

SPORTING



TRADEMARKED BY THE SPORTING LIFE PUB. CO. ENTERED AT PHILA. P. O. AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

VOLUME 26, NO. 17.

PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 18, 1896.

PRICE, TEN CENTS.

WORK WELL DONE.

NEW ENGLAND'S LEAGUE HOLDS A MODEL MEETING.

The Scope of the "Anti-Farming" Resolution—Some Needed Constitutional Changes—A Curb to be Put on Players—Details of the Meeting.

Our report of the New England League's annual meeting closed last week with our announcement of the fact that the League had on the second day of its session legislated against the "farming out" practice.

THE RESOLUTION was offered by Mr. Marston, of Fall River, and was strong, concise and covered the situation completely. It was:

No player under contract with, or reservation to any club of any other organization under the National Agreement shall participate with any New England League club, upon penalty of the loss of each game in which such player shall engage and a fine of \$100.

The New Bedford Club was strong for the adoption of Marston's resolution, as it had some rich experience last season with Nyce, who was farmed out by Boston.

OTHER AMENDMENTS. Many more constitutional changes were made. The most important reported by Mr. Marston, of the committee, and adopted were:

Section 3, article 1, shall read: "This league shall consist of either 4, 6, 8, 10 or 12 clubs, any new member to be elected by a majority vote of the League."

Section 3, article 3. The annual meeting of this League shall be held at Boston on the second Wednesday in January.

Section 8, article 1. The treasurer of the League shall be the custodian of all funds of the League, receive all dues, fees, fines and assessments, make such payments as may be ordered by the board, or by vote of the League, and render annually a report of his accounts.

Section 10, article 2. Any player under contract with or without reservation to a club who shall desert said club for any independent club shall be forever debarred from playing with a New England League club.

Article 8 was added to section 15. Double games can be played in the New England League on the last two dates scheduled, and only by consent of both managers.

Section 14, article 4, was amended to read as follows: "It shall be the duty of each club to accept as umpire such person as has been assigned therefor by the secretary, and only in the event of the failure of the official umpire or a substitute to appear shall the duty devolve upon the home club of designating three persons, none of them connected in any way with the contesting clubs, one of whom shall be selected by the visiting club. In case the visiting club fails to designate an umpire within five minutes after the names have been submitted the home club shall name the umpire."

The miscellaneous business transacted was as follows:

The Reach ball adopted as the official ball; privileges for free admission withdrawn from the New Bedford Club; the presidents of the clubs appointed a Transportation Committee; date for the schedule meeting fixed for Boston, March 11; resolution adopted providing for fines upon players using improper language upon the field and warning by the League president upon repetition; and deciding to enter Class "A" under the National Agreement.

The meeting was the most harmonious and one of the most important ever held by a minor league. A large volume of business was gone through in good shape, owing to the clever work of the committees, and the manner in which business was expedited by President Murnane and Secretary Morse. A host of players and managers, resident in New England, attended the meeting.

Very Likely.

Amos Rusie—"I only want to drown my sorrows."

Arthur Irwin—"Then I suppose all your sorrows are located in your stomach."

TEBEAU TURNED OVER.

A Boston Critic Finds a Flaw in His Armor.

Among other virtues ascribed to the Cleveland's famous manager-captain, Oliver Tebeau, is that of developing young players. To this, however, Tim Murnane takes exception as follows:

"The truth is Tebeau has brought out less youngsters than any manager with a record in the League. Take his Cleveland team of last season. His catchers, Zimmer and O'Connor, were well-seasoned players before he became manager of the Spiders. McGarr is a much older player than Tebeau, and made his mark with the Boston League team back in 1890.

"McKean was a member of the Cleveland team before Tebeau. McAleer was picked out by Manager Tom Loftus, who will handle a club this year in Columbus, O. Tebeau was selected from the Western League by the same manager.

"Fatty Childs came from the Syracuse Club to take Cub Stricker's place, just before the Brotherhood war, and was not the choice of Tebeau. Cy Young came to the club when Tebeau had quit the League Club for Al Johnson's Players' League Club of Cleveland.

"Knell is an old Leaguer. Jesse Burkett was an old pitcher, who was taken on the team to fill in, and not by Tebeau, if my memory serves me right. Cuppy, Wallace and Blake may have joined the Cleveland team on the recommendation of Captain Tebeau, but even this is doubtful.

"Now, where does Tebeau come in as a manager who depends on young blood? The Cleveland manager is clever enough to take up the old Leaguers and make them play winning ball, and the chances are that Elton Chamberlain will give a good account of himself next season with the Spiders."

A SCHEME THAT FAILED.

Abell Tried to Bring Social Status Into Base Ball.

New York, Jan. 13.—In a conversation with Treasurer Abell, of Brooklyn, the other day, there was revealed a former scheme that, if it had been successful, would have placed the New York Base Ball Club in Mr. Abell's possession. It will be remembered that in 1892 Mr. Abell, who was then and is now a stockholder in the New York Club, proposed to the other stockholders, Messrs. Talcott, McAlpin, Spalding and Rush, that the best way to rid the club of its many financial entanglements would be to place it in the hands of a receiver and sell it off at auction. Mr. Abell made this proposition repeatedly, but as the other stockholders believed that they could get no reasonable price for their stock, declined to entertain the proposal.

Now, for the first time, Mr. Abell has explained why he made the above proposition. He declares that he had formed a syndicate composed of rich young men, including Harry Astor Cary and William Astor Chanler, to buy the New York Club. He had agreed to take 50 per cent. of the stock if the syndicate wanted him to, but desired no office. "If Talcott & Co. had agreed to sell the club at auction," said Mr. Abell, "we would have snapped it up. But as my proposition was not accepted, of course I could not show my hand then. If I had known that Mr. Talcott and others were going to sell to Mr. Freedman I would have put the bid, too. But as long as Mr. Freedman bought it I was ready to congratulate him, and I want to say here that he has made what will prove a most profitable investment."

OUT FOR CASH.

How Boyer's Exit From the Western Association Was Expedited.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 14.—Mr. Thomas H. Boyer, owner of the base ball park, who had the St. Louis franchise in the Western Association, feels disappointed that St. Louis City was turned down, but says it could not be helped. Money would not have made any difference. After the magnates and their representatives got their heads together and figured the extra expense of railroad fares in bringing their clubs to St. Louis, and decided to drop St. Louis City, there was no other way out of it but to accept the inevitable as gracefully as possible. They had their minds made up and nothing could have changed the result. Under these conditions Mr. Boyer disposed of his franchise for \$650 and withdrew from the meeting. Five hundred dollars of this money is to be paid by Dubuque and Burlington, the two towns taken in place of Omaha and St. Louis City, and the Association assumed the other \$150. Dubuque and Burlington have guaranteed an attendance of 500 persons at each game, and the Association expects with the rivalry between the two towns they will be able to make good the guarantee.

CHICAGO CLUB WINS.

A Decision Which Assures Sunday Games Next Season.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—In the Criminal Court yesterday morning the jury found Walter Wilnot, ex-left fielder of the Chicago Base Ball Club, not guilty of playing ball on Sunday. The suit was one of several brought by the International Sunday Observance League against Captain Anson and other players. The jury decided that no breach of the peace was committed, and therefore fines against the players were unwarranted.

This case is the outcome of the arrests made last summer on warrants sworn out by the Sunday Observance League, headed by Dr. Clark. The cases were heard about two weeks afterwards by a suburban justice, who levied a small fine on the prisoners, and as it was supposed at the time discharged them for good. At any rate, the club continued playing Sunday ball and were never molested.

President James Hart said at the time that the cases were all settled, that the club had won, that they would continue playing Sunday during the balance of the season, which they did. Whether they would engage in any Sunday ball this season he could not say at the time, but thought they would not, as Captain Anson and the majority of the club were against it. The decision made at this late day assures Sunday games in Chicago for next season.—Editor "Sporting Life."

THE CUMBERLAND VALLEY.

Frederick Drops Out and Martinsburg is Doubtful.

Chambersburg, Jan. 14.—The Cumberland Valley Base Ball League may open with but five clubs, instead of seven, as organized. W. L. Katzenberger, the Frederick manager, writes that he cannot get financial backing and his club will not go in. Martinsburg is also wavering, but is expected to stay. Hanover, Hagerstown, Carlisle and Chambersburg are solid, and York, at last reports, was also. The League meets here to arrange a schedule on January 23.

CHAMBERSBURG ALL RIGHT.

A meeting of the directors of the Chambersburg Base Ball Association was held Friday afternoon. The committee to solicit subscriptions to the stock reported that nearly all the shares had been taken, and that application had been filed for a charter of incorporation. They will all be college players, and "Whitey" Schoenhut, of the University of Pennsylvania, will be in the pitcher's box for Chambersburg, as he was last year. The other teams in the League are signing players and securing grounds, and the fight for the lead promises to be even livelier than that of last year.

M'CLOSKEY THE BOOMER.

Louisville's Colors to be Carried by a Racing Stable.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 14.—The Louisville Club has been "boomed" this year in every way more than any other club was ever boomed. Indeed, it is likely to be boomed in a way that is strictly original. The Louisville Club is to have the distinction of being the first to "break in" on the running turf for booming purposes. The coming season will witness a new wrinkle in the advertising line. Charlie Hughes, the well-known trainer and owner, who is to have a great string of runners this year, is an admirer of the Louisville Club. Charlie thinks so well of McCloskey's "yanigans" that the Louisville colors will be his colors. He decided on the colors of the Louisville Club as his racing colors, and next year "cadet gray, with blue cap, blue collar and blue cuffs," will appear on the racing programme whenever one of Mr. Hughes' flyers is billed to face the flag. Race-track colors have been made the medium for advertising hair restorers, medicinal whisky, cures for fits, liver pills, cough drops and other matters, but this is the first time they have been made to serve the purpose of advertising a base ball club.

Time's Changes.

"Bid" McPhee is the only member of the champion '92 Reds of Cincinnati still playing ball, except Dan Stearns, who was with Scranton last year. Harry McCormick is dead—all the others scattered. Harry Wheeler is working for John Rogan. Carpenter is a Pullman car conductor. Charley Snyder is a Western League umpire. Charley Fulmer is a Philadelphia Magistrate. Will White is in the optical supply business at Buffalo, and Harry Luff, J. F. Macullar, Phil Powers and Rud Kemmler have dropped out of sight.

PLAYER "FARMERS"

TO HAVE STONY FIELDS TO PLOUGH IN THE FUTURE.

So Far as the Western League is Concerned—Really Determined to Stop the Threatened Abuse of the Undesirable System.

Detroit, Jan. 15.—There can be no doubt that the Western League is determined in its effort to put a stop to the farming evil so far as that organization, at least, is concerned. In discussing the matter President Vanderbeck said to-day:

"The rule to stop the farming evil in the Western League will probably be a rib-roaster that will surprise some National League clubs in its effectiveness. In case the Western League is paid \$1000 for drafted men the money will be divided, \$600 to the club from which he comes and \$400 to the League, to go into the sinking fund. In case the League gets only \$500 protection the League itself will take but \$200 or \$250 out of the purchase price. When men are signed by Western League clubs from National League clubs they must be regularly released, and President Johnson must know it before issuing the contract.

"This will work two ways. Indianapolis will not be continually swapping men with Cincinnati if \$400 has to go into the treasury every time. And then Cincinnati players who are paid at Mr. Brush's Indianapolis office instead of his Cincinnati office will have to be released and cannot return to Cincinnati until that club pays the Western League a good slice of money. It will spoil Brush's scheme, which has worked so well for two years and will nip in the bud the scheme of the Chicago, Cleveland and Pittsburg Clubs to make farms out of Minneapolis, Grand Rapids and Columbus. Trickery will disappear to an extent when it costs something."

To emphasize this point Mr. Vanderbeck said that when it would cost 40 per cent. of the selling price of drafted men there would no longer be any inducement to develop men for the big League, and each magnate would thus be compelled to take his chance with the rest. Mr. Vanderbeck further said that two-thirds of the clubs favor the scheme and there is every likelihood that at the February meeting it will go through with a rush.

WARD'S CASE.

He Proposes to Save His Friend Talcott From Reproach.

New York, Jan. 15.—John M. Ward says that he does not intend to return to base ball, all rumors to the contrary. He is getting along nicely in his law business. If the National Board does not take his name from the New York Club's reserve list he will drop the matter.

Mr. Ward further says that he will not when he goes before the National Board take advantage of the technical point that he had no legal contract with the New York Club in 1894, but would seek for his release from reservation on other grounds. Ward's resolution on that point is founded on a desire to save his friend, E. B. Talcott, from the unpleasantness of having to innocently shoulder the responsibility for the club's loss, should the Board grant the release.

SULLIVAN AN INVENTOR.

He Claims Origin of the Now Common Title, "Fan."

"Yours truly is the author of the word 'fan' as applied to base ball cranks," says Ted Sullivan. "The first season I was with Youder Ahe Chris had a board of directors made up of a lot of cranks who had base ball on the brain, and they were always interfering with me and telling Chris how the team ought to be run. I told Chris one day that I didn't propose to be advised by a lot of fanatics. 'Wat dat you call it?' Fans, eh?" said Chris. "Yes, fans for short. They're a lot of fans, Chris," I said. "The expression was a bit with me. Comiskey and the players took it up, and then the newspapers."