SEATTLE TEAM IS STRONG THIS YEAR

Dugdale Has Gathered Great Bunch of Baseball Talent for Pennant Fight.

EXTRA MEN ON PAYROLL

Fat Magnate Expects to Redeem Himself for Last Year's Poor Showing and to Be Contender Throughout Season.

SEATTLE, April 17.—(Special.)—Seattle's lineup in the opening game of the season, against Pearl Casey's Northwestern Leaguers from Portland was as follows:

Catcher, Custer.
Pitcher, Thompson.
First Base—Schofield.
Second Base—Bennett.
Third Base—Akin.
Shortstop—Raymond.
Left Field—Capron.
Center Field—Lynch (captain.
Right Field—Frisk.

In deciding on this lineup for the opening game, Lynch was forced to leave out of the game some fine material. He is purposely playing long on men, however, to provide against just such contingencies as knocked the Seattle team out of any chance to finish up in the race last season.

Besides the men mentioned above, the Seattle club is carrying the following, most of whom will be carried through the greater part of the season:

Catchers—Fortier, Sheehan, Pierce (the latter yet to arrive).
Pitchers—Rush, Allen, Marshall, Seaton, Anderson.
Infielders—Mages, Gardner.
Outfielders—Crocker, Wilson.

This aggregation figures strong in the minds of the local fans, both at bat and in the field.

The batting order for the present will be as follows:

Akin, Raymond, Bennett, Lynch, Frisk, Capron, Schofield, Custer, Thompson.

Analyzed, the batting order looks like this, in the order given above: Speed and average hitting; speed on bases; base hit; foxy head; base hit; lightning; reliability; more reliability; batting joke.

Many New Faces.

When the teams trotted out on the field after the big parades, to begin the race for the 1909 championship in the Northwestern League, the fans of the Northwest saw a maze of new faces. Only one team in the league, last year's pennant-winning Vancouvers, appears under the old leadership. A. R. Dickson, the boy manager, was finally prevailed on to accept the management for the second season, after he had married and told his wife he was quitting the game. Portland's accession strengthens the league 50 per cent, putting a first-class city into the hole left by Butte, which had fallen on evil days as a baseball town. Over the circuit the Portland team is generally feared, partly because Pearl Casey has annexed so much new talent that the other fellows are mystified as to what to expect.

Contrary to early impressions, little is now expected from Russ Hall's amalgamation of the Miners and the Tigers at Tacoma. The impression prevails that he has not gone out after sufficient new blood, and that Russ will find that the league generally has strengthened away from him. Every other team in the league has scoured the East and Middle West for talent.

Vancouver fans profess to believe they have plugged up the gap left by the loss of Hyatt, Flanagan and Mundorff, but the other teams will have to be shown. Rowland at Aberdeen, has brought several Middle Western stars to the Coast, and for a top-liner will use Eddie Siever, famous as a pitcher for the Detroit Tigers in 1907. Bob Brown, twice manager at Aberdeen, has built up what he considers the strongest pitching staff in the league, and such names as Jensen, Wright, Killilay and Brinker lend color to his belief. In addition to these, Brown believes he has a world-beater in Gregg.

Spokane Expects to Be Factor.

Over at Spokane they are doping it out that the Indians and the Duglets will fight it out for the flag. The teams Seattle most fears are Spokane and Portland. There is a belief here that Vancouver has not strengthened sufficiently to be a strong contender in this year's struggle.

Seattle looks 100 per cent stronger in both infield and outfield than last season, while the pitching staff is strengthened by the addition of Gus Thompson. So far Rush and Allen have not given any indication of improvement over their form of last year. Joe Seaton looks better and may be a real addition to the pitching staff this year. But it is on Thompson that Seattle fans are placing their greatest reliance in the pitching line. The big fellow is in grand condition, and in practice he has shown superb form and control. His selection to pitch the opening game is heartily approved by the followers of the game here.

This season Dugdale is not to direct the team from the bench. He has delegated to Captain Mike Lynch full power over the players on the field, and he himself will watch the game from the grandstand, like an ordinary league president or spectator.

Handball Courts Completed.

Two fine handball courts have just been completed on the grounds of the Christian Brothers' College, on Grand avenue and Clackamas street. The courts are inclosed with solid concrete walls on three sides, and roofed over. A committee consisting of J. Kenefick, C. Van Hoomissen, John Barrett, John W. Henry, Lester Willard and Frank McGinty, has been appointed to look after the athletic interests of the college. An outdoor track is being prepared on the east half of the college block, and hot and cold water baths are being installed. Besides track events, basketball, baseball, handball, pole vaulting and other athletic exercises will be held. However, athletics will not be allowed to interfere with class work, and only those receiving 75 per cent in class work and deportment will be allowed the use of the clubrooms or to take part in the athletic events.

Dieters Sold to Tacoma.

MILWAUKEE, April 17.—The Milwaukee baseball club announced today the sale of Outfielder Dieters to the Tacoma, Wash., club.

Wireless Station for Eugene.

EUGENE, Or., April 17.—(Special.)—Eugene is to have a wireless telegraph station by May 1. W. E. Thompson, who is to install the new station, arrived here today and work will be pushed to completion at once.

Men Manager Dugdale Is Depending on to Win the Northwestern League Pennant for Seattle

FOUR-TEAM RACE

Vernon and Oakland Have No Show for Pennant.

SEALS SUFFER BIG SLUMP

Long Finds Cause Is Simply Baseball Luck—Corbett Does Great Work. Outlaws Do Poor Business for Week.

BY HARRY B. SMITH.

SAN FRANCISICO, April 16.—(Special.)—San Francisco is well into the sweep of baseball by this time. The teams are going well, the crowds have settled down into the usual attendance of the fans who will stick by throughout the season, and it is much easier to strike a balance. So far, as they line up at the present, it appears to be a four-team race. Vernon is hopelessly out of the going. Oakland has a fast team on the field, but the boys do not pull well together, and unless Van Haltren can accomplish wonders with them, he will be nowhere when it comes to the pennant.

The other four teams, however, are to be considered contenders for the title. Los Angeles, from what I have seen of it this week, is far from being as strong an aggregation as it was a year ago. There are some good men among the new ones, but they will have no cinch taking that pennant for another time. The Angels have a good man in Howard, their second basemen, the only new man of the infield. They have another chap coming, however, who ought to help them. His name is Beall and he played first base for the White Sox No. 2. Comiskey has so many infielders that he really does not need Beall and for that reason sold him to Henry Berry. Dillon is still one of the leading first-sackers in the league, but, as he has the entire management of the club on his hands and has no substitute, Beall will be a big help. Furthermore, the new man is something of a sticker and will help the Angels in that line.

Luck Against Seals.

The San Francisco club had an awful slump last week against the Senators of Sacramento. The Seals simply couldn't get going and finally Danny Long went to Sacramento to find out what was the trouble. They had simply been playing close games, according to Long, and the baseball luck was all against them. They managed to pull two games out of the hole. The final one was a ten-inning affair, in which Joe Corbett did some remarkably good work. Corbett had not intended to pitch for a month, but he got into shape more rapidly than he had expected in the warm weather of the Sacramento Valley. He had particularly good control, a lack of which is Corbett's chief failing, and held the Senators down to four hits, which was going some.

It begins to look as if Corbett will have a good year. If he does, he will be a big money-maker for the locals. Especially is he a favorite in San Francisco and of a Sunday he can pack the grounds. For that matter, he ought to be a popular pitcher all over the league. Corbett is good for about one game a week, and, with careful nursing, ought to be the biggest asset of the local team.

Zeider's Great Stick Work.

You would be surprised to see the way Rollie Zeider is playing. Zeider always fielded well, but his stick work has been phenomenal. In the Sunday game at Sacramento he got a triple, a double and a single. In Oakland last Tuesday Zeider virtually won the game with a two-bagger that scored two runs and then added to his glory by a spectacular dash home from third base, making a perfect steal.

The fact that Mundorff has returned does not mean that Mundorff is to be discarded. Far from that, Long knows that Mundorff is a good man, and he will be retained during the season. The Vancouver club, when it learned that Zeider was back on the San Francisco payroll, asked Long to set a price on his infielder. Danny told Mundorff to wire North that he was not for sale under any circumstances.

From what Frank Dillon tells me, continuous baseball in Los Angeles is apt to be a bloomer. Vernon doesn't draw anything at all, and the Los Angeles attendance has been only fair. "Just now," said Dillon, "we are drawing fairly well. Of course, the season is only started and seven months is a long stretch of baseball. If either Los Angeles or Vernon is out of the race, we will not draw flies in Los Angeles."

And it begins to look is if a mistake had been made. Of course, there is no backing out of the proposition now, and Vernon will remain for the season. It is very likely, however, that another year there will be a change of some sort, although it is too far off to figure out what it will be.

Outlook for Outlaws.

The outlaws had a very good week across the bay last week. You must take into consideration that the two strongest teams in the league—Stockton and Oakland—were playing. On Sunday they had close to 6000 people in attendance, while there were approximately 7000 at Recreation Park in San Francisco. This week San Francisco and Fresno, two weak teams in the State League, battled it out at Oakland. On Tuesday, there were just 50 people in attendance, while the regulars at Freeman's Park numbered something like 600. Certainly, the outlaws have done nothing of which they can brag. The first week it is said that Moreing dropped something like $750. Last week he might have made a little money, but with the two teams playing this week there is sure to be a deficit.

Dick Reuter, the Hawaiian pitcher, who was originally slated to join the Seals but later came to terms with Cy Moreing, has proved a bloomer of the worst kind. He is much like Barney Joy and simply can't field his position. He has been a disappointment to Moreing, and the report is that Reuter is slated to be dismissed.

Henderson Stays With State.

Benny Henderson has elected to remain with the outlaws. Bill Lange, empowered by the National Commission to see if Henderson would join Cleveland, had a talk with the pitcher. Henderson said he was satisfied to stay with his club. And, believe me, Cleveland is losing some pitchers. Henderson is easily the star twirler in the State League today and it would cripple that organization should he make a change.

Sandow Mertes, once with New York when that club won a pennant, and later with Minneapolis, has cast his fortunes with the Stockton outlaws. Mertes has plenty of money and wants to live in San Francisco. He doesn't really care very much whether he plays baseball, but Stockton wanted an additional infielder and Mertes joined it. He is as heavy a slugger as ever, although he carries too much weight to be a speedy shortstop.

THOROUGHBREDS FROM EAST

Illinois Breeder Arrives With Carload of Horses for Coming Sale.

W. B. Linn, of Martinsville, Ill., one of the foremost breeders of pure-blood livestock in America, arrived in Portland, yesterday with a carload consignment of Illinois thorough-bred horses and cattle for the eighth combination breeders' sale which will be held here the week of April 26 to May 1. In addition to the consignment from the International Livestock Show, at Chicago, and from the state at large, the entries brought here by Mr. Linn include a full carload of saddlers from the Blue Grass country, and some of them are performers for which prices ranging anywhere from $1000 to $3500 each have been offered in the East.

These entries have been secured for the sale here, through arrangements which have been established by the Breeders' Association of this state with the Middle West and Eastern breeders who are members of the National Livestock Association.

"It is time we were getting this effort to exploit our advantages as a livestock center beyond the primitive period," said M. D. Wisdom, last night. "The consignments of one carload each from Chicago and from Kentucky is an achievement which we have never attained in the Pacific Northwest before, and yet we don't seem to realize what it means.

"At no time in the history of such distributions of fancy breeding stock has any city on the Pacific Coast been able to offer selections from the very best breeding plants of California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Middle Western stock farms and from Eastern plants."

In Germany, second-class railroad cars differ from the first only in the color of the upholstery, which is gray instead of red.

FIGHT FANS HAPPY

Bay City Sports Expect Good Series of Ring Battles.

JOHNSON BILLED TO COME

Jimmy Coffroth's Eastern Trip With Dragnet Gathers Some Good Matches for Coast Arena This Season.

BY HARRY B. SMITH.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., April 17.—(Special.)—We are at last to have some fights that will be worthy the name next month. Jimmy Coffroth, who left for New York last week, did some business in Chicago that will at least net him two matches, and at the present time is dickering for a heavyweight championship battle, with Jack Johnson as one of the principals.

The first match that will be held at the Mission-street arena will be on May 15, when Hugo Kelly, the Italian middleweight of Chicago, will fight Billy Papke. Kelly and Papke fought a close battle in Los Angeles that was called a draw. But most of the men who saw the fight said that Kelly was robbed, and was clearly entitled to the decision.

Since that time Papke has done nothing worthy of note, but the fans are interested in seeing more of Kelly. For that reason the match will be worth watching. The articles have not been signed, but all details have been agreed to. Kelly will leave Chicago the early part of the week for San Francisco, while Papke is due here Sunday.

On May 29, Battling Nelson and Dick Hyland will fight 45 rounds at the Mission-street arena for the lightweight championship of the world. Coffroth saw Nelson in Chicago and the latter said that his match with Hyland would stand. The latter has never been considered a world-beater, but he is a tough boy, who can stand a lot of punishment, and there are many of the fans who think that he stands a good chance to win from Nelson.

In the event that he wins, Nelson has many matches open to him. He has conceded a bit in weight to Packey McFarland, as he is willing to make 133 pounds two hours before the contest. Packey wants the weight four hours before the contest, and on that score the match is hanging fire. Nelson says, however, that if McFarland will not come to the mark, he will be willing to meet Cyclone Johnny Thompson, or any other aspirant for the title.

The forepart of the week, Coffroth thought he had a match cinched between Johnson and Stanley Ketchel for next October. When the conference was held Johnson backed up a bit. He said he wanted to take on the best man, and preferred to wait and see what Kaufman did to Tony Ross. The result of that match, by the way, was a black eye to Kaufman. He was altogether too slow with Ross, and while the Californian outpointed his opponent, he showed no particular class.

For that reason, I rather look to see the Ketchel-Johnson match made. Personally, I do not think that Ketchel has much of a chance with Johnson, on account of the difference in weight, but the people want to see the negro fight.

Carlo Lercari, who holds the April permit, has half of his show arranged. Chick Hudson, the Seattle lightweight, and Johnny Murphy, the local boy, have been matched for 15 rounds on Friday night, April 30. The weight is to be 135 pounds.

Bog comprises about one-seventieth of Ireland's area.

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