the way, this same Smith last year refused to pitch any game for a while. There's a wide range to his emotions.

"There is no ulterior motive in abrogating the agreement," says Gerry Herrmann in referring to the commission's action in revoking the order-making the Tebeau and Powers leagues Class AA organizations a cinch. The other fellows beat Gerry and his bunch to the ulterior end of it.

Willis Keeler, the veteran star of more than a decade and more, is making good by this season he would be back in his old form and he is making good on his promise. The little giant is pounding out two-baggers and home runs in the same game.

President O'Brien of the American association, when asked what he had to say upon the National commission's abrogation of that agreement, took the reporters cordially into his confidence and said: "Nothing, too busy." Betsha he snickered.

Wednesday is the big day. That is the day when Omaha opens the base ball season at home. It begins sixteen straight games, all of which we are going to win just as a matter of convenience and a rainy day precaution.

Some Hawkshaw insists he has seen Johnny Kling shambling around Chicago for days in disguise. That's certainly not giving Kling much show to make good on his war talk.

Some of the great pitchers are not yet doing much great work. Brown, Mathewson, Johnson, Covaleski, some of the great ones, have not yet struck their stride.

"Zimmerman rivets the contest." With such bulletins from the seat of war as that is it any wonder Johnny Evers wanted to get back?

If going from Cincinnati to Chicago has the same influence on Pat Hagan as it did on Overall, let's be glad. Let's say hurrah, anyway.

The annexation by the Cubs of Regan and Higginbotham looks very much like somebody was going to be disannexed.

The Giants and Highlanders have just switched ends on that New York sea-saw.

One thing, chances are the backbone of winter will be broken by Wednesday.

Those other towns have had to do all the shivering, anyway.

DR. CLAPP EXPECTS TROUBLE

Gophers Not So Easy as When Cornhuskers Won Last Year.

MINNESOTA RUNNERS ARE FAST

Annual Dual Meet at Minneapolis Next Saturday is Expected to Develop Some Surprises for Both Groups of Athletes.

LINCOLN, May 8.—(Special.)—Coach Dr. Clapp and his Nebraska cinder path athletes are sanguine of taking the measure of Minnesota when the two schools meet in their annual dual meet at Minneapolis next Saturday. No repetition is expected, though, of the brilliant victory of last spring, which gave the Cornhuskers \$4 points to a total of 28 for the Gophers. Minnesota is much stronger this season than it was a year ago at Lincoln and ought to give the Cornhuskers a close contest.

An indication of the improved work of the Gophers was secured from their showing against Iowa last Saturday. A year ago they were defeated by Iowa university by a score of 13 to 1—first places only being counted—but in the meet last week they tied up the final result, taking seven firsts. Six of these first places were won in the runs—events in which the Cornhuskers are weak and in which they will do their poorest work against Minnesota a week from today on Northrup field. Iowa is strong in the same events that Nebraska is a leader in and won its half from Minnesota by making the best time in the 120-yard hurdles and in all the field events excepting the pole vault. Coach Clapp looks for his men to win from the Gophers next week by taking a majority of the points in all the field events, the hurdles, and in one or two of the sprints.

Collins is Believed On. S. Collins is sure to win the three weight events for the Cornhuskers against the Gophers. His records are better than any made in the Minnesota-Iowa meet, in which the Hawkeyes took first in the hammer, discus and shot put events. Captain McDonald of the Cornhuskers, with records of 9:15-45 and 0:28 in the 120 and 220-yard hurdles, respectively, ought to have an easy time winning these two events, for "Dick" Grant's men are extremely slow in running the sticks.

Both the broad and high jumps should be easy victories for Nebraska. Minnesota lost these to Iowa. The record for the high jump at Iowa City was 5 feet 3 1/4 inches. This was several inches lower than the mark at which either Hammel or Hummel of Nebraska can clear the bar. The broad jump was won with a record of 20 feet 4 1/2 inches. Perry, who set a mark of 22 feet 3/4 inches in the Kansas meet last spring, if he gets into condition ought to win this event. He has been sick during the last week and may be in poor form by next Saturday. In that case Nebraska will have to depend upon Hummel and Reed, either of whom should do better than 20 feet.

Smiley of Minnesota won the 100-yard dash from Iowa in 0:19 1/2, this being the same time Wildman and Campbell made in the Cornhusker preliminary meet a week ago. Wildman is capable of ten seconds flat and ought to beat Smiley to the tape. Campbell is nearly as fast as his team mate and with an even break of luck ought to also beat the Gopher sprinter, or at least run him a tie race.

Clapp Has Good Vaulters. The pole vault event, which Straine of Minnesota won from Iowa with a height of ten feet, probably will go to Dr. Clapp's men. He has two vaulters who can make better than ten feet six inches. They are Russell and Hammond. The former is the better of the two and has gone close to eleven feet without hitting the bar. He is delinquent in his studies just now, but in case he passes faculty inspection before next Saturday he will be a favorite for winning first in the vault. Hammond may get second. But if Straine is capable of ten and a half feet, the Cornhusker will not get better than third.

At Iowa City Smiley captured the 400-yard run, his time being 0:54 1/2. This record was slower than Reed made on the same day in the Nebraska preliminaries. The young Cornhusker went the distance in 0:52 1/2. Smiley will have a run in the improved form in the coming meet or else Nebraska will win this sprint. Beside Reed for this event Dr. Clapp has Burke, a runner who was a close second in the sprint last week.

In the 220-yard dash Smiley will be called upon again to compete against Nebraska's two best sprinters—Wildman and Campbell. His record for the Iowa meet was 0:23 1/2, or two seconds less than Campbell ran the distance here on the same day. The Cornhusker will be certain of two places in this race and one of these may be first place, for Wildman has the Nebraska record of 0:22 1/2 and believes he can beat Gopher Smiley.

Long Runs are Doubtful. Nebraska's prospects in the three long runs are not nearly so bright as in the other events. Minnesota easily defeated Iowa in the two-mile, one-mile and half-mile races. The time for these runs, too, was better than any of the Cornhuskers have made this spring. In the mile run, however, Hull went the distance only three seconds faster than Ashury of Nebraska ran it a week ago. Since that date the Cornhusker has been running faster in training and Dr. Clapp looks for him to run Hull a neck-and-neck race.

Ashury and Gable will represent Nebraska in the two-mile run. In the half-mile run Anderson and George will contest. Coach Dr. Clapp does not figure on winning either of these events, for the Gophers appear to have them clinched. Minnesota's time at Iowa City was: Half-mile, 2:06; two-mile, 10:37 1/2. Nebraska's time was: Half-mile, 2:05 1/2; two-mile, 11:15. For Minnesota Connelly won the two-mile race and Hull the half-mile. In the Cornhusker meet Amberson captured the half-mile event and Bates, a freshman, won the two-mile run.

In the clash with Minnesota Nebraska will have two or three men of nearly equal ability entered in several of the events. This will give the local school an advantage over the Gophers in the total scoring, for Coach Grant has only a few individual stars and does not figure on winning a majority of points in many of the events. Nebraska, besides winning the most firsts, should also secure enough second and third places in both the track and field events to give the Scarlet and Cream a signal victory, which, while not being as overwhelming like that of last season, will clearly show the superiority of the Cornhuskers in the cinder path games.

At Sioux City in the meet with Morning-side today Nebraska was badly handicapped by the absence of Perry. Curtie Collins and Russell. Perry has been sick for two weeks and he may be forced to stay out of the Minnesota contest. His loss to the team would probably give the Gophers first place in the broad jump. Russell, the leader in the pole vault, is delinquent in his school work, but will try to work off this condition before next Saturday.

Friday, R. Collins, one of the best men with the shot in the state, is carrying such heavy university work that so far this spring he has refused to give any of his time to the weights. Dr. Clapp has his promise, though, that he will report for work Monday.

Big Meet Next Friday. Local interest of the students at the state school will be centered this coming week in the annual interscholastic meet which will be held at the state fair grounds Friday afternoon. Dr. Clapp, who has charge of the local arrangements for the games, says more schools will be represented this season than in any previous year. Practically all the schools that were represented in 1908 will send teams here again. Besides the old contestants there will be several new ones. The entry list closed Friday night with a total of over sixty institutions enrolled for the contest.

Fairbury, the winner of the meet last season, is sending another strong aggregation, hoping to win first place for the second time. This year, however, Fairbury will have some strong opposition from the Lincoln High school, which has one of the best cinder path teams that has represented the local high school since 1903.

Omaha also will have several strong athletes here and ought to make a strong bid for one of the high places.

The meet will be started at 2:45 Friday afternoon. As now planned three events will run off at the same time, the runs, weights and jumps occurring simultaneously. Dr. Clapp expects to have the meet closed at 5 o'clock.

The Nebraska faculty and students are planning to entertain the visitors to the meet for two days, Friday and Saturday. Friday morning the high school pupils will be taken on a tour of inspection around the university campus; Friday afternoon they will witness the meet; Saturday morning they will be taken to the ball game between the Cornhuskers and Drake university at Antelope park; and in the afternoon they will have an opportunity to see the Lincoln league in action against Topeka.

Ball Team Doing Well. The Cornhusker baseball team this week has been making its annual eastern trip and winning a majority of the games played. The tour was closed at Minneapolis today in the second of two contests with the University of Minnesota. On the journey the Nebraska men played two Missouri valley championship games, winning one from Drake and losing one to Ames. The fast Cornell nine was defeated Wednesday in a non-league game.

One home game is scheduled for the Cornhuskers this week. Drake being booked for a go on Saturday morning at Antelope park. The game is to be played in the morning because the grounds will be used by the Lincoln leaguers in the afternoon. Southpaw Ward will twirl the contest for the Cornhuskers and ought to win it. Drake's chief weakness this spring is in the box, and the Cornhuskers anticipate no trouble in the batting line.

The campaign among the students for membership on the Nebraska Athletic board came to a close tonight. It was not marked by any such show of interest as was manifested in the election last year. Considerable campaigning has been done by the various candidates, but it has nearly all been of the "gumbo" variety. The annual election will be held Monday.

The list of men seeking position includes twelve names of students more or less prominent in university circles. Eight of the candidates have won their Nebraska letter in one or more branches of Cornhusker sport. Five students will be elected from the twelve aspirants. The names of the candidates are Ohren Beltzer, R. M. Carroll, William Chaloupka, S. P. Dobbs, C. E. Elliott, L. C. Hummel, G. C. Long, Dale McDonald, S. A. Mahood, D. C. Mitchell, H. O. Perry and A. C. Schmidt. CLYDE E. ELLIOTT.

TWO SQUADS ARE AT PRACTICE

Coach Griffith of Iowa Putting Men Through Spring Foot Ball Work. IOWA CITY, Ia., May 8.—(Special.)—Good progress was made in the spring foot ball practice last week, and Coach John Griffith is laying his plans for a series of contests in passing and punting for commencement week. Two teams ran signal practice yesterday and the men displayed lots of "pepp" despite the warm weather. The addition of the strong freshmen recruits has encouraged Coach Griffith and Captain Gross. A tackle from the freshmen class by the name of Hanson has proved the find of the spring in his ability to boot the ball. He can kick it farther than any of the varsity men and is expected to prove a second Kink.

The fact that a large number of foot ball men have been interested in other sports has been a decided handicap to Coach Griffith. Quarterback Stewart is captain of the base ball team and has not been able to report at all for the big skin practice. Wagner, the ex-west high star, has been running signals at quarter, the position he played on last fall's freshmen team. Murphy of the freshmen eleven and Alderman are both on the freshman track team and can practice regularly. Ekret has been unable to report on account of heavy school work and many of the other foot ball players are on the track and base ball squads, so that the foot ball practice has been held under difficulties.

The prospects for the second annual interscholastic field meet, a week from today are good. Many more schools have been heard from this year than last and the fact that the freshmen of Iowa and the University of Chicago are to clash will materially aid the interest in the event over the state.

The board of control of athletics is still undecided over a track coach for next year. It is possible that no selection will be made until next fall. Harold Thomas of Iowa Grove is still one of the prominent candidates.

FERGUSON MATCHED IN A HURRY

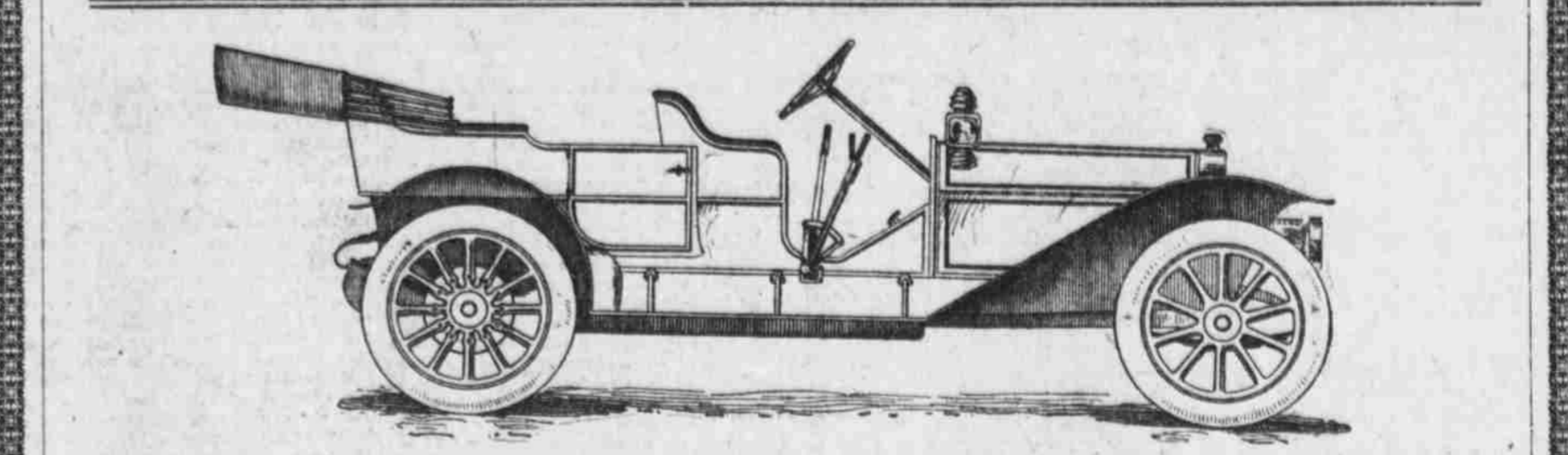
Has Signed to Meet Joe Jeannette, the Colored Fighter. NEW YORK, May 8.—Sandy Ferguson, the Boston heavyweight, who sailed for England last week, has already been signed up for a fight on the other side. He has been secured to meet Joe Jeannette, the colored fighter, for twenty rounds, at a boxing show to take place before the Cirque de Paris, at Paris, Saturday evening, May 15.

Jeannette is confident that he can beat Ferguson, and as soon as he heard that Ferguson had sailed from the country of England he had his manager, Dan McKetrick, clinch the match. These big fellows ought to put up a rattling fast battle.

ROWING REGATTA IN AFRICA

Interest is Shown in the Races Scheduled for Next Year. NEW YORK, May 8.—Oaramen are greatly interested in the coming international regatta which will be held on the Zambezi river above Victoria falls, South Africa, in 1910. It is expected that crews from all parts of the world will come to the championships, and the list is sure to include several representative teams from Greater New York. The regatta will be managed by the British South Africa company, with Guy Nickalls, the famous oarsman, in supervision of the details.

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