

LATEST SPORTING NEWS

HOSE TEAMS ARE DILIGENT

OLD-TIME RACE WILL BE KEENLY COMPETED FOR HERE.

Union Coming With Good Team, Featuring Old Time Spinter.

Hose racing stands fair to resume its old-time popularity in this city if the crowds who witness the evening drills by the La Grande fire department and the B. M. A. teams this week are any criterion. These teams will compete next Tuesday morning and afternoon. The morning race will be a speed test between the Union, Elgin and La Grande fire departments and in this race Chief Jones' men will enter with good chances of walking away with the laurels. In the afternoon the free for all event will see the B. M. A. lads in harness and in this event good time will be made judging from the time reeled off in practices.

At evening again about 5 o'clock the wet test will be held. In this race each team runs 200 yards, connects a hose with a hydrant on the way, attaches a nozzle and the one that gets water through in the quickest time wins the event.

The B. M. A. will send out a team composed of Bolton, Peare, Charles Reynolds, Conkey, Lee Reynolds, Geddes, Millering, Whitby, Loties, Irwin, Ralston and perhaps other still will be used to patch up the team in the weakest spots.

Union's Team Strong.

Union, July 1.—(Special)—Union will send a fast hose team to La Grande next Tuesday with the understanding that nothing in the state can show too much ginger to keep them out. They will compete against the fire department or athletic clubs if necessary. The old time speed artist and football player, Chet Swackhammer, will head the list of Union runners.

BASEBALL NOTES.

Walter Nagle, the California pitcher, has been sold by Pittsburg to the Boston Americans.

Fitzgerald of the Highlanders, has been playing swell ball during the absence of Harry Wolter.

Besides pitching winning ball for the Boston Red Sox, Joe Wood is doing great work with the stick.

After winning 24 out of 27 games, the Champion Athletes lost two games in one afternoon to the Boston Red Sox.

Automobile News and Gossip

Baker county automobile owners are fidgeting and kicking against the pricks of what they call special class legislation by the state of Oregon in much the same proportion that members of the Union County Motor club are, according to letters received by Secretary A. V. Andrews from members of the automobile fraternity at Baker. They cannot see why they should pay the added tax any more than the owner of a wide tired wagon or buggy and it is the consensus of opinion that the Baker people are going to carry the tax question to the higher courts just as is contemplated in La Grande. The fact that this money does not go for better roads is another objection.

The importance of careful driving cannot be overestimated if the life of the car and its tires are considered. The effect of sudden and sharp use of the brake day after day is bound to damage the tread of the envelope and strain the beads and side walls. The layers of canvas are over-taxed and little by little the threads stretch until they reach the breaking point. The brakes should always be applied gently and unless it is absolutely necessary to pull up your car within a short distance, let the stop be as gradual as possible. Another important point in driving is the proper manipulation of your clutch. Never make a violent start-slip in the clutch quietly and easily—in this way protecting the mechanism of your entire car. Sharp corners should always be made carefully and you can regulate your speed to round the turn with little or no use of brakes. As a last word, always remember that your tires are rubber and canvas and not steel so as to get the maximum service from them drive thoughtfully. Many useful suggestions on the care of tires and

tubes are found in the instruction books published by the Michelin Tire company, Milltown, N. J. Copies will be sent free on request.

Many machine owners from here are planning on attending the auto race meet in Baker which is now slated for the 10th of July. While none are very likely to enter the races, the race meet fever is always an epidemic in any community and it is likely that there will be a good attendance from here.

The tourist season is well under way and the past week saw several touring cars pass through La Grande. One party reached here last night from across the Blue mountains and spent the morning here today while some repairs were being done at the Dittbrandt garage to the big Franklin. The machines carries chains on the front wheels indicating the roads are muddy as a result of the recent rains.

Ten new members have joined the Union County Motor club during the last few days. Every day sees an addition, of late, and the club will soon have reached the century mark. Sixty-eight have already signed and the outlying districts have yet to be heard from.

Pendleton is the latest county to join the ranks of opposition to the automobile tax.

Within a day or two the second meeting of the directors of the Union County Motor club will be held and among other things to be taken up will be the tax question, bothering motorists everywhere in the state because the time is rapidly approaching when the assessment becomes delinquent.

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Sox.

Pitcher Nap Rucker of Brooklyn, has beaten Cincinnati three times this year, by scores of 2 to 0, 1 to 0 and 3 to 1.

Turner of the Cleveland Naps, is out of the game nursing a lame back. "Tuck" is the king of unlucky ball players.

Honus Wagner is playing good ball at first for the Pittsburg Pirates. All

NATAL DAY FULL OF INTEREST

BASEBALL NOTES THAT MAY BE OF UNUSUAL INTEREST.

Baseball Notes of Various Descriptions About Local People.

July Fourth will be a whopper for La Grande baseball fans and fanettes. With plenty of men to put two barrels at work on one day, La Grande has excellent chances of winning both the games. The first game of the day will be with Elgin and, put it down, it will be a hummer. Elgin is coming to see the celebration sure, but most of all to see the game at sunrise, or near there. La Grande wants to be on the lookout or the audience that morning will be Elgin by a majority. Mitchell, the idol of Elgin who is paid something like \$75 a game, will be on the mound; for La Grande there are three or four men to pick from and all are tip toppers.

W. M. Mitchell, better known as Mysterious Mitchell, now the hero of Elgin, denies the assertion of the Observer scribe that Mitchell attended the University of Illinois. Mitchell said this week in reply to the Observer's statement: "I don't object to press comments but please don't accuse me of being an Illinois 'grad' in my time." However, Mitchell has been shrouded in so much mystery during the past four years that the Observer is partially excusable for falling for the incorrect report. Anyway, whether or not he went to Illinois is immaterial right now, for the mysterious one throws a first class game of ball.

"Zip" Zimmerman at one time center fielder and port side pitcher for La Grande when the Eastern Oregon league was going, and now battling like a fend for Spokane, was offered as a trade for Bill Speas of the Portland club this week. Nick Williams refused the offer, however. Zimmerman's friends here are following his hitting record with interest.

Either Reiben, the O. A. C. twirler who did good work under Mitchell's tutelage this year, or old staidy Smith will be on the mound for Union in the afternoon game July Fourth. McInnis will probably be essayed the task of vanquishing the Unionites who will also be backed by a big delegation of rooters.

Many La Grande people will go to Union tomorrow to see the new arrangement of La Grande's lineup before the games here Tuesday. If things break as they appear now, Elwell, considered to be the premier first sacker running loose amongst the bushers will be one of the new men; Owens, the nifty catcher and third baseman, will also be out that day.

The Portland Journal of yesterday had the following about a ball player who wore a Pendleton uniform in the palmy days of the Eastern Oregon

infield positions look alike to Honus.

Followers of the Boston Nationals are clamoring for Fred Tenney's scalp. They want Johnny Kling appointed manager of the Rustlers

President Navin says that he is willing to sell the Detroit franchise to some other city on account of the poor attendance in Detroit.

It is said that Frank Chance will retire at the close of the present season, and that Joe Tinker will be the next manager of the Cubs.

Since 1858 Harvard and Yale have played 118 baseball games, Yale winning 59, Harvard 58, and one game in which John and Eli quit with the score tied.

Manager McGraw says that the \$200 fine for Raymond goes as it lays, and if "Bugs" does not keep in condition, a fine of a few hundred more will be slapped on him.

league: Edwin F. Chapler, who used to be a college ball player and a mate of Charley Ziegler and Bob Brown at Pendleton in the old Eastern Oregon league and who might have become a star in upper class baseball, had a few games with Nick Williams yesterday with the ivory bulbs. Chapple thought being a commercial traveler was more prosperous than baseball and stuck to peddling his wares. Now he is running a cafe in Montana and doing well.

Last Sunday Owens, who was playing with Baker at that time, got three hits out of four times to the pan. That was against Reiben, too, who held the Bakerites down to two runs. On the same day Elwell got one hit. On the day before Owens got three out of four times up and Elwell recorded the unique stunt of four out of four times up.

Conley is right now busy with his haying and harvest on the Conley ranch near Cove and may not appear in every game because of this but will continue to wear the blue uniform at every possible opportunity from now on.

After the coming two games with Union there still remain four games to be played before the schedule is over. The place and time for those have yet to be fixed.

Mires and Kail disappear from the La Grande lineup this week of their own volition.

Walters, the Cowie attendant, O. A. C. last winter is expected home tomorrow. He played third base at O. A. C. this year.

Manager Hal Chase thinks he has discovered another play to net scores and he is seeking to patent it. It is to be worked when with two out there are fast men on second and third. The man on second is to take a big lead and draw a throw from the catcher. Then the man on third scoots home. If the catcher throws the ball to third the runner on second is to jockey around until he pulls a throw to second from third, thus giving the runner on third a chance to score. Hal says it ought to work three out of four trials.

WITH THE BOXERS.

Harry Gilmore, Jr., former manager of Packey McFarland, is now the manager of Frankie Conley.

Knockout Brown and Tom Ginty of Scranton, have signed to meet in a 10-round bout at Scranton, July 4.

Albany, N. Y., fans are willing to

back Kid Henry against Willie Lewis in a 10-round bout for any amount up to \$5,000.

Sam Langford says that he was afraid to "cut loose" in his recent bout with Tony Caponi in Winnipeg. The tar baby thinks the Winnipeg police would have nailed him had he started anything.

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