

PITCHER COOPER IS WANTED BY BUFFALO

Beavers' Leading Hurler's
Free Agent Claims Denied.

MCCREDIE SCORES WILTSE

Manager of Bisons Charged With
Tricking Unsuspecting Player
Acting in Good Faith.

BY HARRY M. GRAYSON.

Pitcher Guy E. Cooper is the property of the Buffalo International league club and will not start the season with Portland next Tuesday. This startling bit of information was disclosed last night by no less a person than Judge William Wallace McCredie, president of the Portland baseball company.

Cooper has made a tremendous hit with Walter Henry McCredie at Crockett and was looked upon as one of the best mafines in the season. He was signed by the McCredies as a free agent. Judge McCredie advised the big right-hander at the time that he was being carried on the Buffalo reserve, but Cooper insisted that he was not the man described that he had his free agency, writing from Buffalo. Later he mailed the good Judge a paper signed by George R. Wiltse, manager of the Bisons, and which read as follows:

The Buffalo baseball club agrees not to sign Pitcher Guy Cooper for the season of 1919.

Guy would not sign with the International league club last spring until he obtained what he thought was the necessary documents which would permit him to do so with whom he pleased in 1919. The young fellow did not know that the president of the club had to sign such an agreement, that it had to be written in his contract and that the national commission must approve of it.

Bisons Entry Claim.

To make a long story short, Cooper has been tricked by the Bisons, and what's more, they've put in a claim for him.

Judge McCredie yesterday received a letter from J. H. Farrell, secretary of the national association of minor league clubs, in which Buffalo's letter of claim to his communication. Buffalo says it mailed Cooper a contract prior to March 1 and plans to force him to report.

When the local magnate was in Crockett last Friday he told Cooper that he would take steps to enforce its rights. He (Cooper) said he intends to stand on and would have to hike eastward. The beaver was confident that Wiltse would not attempt to hold him and imparted the information that he would not go back for love or money. He said he would just write long letters to Secretary Farrell yesterday, telling and roasting the Buffalo outfit for what he terms "the tricking of an innocent ballplayer acting in good faith." The fact remains, however, that Guy E. Cooper is lost to the Beavers unless Buffalo has a claim, and that is hardly likely that Joseph J. Lannin, former owner of the Boston Red Sox and now president of the Bisons, will check a bill like him free of charge.

Cooper Has Good Record.

Cooper has a fine record. He took part in 19 games last season, winning 11 and losing 8. He pitched 48 innings, fanned 145 batters and allowed 126 hits. Fifty-three runs, of which 32 were earned, gives him an average earned run mark of 1.94. Cooper passed 33 swallows and whiffed 32, hitting three of the opposition wild pitching errors. He was 100 percent in games and finished four contests when his brother chucks were in trouble. This youngster can hit the pellet as well as pitch, for his average was .22 in 1918, and Manager Walter had planned to use him for a pinch hitter. His leading mark of 22 is the same as the older Buffalo wants him. The International league is of the same classification as the coast circuit.

Cooper will be held by Portland until the subject is cleaned up, according to the Portland Journal. There was some talk of Walter Alfred being sent in the opening game next Tuesday, but yesterday's letter from Secretary Farrell knocks that idea into the well-known cocked hat.

Jimmy Hamilton flew into town yesterday and left at 1 o'clock this morning, bound for Crockett, where the Beavers are training. Hamilton will look over McCredie's castoffs and take those he likes to Peoria, Ill., for he has been the manager of the nine which will represent that burgh in the nine league being formed in the middle states.

He had a long talkfest with Judge W. W. McCredie yesterday, the local jurist tipping him off to the best youngsters he had endorsed to land with the Mackmen. Hamilton played on spending two or three days with the Beavers. He talked cold turkey with Outfielder Merle "Ike" Wolfer and Catcher Al Bartholemey, local boys yesterday, and may sign them both for Peoria. While he was here he got word with Northwestern league team, and Bartholemey has been declared a free agent by Tulus of the Western league. Bartholemey asked that club for his release. Hamilton managed the Vancouver Pacific Coast International for the last year. Now that Manager McCredie has started in the well-known prunes working at Crockett, Hamilton will have no trouble in getting the players he desires. He has signed but few to date for Peoria.

Hamilton's club may be used as a "farm" for the Beavers as Jimmy and the McCredies continue talking business outside of meeting. Technically no club is permitted to station players from where they can be recalled, but there is nothing to prevent a gentleman's agreement.

Signed contracts from Infielder Frank Fuller and Pitcher Red Oldham were received at baseball headquarters yesterday. Pitcher Sam Lewis and First Baseman Lew Blue have yet to forward their documents.

Judge McCredie telephoned a local office of one of the railroads to shoot Pitcher Carroll Jones transportation, while he was stopping at Hornbrook, Cal., on his way north Saturday. "Yes, that's all I did at Hornbrook," said the sturdy purveyor of the national pastime when "queried" about jumping the rattler at the last chance. Jones entered at Okaloosa, Mo., and now is bound for Crockett.

Jimmy Hamilton did not land Jack Kibbie in field, released by Portland without a byword, a tramp about. Kibbie is at Roundup, Mont., and as he is demanding more coin of the realm than Portland could afford to pay one with his ability, Hamilton fails to see how he could obtain Kibbie for Peoria, so quit dickerling for him.

Pueblo to Have Victory Street.

PUEBLO, Colo.—Plans recently inaugurated by the Arkansas valley chapter, D. A. R., materialize a section of Twenty-ninth street will be marked with a row of elm trees on either side

of the street and be named Victory street in honor of Pueblo county soldiers. The trees are ones that tourists use in reaching the city and suitable arches with appropriate inscriptions are planned at either end of the elm rows.

BEER SUBSTITUTE SOUGHT

Return of Old-Time Coffee-House
Not Unlikely.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Is coffee to become the favorite beverage in Minneapolis after July 1, as it was in England in the days of Dickens and Forster when similar items were worn in greater of an afternoon for leisurely discourse? Or is—horror of horrors—the afternoon tea to take the place of the cup that cheers and likewise exhilarates?

Among Greeks, of course, coffee is the cup of conviviality. "The Helenion Kefalon" is the gathering place of the descendants of the old Athenians. There the beverage is served in small cups, resembling a demitasse. It is a thick, almost syrupy liquid, taken without cream.

A taste for this may be acquired, but the breakfast coffee of America, percolated, its flavor enhanced by cream, and, if one chooses, by sugar, has something of a delicious reaction, an expanding fluency, one that has an effect of warmth and mellowness. Tea

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