

SPORTS GLEANED FROM WORLD'S CENTRES

C. M. LINGLEY AGAIN ELECTED HEAD OF SOUTH END IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE

Will Press for Senior Sanction for the Baseball League.

The South End Improvement League elected officers last evening, heard gratifying reports, and got away to a good start for the work of another year. A few slight changes were made in the constitution of the league. The report of the president, C. M. Lingley, was as follows:

To the officers and members of the South End Improvement League: I wish first to congratulate the members of the league upon the successful year's work. Too much credit cannot be given to the chairman of the boys' club, William Lewis, and the chairman of the grounds committee, S. A. Payne, to whom this success was due.

In all branches of our work the year was the best we have yet had. The baseball games and skating rink were enjoyed by very large numbers. We have not attained our objective in making an all-round athletic field, but trust that during the coming year more may be done for other branches of sport as well as for our juniors.

The work done in our boys' club reflects the highest credit upon our chairman of that department as well as upon the director, Mr. Strachan. They have not only endeavored to help the boys under their charge, but have also been striving to make better boys of them, and as I have visited the club and observed the boys I could not but feel that they were succeeding in a very great degree.

The closing of the boys' club was a revelation, I think, to all who had the pleasure of being present. To the club it must have been a great relief.

A very pleasing feature of the closing was the presentation of a gold watch fob by the boys to Mr. Lewis, a well deserved token of esteem and one which, coming from the boys for whom he has spent so much of his time, must have a great value to him. A regrettable feature of the year's work was the small support given by Mr. Lewis. This must be overcome if we are to make the club a growing affair.

Mr. Lewis has also been the cause of expenses of the club down to the lowest possible figure, but if our work is to progress as it should we must spend considerable money on equipment before opening of another season.

W. F. Lewis, chairman of the boys' club, said that much good work had been accomplished during the winter, and with more help and more money a great deal more could be done.

He paid a warm tribute to the senior boys, who gave hearty assistance in carrying on the work with the younger members. Mr. Lewis said that Mr. Strachan, the director, was a leader who could not be replaced, and was assisted by Frank Ward, one of the club's own boys who had developed fine qualities of leadership. Mr. Lewis extended thanks for favors to the club to Mrs. James Flaherty, D. E. Newcombe, Mayor Potts, Commissioner, R. J. Armstrong, Mrs. Robert Nichols, E. G. Nelson & Co., J. A. McMillan, D. L. McRoberts, T. S. Simms & Co., the Rotary Club, and many others who had aided him in his work.

Director James Strachan submitted a report, showing that there were one hundred and fifty-one names on the roll last winter. He reviewed the work and especially thanked Mr. Lewis for his great assistance not only in the club but in securing new equipment.

Mr. Strachan also spoke of the admirable work done by Frank Ward. Attached to his report were suggestions as to changes and improvements that might be made before next winter.

The treasurer, Alexander Wilson, submitted the financial statement, showing that the league will need all the funds raised from membership fees and other sources in order to carry on its work successfully for the next year. There was a large attendance of members at last night's meeting.

Baseball League. The question of a senior sanction for the South End Baseball League was thoroughly discussed and it was decided to have an interview on the matter with A. W. Covey and Frank White, president of the City League. It was felt that the South End club were as strong as clubs in the City League and that there was no strong reason why a senior sanction could not be granted. The interview committee will be composed of W. A. Nicholas, A. M. Belding, C. M. Lingley, G. N. Hatfield and W. Frost.

W. A. Nicholas, chairman of nominating committee, submitted the following list of officers who were elected: President, C. M. Lingley; first vice-president, W. F. Lewis; second vice-president, Thomas Killen; secretary, Gordon Ward; treasurer, Charles Warren; Isaac Mercer and J. Strachan; street supervision and public welfare, Thomas Killen; finance, W. A. Nicholas, C. E. Dalton, D. L. McRoberts, J. Jenkins; membership, R. Acheson. The chairman of these committees have power to add.

With regard to baseball, action awaits the result of the interview with Mr. Covey and Mr. White, but the four teams scheduled for the South End diamond will undoubtedly play there.

BIG HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT POSTPONED

Rain Forced Cancellation of Wills-Madden Go—Meet Friday.

New York, May 12.—Rainfall which soaked the outdoor Queensboro Stadium caused the postponement until Friday night of the 16-round heavy-weight bout scheduled for tonight between Harry Wills and Bartley Madden. In accordance with the rules, however, the men weighed in today. Wills, negro challenger for the heavy-weight title of Jack Dempsey, weighed 210 pounds. Madden, veteran Irish fighter, was announced at 188 pounds.

Postponement of the bout, which was regarded as the first of a series of fights arranged to permit Wills to fight for a match with Dempsey in the fall, was announced by promoters after a conference with the boxing commission.

CLAIMS PITCHING HAS NOT DECLINED

Proof That Heavy Hitting is the Result of Lively Ball.

(By Henry L. Farrell.) New York, May 12.—(United Press.) Heavy hitting, which was one of the features of the early years of the 1920s major league baseball season might be accepted as proof that the lively ball was more than the decline in pitching that changed the modern game.

Introduction of the lively ball, although the magnates stoutly denied any purpose of scattering Babe Ruth's around the two circuits, came shortly after the rule had been passed against the use of any foreign substance on the ball as an aid to the pitchers and they joined to bring about a wild orgy of slugging.

It was an obvious fact that something was wrong and as long as the league presidents persisted in claiming that the lively ball was made in the construction of the ball, it had to be accepted that the pitchers had been handicapped too heavily by the rule against the spitter, the shiner, the emery ball and their cousins of the trick trade.

Umpires were ordered to toss out of play any ball that showed the slightest evidence of tampering and they were so zealous in carrying out the strict letter of the rule that they would throw a new ball in play whenever a ball became soiled or when the hide became scuffed enough for a pitcher to get a hold on it that might make it do tricks.

Hitting, once a feature of the game, became so common that it was in danger of spoiling interest and taking all the science out of the game. To correct this the magnates last winter recommended that balls be kept in play longer, so that pitchers would be forced to work almost entirely with new balls.

Results were almost immediately apparent at the start of the season. Pitchers worked more effectively and it was noticeable that the volume of hitting had been decreased.

At the same time, however, it was shown when a heavy swinger took hold he got just as much of a drive as he had in the past three seasons. While pitchers were able to hold their opposition to fewer hits, they were unable to keep the ball from taking its old wild when it got in front of a heavy swinging club.

In the first two weeks of the major league pennant races there were more home runs hit than there were during the corresponding period of the 1923 season.

The total home runs hit in both leagues during the first two weeks of the 1924 season was 75, against 67 hits in the same period the year previous. This year showed a decrease of four in the National League and an increase of twelve in the American League.

Some critics of the opinion that the better form of the pitchers at the start of the pennant races this season was as strong as clubs in the City League and that there was no strong reason why a senior sanction could not be granted. The interview committee will be composed of W. A. Nicholas, A. M. Belding, C. M. Lingley, G. N. Hatfield and W. Frost.

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Gets Dangerous When "How long do you generally keep your minks?" "Oh, until they begin to show how they are for the husband."

OFFERS JOE DEVER POSITION AS UMP

Star Local Catcher Wanted by N. S. Independent League.

Joe Dever, star local catcher, has been offered a position as umpire in the Nova Scotia Independent League, but fans will be pleased to learn that he has no intention of accepting it.

Under the conditions then it was only to be expected that the pitchers would be in better physical condition and further developed in their form for the sprint start and the jump that all the managers wanted.

The schedule, throwing the Giants against the Robins, Braves and Phils in the first two weeks gave McGraw a good chance to gamble with his young pitchers, and the results were highly satisfactory.

The Giants won nine out of their first eleven games and the lead that the champions picked up at the very start may be something sweet to fall back on next September, when the times are sure to be hard for them.

Ball Problems By Billy Evans

QUESTIONS

1. Is there any limit to the distance a runner can run in order to avoid a fielder making a play on a batted ball?

2. Is it necessary for a pitcher to throw the ball to third or second when he makes a feint to catch a runner at either of the two bases mentioned?

3. Does the calling of a balk have any effect on the status of the batter? That is, can he go to first base in any situation which involves the calling of a balk?

ANSWERS

1. There is no limit. He simply must avoid interfering with the fielder, and can run as wide as he desires, before the fielder gets his hands on the ball.

2. It is only necessary that a pitcher complete the throw to first when he starts such an act. It is not necessary that he do so when making a feint to second or third. He need only step in the direction of either base.

3. The calling of a balk in no way affects the status of the batsman. He can never go to first base on a called ball.

THREE TEAMS TO FORM CITY LEAGUE

Decide Not to Admit Fourth Team—McAllister to Umpire.

A meeting of the executive committee of the City Senior Amateur Baseball League was held last evening at the office of A. W. Covey, 18 Sydney street. Frank White, president of the League, was in the chair. Representatives of the Portland, Clippers and Shamrocks attended the meeting. It was decided that these three teams should comprise the City League this year and that a fourth team would not be admitted.

The schedule of the League games came up for discussion but it was decided to leave this matter over until next week when it will be drawn up and announced. Peter McAllister, the veteran local umpire, will act as official umpire of the League this year. The salary was made to obtain the services of A. Henderson as the second umpire.

The official ball used by the League will this year be the "Reach." The opening game will be played on the Nashwaak Park between the Clippers and St. Rose's, the date to be decided.

YOUNG STAR MAY GRAB OFF CROWN

Plenty of Them in Amateur Field Who Show Promise.

By JOE WILLIAMS. Who will be the golden next young sensation? Chick Evans has long since passed the boy-wonder period. Bobby Jones, young as he is, no longer ranks with the glittering stars. Even Jess Sweetser is now accepted as a veteran campaigner.

Last year's champion, Max Marston, battled 12 years ago with the glittering stars. Before he finally broke through, he is an old-timer. A host of youngsters in various parts of the country are making great progress in competitive golf and it's more than a possibility that one of the younger set will go on a rampage and crack things wide open this summer at the Merion Cricket Club in the Philadelphia district, where the amateur classic is to be decided.

It's about time for Rudy Knepper of Sioux City to show something. Knepper gave splendid promise two years ago by beating Cyril Tolley and Francis Outlet at Brookline, but he floundered in the first round at Plovermoor last season.

Dexter Cummings, the Yale man who won the collegiate championship last year, isn't many shots removed from championship status. George Von Elm of Salt Lake, capable of brilliant play in strokes, will be one of the most formidable youngsters in the field.

If Johnny McHugh of San Francisco comes over he will take plenty of punishment before going down for the third and tragic gulp. McHugh, 19 years old, won the California amateur last year, beating a fine field in thrilling style. He crushed the well known Jack Neville, defending champion, in the semi-finals, 6 and 5, after being 8 up at noon, and in the final of international note, 9 and 8. McHugh was good enough at 17 to win the Frisco title.

Other youngsters who are knocking at the door of big league golf fame are Freddie Lamprecht of Ohio, Ossie Carlton of Texas, Densmore Shute of West Virginia, Burton Mudge of Illinois, Frank Godchaux of Louisiana and Pile Greenshaw of Alabama.

By Billy Evans

What do you regard as the winning factors in baseball?

I put that question to Connie Mack the other day as we sat on the bench watching his rejuvenated Athletics in action.

"You must get consistent hitting and combine it with good pitching," was his immediate reply.

Don't get the impression that Connie Mack no longer figures fielding highly essential. He does.

It is his opinion, however, that pitching plus hitting are the two best weapons, offensively and defensively.

Good pitching, he believes, is the one great asset, because it creates a feeling of confidence and makes for better hitting and fielding.

The value of good pitching is made manifest in the brand of ball that a club usually plays behind its pitching ace.

When Walter Johnson is working for Washington there is a dash to the play of the club that seems lacking with the ordinary pitcher on the mound.

The players feel that the making of an error doesn't upset Johnson, and that usually he can pitch out of a hole that some teammate has dug for him by a misplay.

The team also realizes that Johnson doesn't need much of a working margin, that if they are able to give him a lead of a few runs, he will invariably hold it.

The Philadelphia Athletics, with Eddie Rønne pitching, are in much the same boat as Washington with Johnson working—just a little better ball club than ordinarily.

Prior to the opening of the major league season, Mack predicted that his club would win second place in the American League.

That was a rather strong statement to make about a club that finished sixth last season. While he hasn't seen the west in action yet, he stands by his original prediction.

His greatest fear is that his pitching will falter. On his club are several pitchers who have the ability to be stars, yet who may falter badly.

If he gets the pitching he hopes for, he is positive his club will always stick around the first division.

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BOXING BOARD TO FRAME RULES

The St. John Boxing Commission, composed of Edward A. Farren, K. J. MacRae and W. A. Lockhart, met last evening at the office of Mr. MacRae.

It was decided by the commission to draw up a list of rules and regulations to govern future boxing exhibitions in the city and submit them to Mayor Frank L. Potts as soon as possible.

Several applications for future bouts in the city have been received by the commission and their decisions will be announced as soon as the applications have been reviewed.

CINCINNATI NOW LEADS THE GIANTS

Rushing Reds Away as McGraw's Men Play Sad Game.

New York, May 12.—Cincinnati, leading the National League today after trailing the Giants for three weeks, breezed past the faltering champions with a speed that may land the rushing Reds a lap in front before their sprint ends.

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WINNERS AT MONCTON OLYMPIC TRIALS MEET ON JUNE 7 TO GO TO MONTREAL

COVEY PLACES BAN ON LEAGUE Warns Players Against Nova Scotia Independent Organization.

Baseball players in Nova Scotia and elsewhere are warned that they will sacrifice their amateur standing if they participate in games within the so-called Independent Amateur League which includes Yarmouth, Halifax and Kentville, or if they play against any of the teams in that league. This advertisement was given last night in a bulletin issued by A. W. Covey, president of the Maritime Athletic Union of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.

"If I told you in 1920 that some day I would break the world's record for the 440 yards," says Charlie in a conversation recently, "you would have laughed at me. If I had added I was going to do that distance some day in 36 and 3-8ths, you would immediately have sent for the ambulance. Yet, I did. I'm not bragging and I don't want any more credit than I am due but I believe I can sprint the 100 in faster time this year than I have ever done it before. And, I have done it in 10 and 1-8ths seconds, which I think, is one-fifth of a second slower than the Maritime record."

When Gorman won the New Brunswick 100-yard title at Sussex last August, he turned the trick in 10 and 1-8ths, setting up a track record and incidentally defeating Frank Campbell and Drew Mulachy both of whom have been selected to train for the final Olympic tryouts at Montreal on June 7. In 1920 here, Gorman won the 100 yard title, defeating Ern Smith, who also has been selected. Gorman points out he has beaten the men who were selected. Frank Campbell holds a decision over him in the Maritime meet. In that race, Campbell and Gorman raced a dead heat and Campbell won the run-off.

Gorman is not objecting in the slightest to selection of Smith, Campbell and Mulachy to train, but he does feel that his record in the sprinting line entitled him to as much consideration as the others. He is, however, rather argumentative. "Why I am barred simply because I tried for Olympic honors. I believe I can sprint as fast as I can. My record is as good as the others."

As the Montreal meet is open to all Olympic aspirants, Gorman was asked if he would enter at the Montreal meet. In reply, Charlie said he was undecided.

"I would be at a disadvantage," he pointed out, "as my opponents would have received three weeks training under the head Olympic coach."

Winners to Montreal. President A. W. Covey, prior to his departure for Montreal today, made an important announcement that the winners of events at the Moncton meet will be sent to Montreal. This corrects a prevailing impression that only men now selected for training would be sent to the metropolis, even though he is beaten at the Moncton meet. This shows a desire on the part of the athletic authorities at the Moncton meet to secure the best possible talent to represent the Maritimes when the 15 athletes for track and field events for the Canadian Olympic team are selected and leaves the door wide open to any athlete in the Maritime Provinces to convince the selection committee they can deliver the goods.

Maritime Sports Wear Maritime Caps

It's a grand and glorious feeling for a native of the Maritime to walk into the smartest store in Canada and select the best being worn by the Maritime, and find that it's a Maritime, made in the old home territory!

Wear a cap and keep your hair in style.

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BARRETT DEFEATS PORTLAND BOXER

Mickey Morris and Clyde McInnis Box Ten Rounds to Draw.

The headliner on the boxing programme at the Queen Square theatre last evening between Mickey Morris, formerly of Halifax, now of St. John, and Clyde McInnis of Halifax, went to a draw decision over the ten-round bout. The boxers were featherweights and put up a fast exhibition. The referee was Beth McLeod.

In the semi-final, Tom Barrett of St. John met "Kid" Black of Portland, Me., the former easily earning the decision of the six rounds. Barrett clearly outclassed the colored boxer, who took much punishment during the bout.

In the preliminary, "Dick" Shields stopped Johnny Sullivan in the third round of a scheduled four round contest. Sullivan was substituting for Art Totten, who failed to show up. The programme concluded with the showing of the Dempsey-Firpo fight pictures.

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