

## Federal League Intact

### TORONTO TO REMAIN IN THE CLUB LINE-UP

The Question of the 1914 Circuit Now Definitely Settled—Player List Said to Comprise 142 Men Including 95 Major Leaguers.

CHICAGO, Ills., February 9.—With the information that everything was in apple pie order and that things henceforth would be going along swimmingly, the Federal League magnates adjourned Saturday evening after a lengthy session with the announcement that Toronto would remain in the league and that 95 major leaguers had been enrolled under the banners of the Federals and that in all the Federals now can claim 142 players. The stand taken by Charles Weeghman and his cohorts was that the Canadian city was undesirable because of its location. They were not opposed to the town because it lacked sufficient backing or that it was not a good base ball city, but their whole stand was taken



J. A. Gilmore

#### SIMPLY ON ITS SITUATION

and the consequent long railroad jumps, numerous open dates and other disadvantages which would arise. President Gilmore came prepared to show that Barney Hepburn, member of the Canadian Parliament, to whom was awarded the Toronto franchise, not only had secured ample backing, but that an excellent site for a park was available and that players had been signed and everything in readiness. Late Saturday night Gilmore's arguments won, principally because he was able to produce indisputable evidence of plenty of financial support for the Canadian team. Hepburn also showed the club owners that he could raise enough money to put a good club in the field, erect stands, and in every way fulfill requirements asked of him by the league.

#### CLEVELAND AND CINCINNATI APPLY.

In the hope that the majority of the club owners would declare against the Canadian city Fred Bramley, who was interested in the Cleveland Federal League team of 1913, came to Chicago to push the claims of his town for readmittance to the circuit. Bramley said he had a syndicate of financiers behind him who were ready and anxious to break into the third league. He also declared that a well located park could be secured and that an up-to-date plant would be erected in time to start the season. A representative from Cincinnati also was present with a promise of financial backing and a park.

#### THE DELEGATES PRESENT.

Routine business, the magnates reported, kept the meeting in session late Saturday night. In addition to the Chicago representatives and President Gilmore, there were present Otto Stifel, Edward Steinger and Walter Frisch, St. Louis; C. C. Madison and A. F. Gordon, Kansas City; E. E. Gates, Indianapolis; W. E. Kerr, Pittsburgh, and Ned Hanlon, Baltimore.

#### TO TRY LAW

Legal Action to be Taken Against Killifer and Kirkpatrick.

CHICAGO, Ills., February 9.—Legal action to secure the services of William Killifer and Enos Kirkpatrick to the Federal League will be begun within 10 days, according to an announcement last night by Edward E. Gates, of Indianapolis, chief counsel for the league, who spent the day in conference with James Gilmore, Federal president. Mr. Gates said, however, that probably no legal effort would be made to keep Leonard Cole with the Federals, as the league officials had decided that he probably was under a moral contract with organized base ball at the time of signing his Federal agreement. The suits to hold the players will be brought by the Chicago and Baltimore clubs, which hold the contracts of Killifer and Kirkpatrick, respectively. The clubs will be supported by the legal and financial aid of the league. Said Mr. Gates:

"These facts are undisputed. Killifer and Kirkpatrick signed with the Federals when they had not signed or agreed to sign with our rivals. We propose to protect these contracts. Cole probably had accepted terms with the New York Americans when he signed our contract, although he had no contract with them. We have, however, his affidavit that he had not done so, but we will turn Cole over to the Americans on the return of \$500 advance money given him. This action is in line with our announcement that we would not interfere with players who had

already reached agreements with leagues in organized base ball."

President Gilmore said tonight that the following umpires had been signed for the Federals: William Brennan, National League; Steve Cusack, I. I. I. League; William Bush, National and Pacific Coast Leagues; Barry McCormick, manager of the Peoria Club, I. I. I. League, and Steve Kane, Ollie Anderson, A. Mannassau and Monte Cross, all former major league umpires or players. A dispatch from Denver also announces the engagement by the Chicago Federal Club of outfielder Harry Cassidy for three years at \$3600 per annum.

#### BOB GROOM CLAIMED

The Washington Pitcher Said to Have Signed With St. Louis Club.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., February 9.—Bob Groom, pitcher for the Washington American League team, has signed with the St. Louis Federals. He told friends here Saturday that aside from the fact that the terms offered by Mordecai Brown, manager of the local Federals, were very attractive, he wished to play near home for family reasons. He lives at Belleville, Ills., just across the river. This

plans for a splendid base ball plant, with evidence that he had secured an option on the Deming property at E. 76th street and Lexington avenue, and that he had all the financial backing needed. In commenting upon President Gilmore's declaration Bramley said: "I never would have gone to Chicago if I had the slightest notion that I would receive such a reception. I have one of the most desirable sites in Cleveland. Our property is larger than that of the Cleveland American League Club. It is situated in the heart of one of the best districts of the city. We have options on the property. We have the financial backing. In fact we felt certain that we would be awarded a franchise."

#### OFF FOR NEW YORK

Gilmore, Walker and Weeghman on a Mysterious Journey.

CHICAGO, Ills., February 10.—Sensational rumors were floating around base ball headquarters yesterday when it became known that James A. Gilmore, president of the Federal League; Charles H. Weeghman, president of the Chicago Federal League Club, and his business partner, William M. Walker, departed suddenly for New York. One story was to the effect that they had been invited to attend a meeting of the National Commission with a view to placing the new league in organized base ball. Another story was that the Federal League was going to sell out to the major leagues.

## Latest News By Telegraph Briefly Told

SPECIAL TO "SPORTING LIFE"

#### PLAYER FOR JERSEY CITY

JERSEY CITY, N. J., February 9.—Walter Blakely, a former Newark boy, who now lives in Jersey City, will get a trial with the Jersey City Skeeters and will make the training trip to Durham, N. C., next month. Blakely is a young outfielder, 20 years old, and many shrewd base ball men have predicted a brilliant future for him.

#### PLAYERS FOR DUBUQUE

DUBUQUE, Ia., February 8.—Manager Plasse, of the Dubuque Club, of the I. I. I. League, has announced the signing of shortstop Fred Nye and catcher H. B. Wilson, semi-pros, of West Salem, Wis.

#### OLD-TIME PITCHER INJURED

HASTINGS, Mich., February 7.—Charles Baldwin, better known as "Lady" Baldwin, a famous left-handed pitcher with the old Detroit National League team, which included Hanlon, McGuire, White, Rowe, Gezeln, Manning, Esauthers, Dunlap and other makers of base ball history, was injured so badly falling from a ladder on February 4 that he will be unable to walk for many months. Baldwin has been living here since he quit base ball.

#### ILLINOIS NINE TO PLAY JAPS

URBANA, Ills., February 8.—The University of Illinois has scheduled base ball games with the Kelo University, of Japan, and the University of Texas. The Texans will play here on May 1 and 2.

#### LOWELL SIGNS OUTFIELDER GATELY

LOWELL, Mass., February 10.—Jimmy Gray reports the signing of John Gately, of Tarrytown, Pa., an outfielder who batted over the 300 mark last season in the wilds of Pennsylvania. Gately is highly recommended, and unless his sponsor has misused, Lowell will have no further trouble in filling Clemens' place at centre field. Clemens has been swapped to Wichita for a second baseman named Waco.

#### ROME FRANCHISE TRANSFERRED

ROME, Ga., February 8.—Rome's franchise in the Appalachian League, as the result of a meeting held in Knoxville, Tenn., has been turned back to the league along with nine players under reserve for the local club. In consideration of the payment of \$100 the franchise will be placed in Pineville, Ky., which is about 12 miles from Middleboro. The withdrawal of Rome was granted in order that a berth might be secured in the Georgia-Alabama League by this city. The five players retained by Rome are Utley, Benedict, Davis, Reidy and Aaron.

#### WESTERN TRI-STATE NEWS

BAKER, Ore., February 9.—Feeling is beginning to be apparent among the fans here that Baker should be represented in organized base ball this season, and it is possible that an application will be made for a franchise in the Western Tri-State League. Boise has withdrawn and a representative of Baker will be at the coming meeting of the Western Tri-State League to fight for legislation which will assure a \$1200 salary limit, and which will make it so that such an agreement cannot be violated.

#### NEW ENGLAND LEAGUE UMPIRE

NEW HAVEN, Conn., February 11.—Mike Doherty has signed a contract to umpire in the New England League. Doherty ranks as one of the foremost umpires in the minor leagues today, and did great work last season in the Eastern Association.

#### SHEBOYGAN FOR LEAGUE BERTHS

SHEBOYGAN, Wis., February 10.—Sheboygan may secure the Fond du Lac franchise in the Wisconsin-Illinois League. A movement is on foot here to organize a stock company to take over the Fond du Lac franchise, which is owned by the Milwaukee (American Association) Club, providing it can be secured without a string to it. The matter has been taken up with President Weeks at Green Bay and will be discussed at the annual meeting of the Sheboygan Business Men's Association.

#### BETTING FREE IN HAVANA

HAVANA, Cuba, February 9.—General Freyre Andrade, Mayor of this city, is about to issue a decree, it is reported, allowing free betting on base ball games. Public base ball wagers have not been permitted here since the occupation of Cuba by American troops under General Wood.

#### SUNDAY BASE BALL BILL KILLED

ANNAPOLIS, Md., February 7.—A bill legalizing professional base ball on Sunday in Baltimore City was unfavorably reported by a committee of the House of Delegates on the 4th inst. A motion to substitute the bill for the unfavorable report was voted down almost unanimously.

#### CHANGED HOLIDAY FOR BASE BALL

CONCORD, N. H., February 10.—In response to appeals by base ball managers, Governor Felker has moved New Hampshire's annual "fast day" a legal holiday. It has usually been proclaimed for the fourth Thursday in April, but that date interfered with the base ball schedules. The Governor has accordingly fixed the date this year for April 16.

makes five major league players the St. Louis Federals are known to have signed. Willett, of Detroit; Mordecai Brown, Bridwell and Ward Miller are the other stars, and in addition, Brown considers catcher Harry Chapman, of the Atlanta champions of the Southern League, the same as a major. Brown expects to get George Tyler, of the Boston Braves, and says that when his list is ready for announcement he will show enough old heads to balance a team of first-class youngsters. Manager Brown also sent word he had signed Eddie Lennox, an infielder, formerly with Brooklyn and the Cubs.

#### BRAMLEY'S GRIEF

Over Being Denied the Toronto Franchise By the Federal League.

CLEVELAND, O., February 9.—M. F. Bramley, the local man who went to the Federal League meeting in Chicago on Saturday confident of securing for Cleveland the Toronto franchise, returned today bitterly disappointed over his turn-down. In rejecting the offer of Mr. Bramley, President James Gilmore stated: "We are satisfied that you are well equipped to back a club, but our circuit is now filled and we are content with existing conditions." Bramley was stunned by the announcement. He went to Chicago armed with blue prints showing

President Gilmore refused to discuss the matter at all before leaving for New York. A Pittsburgh dispatch, however, states that the Federal League magnates have gone to New York upon invitation of the National Commission, which is said to have wired Counsellor Gates as follows: "Don't begin court proceedings until you have conferred with us. Come to New York at once and listen to the proposition we have to offer." What proposition the National Commission will make to the Federal representatives cannot at this time be forecasted, but the Pittsburgh informant declares that a peaceful settlement of the war will probably be brought about through the admission of the baby league to the ranks of organized ball. "Under no condition will the National Commission allow the existing differences between the powers in organized base ball and the Federal League to be taken into the Federal courts if they can prevent it," said he last night; "to do so, according to the best legal talent in the land, would mean the ultimate tearing down of the whole fabric of organized base ball."

#### FEDERAL LEAGUE NOTES

Steve Kane, former National League umpire, has signed a contract with the Federal League.

Elliott Dent, whose pitching helped Atlanta to win the Southern League pennant last year, has been signed by the Pittsburgh Federal League Club, it is

reported on good authority. Dent's home is in Baltimore, and Manager Gessler, of the Pittsburgh Federals, went there to sign him.

It is stated that the complete list of Federal League players will be officially promulgated on February 15.

Pitcher Cy Barger, of the Newark (International League) Club, has signed with the Pittsburgh Federal Club.

Rumors from Pittsburgh are to the effect that Cy Marshall, the Phillies' young hurler, has signed with the Federal League.

Reports from Chicago say that catcher Arthur Wilson, of the Giants, has signed with the Toronto team, of the Federal League.

Manager Knabe, of Baltimore, has signed outfielder "Duke" Duncan, who was sold by the Philadelphia National Club to Montreal last fall.

Doc Gessler, manager of the Pitt Feds, on Monday asserted that his team was complete. He refused to make public the personnel of his squad.

Outfielder Davy Jones, of the Tigers and White Sox, whom the Chicago Club has sold to the Toronto Club, of the International League, has signed with the Pittsburgh Federal Club.

Deacon Phillippe, who managed the Pittsburgh Feds last year, has brought suit for \$1588 back salary. The papers were served in Pittsburgh on Tuesday and the case will be argued in April.

Thomas McQuire, pitcher, last year with the Chicago Federals, last week signed a contract with Tinker. He reported that several clubs, including the Chicago Americans, had made him offers.

Manager Tinker on Monday announced that the Federal League's suit to enjoin William Killifer will be filed either in the Grand Rapids or Detroit Federal Court, as Killifer is a resident of Michigan.

Joe Killhullen, of Carbondale, Pa., who was tried out with Connie Mack's recruits during the season of 1911, is now considering an offer to desert organized ball and jump to the Baltimore Federal League Club.

To celebrate Charley Williams' accession to the Chicago Federal Club a lot of West Siders are organizing a "rooters' club," to be limited to West Side residents and to be known as the "West Side Charley Williams Club."

G. C. Williams, secretary of the Chicago Federal League Base Ball Club, was in Shreveport on February 7 inspecting the local training quarters. It is believed that the Chicago team will go to Shreveport for Spring practice.

At Chicago, February 3, President Weeghman was named defendant in a damage suit brought by Charles Grundman in the Circuit Court. The plaintiff asks \$10,000 for an injury received in an elevator accident in one of the Weeghman buildings.

P. D. C. Ball, representative of the St. Louis Federal League Club, tentatively arranged for a Spring training camp at Tulsa, Okla., for the St. Louis team. Mordecai Brown, manager of the team, will go to Tulsa this week to complete arrangements.

Manager Gessler, of the Pittsburgh Club, has engaged Percy Smallwood, the long-distance champion runner, as trainer of the club, who will pay particular attention to teaching the players how to get away to a good start in their attempts to steal bases.

Although Joe Tinker has included Hendrix, of the Pirates, as one of the Chicago Fed pitchers, Secretary McCullough, of the Pittsburgh Feds, says: "Hendrix signed a general Federal League contract and does not know where he is going to be placed, but we hope to get him."

Manager Tinker, of the Chicago Federal Club, on February 6 received the signed contract of Cadmus Coles, who was on the reserve list of the Philadelphia Americans, and who had a batting average of .356 with Elmira, in the New York State League, last year. Coles is an outfielder.

President Gilmore last week by wire ordered Manager Spovall, of Kansas City, to cease negotiations with Jeff Tesreau and Tex Russell. Spovall said Russell's wife was eager for her husband to sign with the Federals, but Russell holds a contract with the White Sox which has two years to run.

Drummond Brown, purchased last year from the Boston Nationals by the Toronto Club, of the International League, has signed a contract to play two years with the Federal League team, of Kansas City. Brown last year went to the Boston Nationals from the Venice team, of the Pacific Coast League.

Says a Bloomington, Ills., dispatch, under date of February 4: "After securing legal advice Fred Beck has decided to abide by his contract with the Chicago Federal League Club. He has been notified by Manager Clymer, of the Buffalo team, that his reserve contract would be made a test case under the laws of New York."

During the past week President Weeghman took occasion to deny the report he had been trying to get Jack Fournier from the White Sox. "I never have made any attempt to take a player from either Chicago Club, and I'm sure Manager Tinker hasn't," said he. "I don't know about the other clubs of the Federal League."

George Kahler last week announced that he had signed a Federal League contract, which puts an end to the big pitcher's returning to the Naps. Kahler's motive in jumping to the new circuit was based on business principles, as he says no ill feeling toward the Cleveland Club or fans of that city prompted his desertion from organized base ball.

The Pittsburgh Federal Club received a letter on February 9 from the Chamber of Commerce of Lynchburg, Va., offering the use of the ball club grounds there as a training ground this Spring. Lynchburg will not be represented in the Virginia League this year, therefore the grounds will be available to any team that may want a training place.

At his home at Rosedale, Ind., on February 5, Manager Mordecai Brown, of the St. Louis team, confirmed the report that he had signed Al Bridwell, shortstop of the Chicago Cubs. Incidentally he paid his respects to Owner Murphy regarding the threat of court action over Ward Miller. "That is just some of Murphy's talk," said Brown. "The Chicago Cubs will never take the case into court. Everything Murphy says is music to us; let him holler."

The Federal League is said to employ a unique system in signing some players. The player is given a contract together with a certified check. If he signs the contract and presents it to the bank the check is cashed. It is understood that Blanding, of the Naps, had this sort of an arrangement with the Feds. As yet he has not presented his contract at the bank, but he threatens to do so unless the Cleveland Club comes through with the salary he demands.

A Chicago dispatch under date of February 6 said: "President Murphy, of the Chicago Cubs, today received a letter from Al Bridwell, shortstop of last year's Cub team, saying that he had signed a three-year contract with the Federal League. 'I understand Bridwell will get \$6000 a year for three years,' said President Murphy. 'If he had remained with the Cubs he would have been sold to a minor league club next season and received about one-third that amount.'"

Secretary W. T. McCullough, of the Pittsburgh Club, said the other day that he had information from Larry Schaffy, the manager of the Buffalo team, that Sherwood Magee, of the Phillies, visited his office every day for two weeks trying to get a chance to sign up, but his name was not on the eligible list for the Federal League and he was turned down. The story goes that Magee then wired Dooin that he had had an offer from the Federals, and for him (Dooin) to come and fix him up for the National League team in Philadelphia.