

LEAGUE SEASON SOON TO OPEN Baseball Fans Look Forward With Impatience to Saturday, April 11.

GOSSIP OF THE DIAMOND

Manager McCredie's Players Show Fine Form in Practice Games. True Test Will Come Later in Season.

BY W. J. BETHAN. One week from next Saturday the Pacific Coast League will inaugurate the baseball season for 1908, and from that date until next November the fans who do not on the National game will be found each morning at the breakfast table eagerly scanning the scores of the different league games.

While so occupied, these same fans will be proof against all assaults of whatever character. The fan will absolutely disregard the flight of time and will calmly announce to anyone, whether it be wife, mother, or any other member of the household, that he doesn't give a whoop whether the clock says he is an hour late for his office or not. The same rule will apply to the waiter at the boarding house, the player of the baseball bug who possesses such a makeshift home, only that in the case of the waitress, she is likely to be greeted with a pleasant smile and the starting by questions, "Isn't Google a hummer at short?" or "Casey slammed one out of the lot and wasn't I a chump for not getting it?" or "I'm a chump for not getting it."

If, during the next few weeks, you should be quietly walking down the main street, deliberating over some important business matter, and in the midst of some deep problem should receive a short-arm jolt in the ribs, or a roundabout whack between the shoulders, do not call a policeman, for it may be your best friend. Do not annihilate the victor before he has time to spot, for he may have a family, and they are not responsible for his behavior, and when he springs the usual query about yesterday's game, or the home run some fellow made last year, invite him to have a drink and forget it. If necessary, buy him more drinks, but don't attempt to get into a row about his pet theory that "Scoopump" is the best ballplayer who has ever worn the spangles.

McCredie and his gang are on their way north from Santa Barbara. They will play several exhibition games along the route to San Francisco and will reach the city on Saturday night, the season two or three days in advance of the date set.

That McCredie has lined up a capable bunch of players for the season has been demonstrated during the practice games played to date, but early-season games do not always forecast a winning club, and before becoming too confident of the Portland team's strength, it would be better to await seeing them in some of the regular contests which they will play with every town in the country possessing pennant-winning teams during the practice period prior to the opening of the regular season.

The Portland baseball team may be a winner. Let us hope that it is, for last year's record is the bad and the manager has worked hard to remedy those mistakes. He seems to have succeeded and all good, loyal fans are willing to boost to the best of their ability if the team lives up to expectations.

There are some who always desire a pennant-winning team, but Portland has frequently shown that it will support a class team, whether it wins the rag or not. Good baseball is all the fans here ask, and while the winning of the pennant adds zest to the game, it is not absolutely essential to the success of the promoters. A team that is trying all the time, and that is composed of players of intelligence is all that any manager can promise to the patrons and the good. Pennant-winning teams are favored more by luck than by anything else, for some of the best baseball teams in America have never won a pennant, and in some instances have been defeated repeatedly by second-rate aggregations.

One instance of this was in this city, during the year 1897. Portland had the finest collection of minor league talent ever assembled in one club, yet was hardly in the pennant race. The roster of the club is sufficient proof of this. For players, the club had Harry Schlarff, Mike Mitchell, John R. McLean, Eddie Van Buren, Eddie Householder, Walter McCredie, Virgil Garvin, Bill Easick and the others, each with one or two exceptions, all players who in the day either in the fastest company in America, or in demand in the minor leagues denominated as Class A.

The fans appreciated the class of these players and turned out well to witness the games. Portland did not win the pennant, and yet the fans were not disappointed, nor did they fail to patronize the games.

By the latter part of the week Manager McCredie will have decided upon the players with whom he will start the season. The pruning knife has already been applied as to a few of the youngsters he has tried out and more will be turned loose in the near future. A youngster named West was the first one to get the ax. He was tried shortly after the team arrived at the training quarters. Carr, an infielder, was released Friday, in order that he might accept a proposition from Charlie Baum in the California State League. Carr promises to be a good man for some time in the next year or two, and McCredie may have had that in view when he allowed him to join the State League club, and thereby keep the youngster on the Coast.

The following paragraphs from the Seattle Times are on a par with most of the disparaging dope handed out by the friends of that little Class B league. The items differ somewhat as to just how much money (probably paper) that is

PROMINENT PLAYERS WHO WILL BE SEEN WITH THE TRI-CITY LEAGUE TEAMS THIS SEASON



CHESTER A. WHITMORE PRESIDENT OF TRI-CITY BASEBALL LEAGUE.

GEORGE WHITE TRI-CITY LEAGUE CATCHER WHO HAS SIGNED WITH SPOKANE IN THE NORTHWESTERN LEAGUE.

JOHN C. HELSER MANAGER VANCOUVER TEAM.

ASHER HOUSTON CLEVER YOUNG PLAYER WHO IS SAID TO HAVE SIGNED WITH TWO CLUBS.

PITCHER W.S. COLTEMAN WITH THE WEST-SIDE TEAM.

W.H. POMEROY MANAGER EAST PORTLAND TEAM.

EIGHT CLUBS JOIN

Prospects of Tri-City League for Season Bright.

PLAY BEGINS APRIL 11

Two Portland Clubs Will Meet in First Game on Local Grounds. Good Men Secured by the Minor Organization.

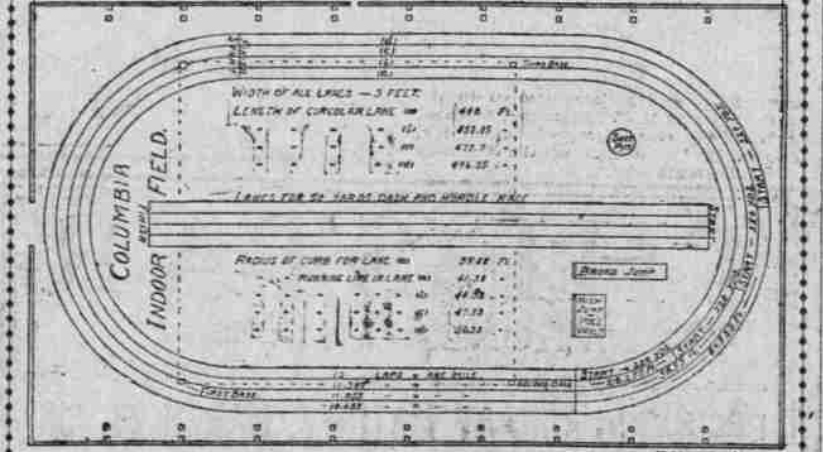
The Oregon City players have been ordered to report to Manager W. J. Telford, of that team, at Oregon City this afternoon for the first practice of the season. The players of the other clubs will also report to their managers today. Manager Helsler of the Vancouver team will have his men at practice at the Vaughn-street grounds, while the East and West Portland teams will practice at Hawthorne Park. The St. John players will play a match game with a picked nine at the St. John Park.

On Saturday, April 11, the Tri-City League schedule for 1908 will be opened with games in Portland, Oregon City, St. John and Woodburn. Prospects for a most successful season are greater than ever before in the history of semi-professional baseball in Oregon. The two Portland teams, representing the East and the West Side, will meet at the Vaughn-street grounds. Astoria will meet the Oregon City team at the latter place; Salem is scheduled to visit Woodburn, and Vancouver will open the season at St. John. The clubs have entered into the contest with as much zest as would be displayed by a big league aggregation. The respective managers are busy signing up players, and with the exception of Salem and Astoria, each has announced practically a complete line-up. The clubs have secured some splendid young players and a large percentage of these may yet win fame on the diamond. It was in a league of similar pretensions to this that the famous captain and manager of the White Sox of Chicago, Fielder A. Jones, secured his start in the baseball world. Today he has few peers in the profession, and what he has accomplished can also be accom-

plished by other ambitious young athletes.

One of the Tri-City League clubs stands an excellent chance of securing the services of Andy Anderson, the crack second baseman of Bob Brown's champion Aberdeen club of last season. Andy is engaged in business here and does not care to absent himself from the city which would be required if he returned to the Grays Harbor city. As he and his partner, Jerry Powers, are about to expend something like \$15,000 in fitting up a billiard parlor in Portland, it can readily be seen why he has determined to remain here. Andy is one of the cleanest baseball players ever seen here, and his present success in business is testimony to his attention to duty and abstinence from carousals, which have proven the downfall of numerous fellow players. There has been some question as to his eligibility to play in the Tri-City League, as that organization contemplates af-

STADIUM AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



GROUND PLAN OF THE BIG ROOFED ATHLETIC FIELD WHERE THE FIELD AND TRACK EVENTS ARE TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH.

CORBETT MAY BE REFEREE

Will Be Asked to Officiate at Building Trades Smoker.

The Building Trades Amateur Athletic Association will hold its regular monthly smoker at Merrill's Hall next Friday night, March 27, when several interesting boxing and wrestling bouts are scheduled to be held. Shafer and Duherg, two heavyweight wrestlers, will compete on the mat at 170 pounds. The boxing programme is as follows: Eddie Anderson, of Portland, against Kid Bailey, of Vancouver, at 125 pounds; Young Parkinson, of La Grande, against Kid Hurst, of The Dalles, at 105 pounds; Jack Spans, of Portland, against Soldier Donohue, of Vancouver, at 125 pounds, and Gene Sullivan against Bob Chase at 125 pounds.

An effort will be made to have James J. Corbett referee the last bout. Corbett appears at the Helbig Theater Thursday and Friday nights and it is believed that he will consent to officiate after the play.

SLIGHT PROSPECT FOR NEW RECORDS

Marks Set by Pacific Northwest Collegians in 1907 Will Probably Stand.

REASONS FOR PREDICTION

Well-Known Sporting Writer Lays Stress on Fact That Many of Best Men Will Be Out of the Race.

INTERCOLLEGIATE RECORDS OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

Table listing intercollegiate records for various events like 100-yard dash, 220-yard dash, 440-yard dash, etc., with names of athletes and their times.

BY REFEREE

Unless all signs fail, there will be little record-breaking among the college athletes of the Pacific Northwest during the coming season. The excellent list of records now recognized in this section, together with the absence of many of the old record-breaking athletes, leads one to this conclusion. Oregon's champion track aggregation of last season contained a number of men who distinguished themselves by clever work. New records were made by Eugene Hayward's proteges in the 220-yard dash, 220-yard hurdle and in all three of the weight events. The graduation of Hug from the Northwest, a Washington freshman, has not only broken the backbones of Oregon's point-winning machine, but has removed three record-breakers. It is true that Moore and Zacharias are still at Eugene and they will, no doubt, do creditable work on the track this year, but a duplication of the work of last season's Oregon team is beyond the realm of possibilities.

None Equal to Kelly.

The Northwest has no sprinter that will come up to Kelly's class this year. Moore and Hutton, of Oregon; Martin, of Whitman, and Green, a Washington freshman, are the most likely sprinters, but they are not in Kelly's class. Moore has a fighting chance to better his record in the 220-yard hurdle race, but Smithson's time in the high hurdle event will not be equaled in Northwest college circles this year. Moore and Zacharias are still at Eugene, O. A. C., are the most likely quarter-mile men, but neither of them can hope to break the record for that event, which is held by Williams, an O. A. C. graduate.

Greenhaw and Edmonson, of Idaho, are excellent half-mile men, and either one of them stands a reasonable chance of lowering the record made by Edmonson last year, in the half-mile. Greenhaw is a Portland High School lad, and is showing excellent form.

Competitors for the pole vault are H. E. Ferrin, of Fern, and Robinson and Knight. In the broad jump, Humphreys, an all-around athlete, is doing 20 feet 6 inches.

men from Washington State College, will come dangerously close to Merrill's mile record, and Da Volt, of O. H. C., and Lavelle, of Oregon, must be reckoned with in this event. The mile race is an uncertain event. Whitman still has her quartette of sprinters who lowered the relay record last year, and there is a possibility of their clipping a little time from their own figure. Shot Record Will Stand.

It is safe to predict that McKinney's mark of 46 feet in the shotput will not be equaled for some time. Wolff, of O. H. C., and Zacharias, of Oregon, are both good for 43 feet or more in this event, but there is a vast difference between 42 feet and the McKinney record. Zacharias will have to work if he beats his hammer-throwing record, although predictions are freely made that he will throw the leader's sphere 16 feet this season.

The discus throw is always an uncertain event. McKinney's record of 120 feet 8 1/2 inches is only a foot ahead of a McKinley record, made by Thayer, of Washington State College. Thayer is still at Pullman and may be heard from this season. Whitman's record for the broad jump is in a class by itself, as far as the Northwest is concerned, and Grant's high jump record will probably not be molested this year.

Gilbert's pole vaulting record also looks good. Holdman, the Washington freshman of last season, was a high-class vaulter, but he has gone to Dartmouth, where he recently cleared 13 feet 5 inches. Had he remained at Washington, the Evergreen variety might have added a record to her list. McKinney's record for the 220-yard hurdle race, the hammer throw, the discus throw and possibly the long-distance, with comparative ease. Things will have to work if he beats his hammer-throwing record, although predictions are freely made that he will throw the leader's sphere 16 feet this season.

From all this talk about records it must not be inferred that the coming season will be a dull one. There will be plenty of good sport and competition will be keen. For the past two years the Oregon team has won all its meets with comparative ease. Things will be different this year, however. Oregon's aggregation is admittedly weaker, while O. A. C. is stronger. The struggle for the championship will undoubtedly lie between these two teams. Pullman and Whitman will be fairly strong, but I do not figure either of them as winners.

It looks like a toss-up between Oregon and her Corvallis rival. The teams seem evenly balanced as far as old men are concerned, so the question of superiority will no doubt be determined by the freshmen that Trainers Heater and Hayward are now developing.

PACIFIC ATHLETES TRAINING

Coach Bahn Has Likely Bunch of Trackmen at Forest Grove.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Or., March 21.—(Special).—Track training has begun in earnest, under the direction of Coach Archie Bahn, the famous sprinter of the University of Michigan. Prospects are encouraging, for a number of promising material is showing good form and the older members of last year's team, are doing good work. Manager H. Arnston has definite schedules arranged with McMinnville, Willamette and the Oregon Agricultural College. It is thought probable that a meet will be arranged with the University of Washington at Seattle.

Mr. Mayfield, a new man in the weights, is showing excellent form in all three events, and especially so in the discus throw. Waterman, football captain last year, is a coming hammer man. D. I. Aller and H. P. Humphreys can do the 100-yard dash in 16-9/10. There are several mile men who will make a good showing. G. Brown has a record of 5 minutes in this event. Other men who will stand a good show for places are Alexander, Robinson and C. Franklin. Captain H. Arnston has taken the hurdle races in former competitions. Witham, Gwynn and Robinson are some of the promising material for the half mile. The 220 and 440 will be taken care of by Aller, Humphreys, J. R. Walsh, R. Robinson and Mason. McCoy, Hill and Berkimer are scheduled for the high jump. McCoy is a Portland High School lad, and is showing excellent form.

Competitors for the pole vault are H. E. Ferrin, of Fern, and Robinson and Knight. In the broad jump, Humphreys, an all-around athlete, is doing 20 feet 6 inches.

BASKETBALL SEASON ENDS

VANCOUVER, B. C., AND SEATTLE TIED FOR FIRST.

Portland Falls Below Expectations and Takes Fourth Place in League.

Probably never before has basketball taken such a strong hold on the Pacific Northwest as during the season just closing, and it was, therefore, a wise plan for the Northwest Y. M. C. A.'s when their physical directors decided to make the basketball team an association sport in every one of the more important cities. Previously teams representing the different associations had made tours of the Northwest, and the expense wherever they could get an expense guarantee, but this year the various Y. M. C. A.'s decided to abolish this system. Instead of the expense of a tour, the new plan calls for an association of teams, while previously individual players had to pay the excess of expenditures over receipts. What this means to the interest of a team may be realized when it is explained that this year the local Y. M. C. A. had to make up a deficit of over \$30 in the season's games.

Aside from the financial end, the Y. M. C. A. Northwest League has been an unqualified success. The members of the various associations have been brought in much closer touch through their kind interest in the league. It has done much to alleviate the jealousy that usually exists between organizations of the various cities. The league has stood for a cleaner ball playing and for this Portland spectators have welcomed it as a desirable influence. In this respect the visit of the Vancouver, B. C. basketball team to Seattle, which was one of comparatively few teams to visit the city to give a perfectly clean exhibition.

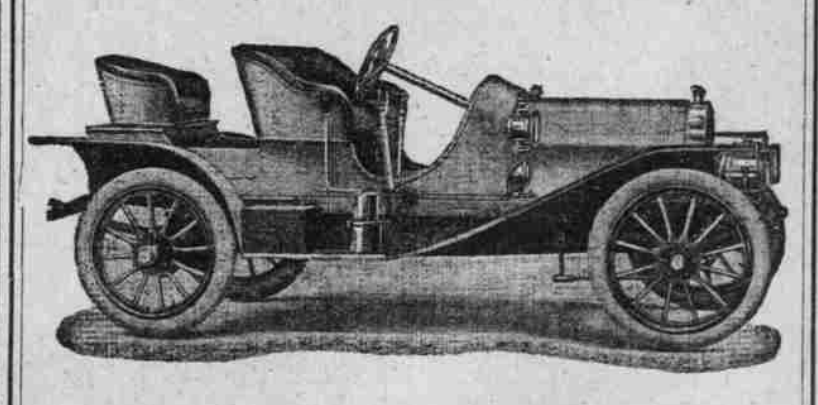
The local quiet did not make as good a showing as expected, taking fourth place among the associations competing for the pennant. While in their earlier games on the home floor the local men had shown the form of champions, they went to pieces in their games at other places. Members of the association criticized the work of the team somewhat harshly, although Captain Hartman and Manager Young kept up the average of the players. Many fans are entertained that Hartman will make good his threat to resign, which will also mean the loss of Young. For over six years Hartman has worn the Portland association colors.

Gates, Pugh and the Gordon brothers are the other members of the team. Gates was one of the fastest players, while Pugh made a very fair guard, although not a successful forward. The two Gordons were frequently criticized for roughness, costing penalties in several games.

Vancouver undoubtedly deserved first honors in the league, but this position is now to be shared by Seattle, which completed the season in good style. Well behind the leaders comes Tacoma, which besides possessing a strong team, has been favored by its "agony" floor. Dotted with posts, the Tacoma floor is handicapped to all visiting teams, and almost without exception they manage to lose there. Seattle being the only team to win a game played there, Portland is good fourth in position and the balance of the list is made up by Victoria, Everett, Bellingham, and Hoquiam. The standing of the teams follows:

Table showing the standing of the teams in the Northwest Y. M. C. A. basketball league, listing teams like Vancouver, Seattle, Tacoma, etc., and their respective records.

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