

CASEY'S BRAND OF BASEBALL IS GOOD

Fans Cannot Yet Tell Whether Coast League Can Give Any Better.

FANS CALL FOR TRANSFER

Ask That Some Players Be Switched to McCredie, but This Will Not Be Done, Says Will Mac Rae.

BY WILL G. MAC RAE.

When His Unhappy situation under the final call "You're out" tomorrow afternoon in the second game of the double-header, Manager Casey and his club will leave home on their second invasion of the Northwest, and the theater of baseball will be switched to the Coast League instead of the Northwestern League occupy the stage. It is impossible to tell which brand of baseball is better to please the fans, the better, for since Casey's homecoming, better conditions have been against large crowds. These same conditions have also prevented the fans from seeing the best baseball the teams of the Northwestern League have played here during the three weeks' series are capable of playing.

During the three weeks that have just gone into history, Tacoma, Aberdeen and Spokane, considering the cold, raw weather which has prevailed, have played just as fast baseball as the clubs in the Coast League. Even the hardened baseball critic who is married to Ewing's brand of baseball must admit this, and while certain members of Casey's crew are not hitting as well as the players of the Coast League, the fans can find no fault with Casey's infield nor his pitching staff.

Fans Want Transfer.

In fact, the work of Casey at second and Cooney at short and the clever way in which the pitchers have been going have caused the fans to raise a cry for Casey and Cooney and several of the Portland Northwestern League pitchers to be turned over to McCredie's Coasters. There is no chance of this switch taking place, for Judge W. W. McCredie does not intend to weaken the Northwestern League team in order to bolster up Manager Mac's team.

There is no question but that Cooney's hitting and base-running and Casey's generalship would help McCredie win more games. The Coasters' season is so much improved over the Cooney of 1908 that there is no comparison, while Casey still plays his heavy, reliable game. This Casey's pitching staff, together with catcher Murray, would help Manager Mac out a lot.

During the past week the positions of the teams in the Lucas league have not changed much, with the exception of Portland. Casey, in spite of the hard luck which has pursued him, after dropping into the cellar, managed to climb into third place, and just did this by chance to land in second place. It had been Vancouver, instead of the hard-hitting Spokane bunch, that Casey had hooked up with during the past week, and the chances are that the Spokane team away from home would have seen them in second place. As it is, the series between Portland and Spokane is a close one, and if he can get his curve department working, the big silent pitcher should give Spokane a beating for those hard-hitting Indians and against a pitcher with a good curve ball.

Chance Good to Break Even.

This fact was apparent when Ed Kinsella made history by pitching them to a no-hit-no-run defeat on Thursday. Kinsella's curves were breaking just right for him, and the Spokane invaders were a helpless lot. Gough will also be sent against them, and Kinsella's pitching staff will be called upon to pitch one of the double-headers on Monday, so it looks as though Casey's club can at least break even, if they do not win the game.

The first week away from home.

Casey will hook up with Aberdeen, and right now Manager Rowland's team isn't cutting much of a figure in the race for the flag. Seattle has taken four out of the five games played, and the way Dugdale's bats are going, Aberdeen will be lucky to scratch three out of the four games. It will have to take a tremendous brace if it does better. Of course, Casey will have the disadvantage of meeting the team at home, but the way his boys are going, it looks as though he can at least break even. The week following he will move to Tacoma and engage Russ Hall's tail-enders for a week. Tacoma has been busy losing games to Vancouver, and here again Casey should not have much trouble finding his way.

Chances Better With Seattle.

The final week will find him again battling with Seattle. This series will be watched with great interest by the home fans. On the first invasion Dugdale was lucky in catching Casey's over-throwing shot out of kilter, without a catching department, and a mighty week outfield. On this trip the backstop will be a close one, and the Turks will not have such easy picking. Adams has helped Casey's outfield department, and the pitcher staff will be augmented by the presence of Gough and Seaton, so, taking it all in all, Dugdale's hired men will face an entirely different line-up.

While Casey's band has been playing good ball, the fans are not satisfied with the work of the team. The team is not hitting as it ought, and there is plenty of room for improvement in the fielding of several men on the team. The work of Mullen at first has not been up to what was expected of him, and he has fallen off in his hitting. The fans must bear in mind, however, that the position is new to him, and they must give him a chance to learn his work. One thing is sure—he is trying. The work around the initial sack will open up to him, and he will do as he will be clouting the ball also. Mullen, it is true, may lack power, but this will come once he feels at home in his new position. Garry was getting started well when news from home announced the illness of his mother, and it upset his game. Catcher Murray has the same misfortune, and was out of the game until he received news that his mother was out of danger.

The failure of Casey to meet the ball this year is a source of great disappointment to the fans. But they need not worry over it, for the Coasters' is just as much at a loss to find the reason as the fans themselves. During the last game or two he has been meeting the ball a little better, and almost any old day now the fans can look for him to find his batting eye. Anyway, Casey hopes so, and so do the friends of the little Italian.

Fight Arranged at Marshfield.
MARSHFIELD, Or., May 29.—(Special.)—Louie Carranza and Al Neill, of San Francisco, have been matched for a 20-

round fight in Marshfield, July 3. The fight is being arranged by John H. Heron, who has promoted some lively boxing contests on Case Bay during the Winter. Carranza came here from Eureka, and has knocked out the best three men that Case Bay could produce, and with the San Francisco pugilist a great contest is expected.

Jeffries Shows His Skill.

CHICAGO, May 29.—James J. Corbett, ex-heavyweight champion, acted as referee for the Jeffries-Berger three-round bout last night at a theater at which Jeffries is appearing. Corbett called time for the first round and said: "I'll make them go some."

Jeffries, apparently spurred on by Corbett's presence, rushed at Berger and pummeled him all over the ring. He used every jab, swing and punch in his repertoire and his defensive tactics could hardly be improved. Corbett was so amazed at Jeffries' cleverness that he forgot to call time for the round, and Berger ceased hostilities by going to his corner.

BEAVERS' FALL IS HARD

DROP FROM TOP TO LOWLY FOURTH PLACE.

Shock of Team's Failure Is Lessened by Its Custom of Losing Away From Home Grounds.

The short space of three weeks has seen the Portland Pacific Coast League team drop from the exalted position of league leader to fourth place, and the aerial catastrophe has been a severe blow to the fans who had come to an almost certain realization that Walter McCredie had corralled another championship team. The shock is one that can be borne more easily, however, for the greater part of the disaster occurred on the road and the faithful have not been penalized by actually seeing the frequent wallowing.

While the team is handicapped in the pitching department, this alone is not enough reason to drop game after game in such wild-eyed manner as has been the case during the recent series with Los Angeles, as well as the one now being played with the Seals. Pitchers Garrett and Harkness are working well, yet when these slabs are in action the team fails to hit, or else makes enough blunders back of them to toss off several games. This defect indicates there is something radically wrong somewhere. The batting averages of the players also show a material weakness. In this department McCredie himself and Ote Johnson have shown themselves to be the only regular players entitled to draw their salaries.

Ivor Olson seems to have exploded, and Dick Green has not proved very reliable with the club. As for Ryan, Kennedy and Speas, the three of them ought to pay to get into the park for all the good they do when they walk to the plate. The Coasters are doing anything very remarkable with the bat, but he has earned his salary as a baserunner. In fact Ote leads the league in the number of bases he has earned, having more of the cushions to his credit than that of any baserunner. Rolly Zelder, and Ote has not been in as many games as has Zelder. Ote cannot win games alone, unless the Portland team can secure a reliable hitter, or McCredie discover the value of life whereby some of the players he now has on the team may be able to revive, it will be easy to predict where Portland will land in another month or two of this kind of playing.

Because the Chicago American League team, generally known as the hitless wonders, have always been in the race, is no reason for the belief that Portland will likewise remain up and doing without base hits. It cannot be done in this league, simply because San Francisco and Los Angeles are possessed of pitchers who are too clever for run-getting without a surplus of hits occasionally. And with all the clever base-runners supposed to be numbered among McCredie's players, there is too much of an inclination to run hard-wild on the paths. Sometimes this style of base-running results in runs, but the occasions are so scarce it hardly pays to take the chance.

Pearl Casey is getting results from the Northwestern League team. This club has not made any phenomenal spirit, but is pegging along in the earnest manner that eventually tells in the long run. The season is yet young, and the Portland Colts have every chance eventually to overtake the leaders. It may come to pass that on their next home stand of four weeks' duration they will surmount the now seemingly impossible obstacle and overhaul Seattle. If Casey's team, and the Coast team fails to show better form, it will be certain for the Ewing crowd for good and all.

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FLY CASTING IS JOY

Anglers Practice Long and Hard for Dexterity.

SEASON STARTS SATURDAY

Portland Club Will Hold First Cast for 1909 at Hawthorne Park and All Fishermen Are Asked to Attend and Participate.

BY WALTER F. BACKUS.

Next Saturday afternoon at Hawthorne Park the Portland Fly-Casting Club will hold the first casting tournament of the season of 1909. This organization was formed just a year ago and has a membership of 20 of Portland's most enthusiastic anglers.

Eight tournaments were held last year and a glance at the records shows they will compare favorably with those of other clubs. At the National tournament the long-distance event was won by a cast of 112 feet and the winner used a rod 13½ feet long, weighing 12 ounces. The club's best cast last season measured 84 feet and several of the members reached marks ranging from 70 to 90 feet. This casting, however, was done with a rod 10 feet long, weighing only 7 ounces.

The use of extremely long and heavy rods, as permitted under the present rules, has been severely criticized by many of our Eastern brothers, who claim that rods are abnormally large and heavy as though they were right. The average fly fisherman uses a 9½ or 10-foot rod, weighing between 6 and 7 ounces, for his actual fishing, and to use a rod two feet longer, weighing twice as much, for tournament work is rather inconsistent.

Lighter Rod Needed.

It would take a man of giant stature to fish all day with a 12-ounce single-handed fly rod. Therefore, we hope the day will come when the long-distance casting will be done with a rod suitable for all-around fishing. It is true that some marvelous records, 130 to 140 feet, have been made with the heavy rods, but even this fact is nothing in their favor, as it is almost impossible to hook a fish at these extreme distances.

The club has just received a beautiful "Thomas Special" fly rod, 10½ feet long, weighing 5 ounces, to be used in distance cast. We do not expect to reach the marks of our Eastern brothers with a rod of this calibre, but with a little practice some 30-foot casting should be in order.

Accuracy Nearly Mastered.

In this event everything is closely watched; the accuracy, the forward cast, the way the fly strikes and the retrieve. Scores of 28 and 29 per cent show how well the members have mastered this event. But after all, the object of the club is not to establish world's records. What we want to accomplish is to improve the casting and fishing ability of each member of the club. Volumes have been written, carefully setting forth just how to handle a fly rod, but the best hints of all of them combined are not equal to an hour's instruction by an expert caster.

There are so many little details to be explained; some pet wrinkles regarding the back cast or a trick in handling the line on a "shoot." These things cannot be properly explained on paper; they require an actual demonstration. Perhaps the most gratifying feature of last season's work was the marked improvement of the beginners. I can recall one instance where an absolute tyro, a man who had never cast a fly, after an hour's coaching made several casts of 45 feet. And this distance was measured, not merely estimated.

It is when the angler is on his favorite stream that he realizes to the full just how much his casting knowledge is worth to him. He has the immense satisfaction of knowing that every pool within reasonable distance is at his mercy; that he can drop his fly, with out-fuse or fusing, at any spot within a radius of 50 feet. Walking down a stream until his practiced eye selects a likely place, say 50 feet away, he begins operations.

Back and forth swings the plant bamboo rod. At each forward cast he strips a yard of line from the reel, which goes whizzing through the guides and joins the flying line on the back cast. This action is repeated until 15 or 20 feet of line from the reel, which is draped in gradually diminishing coils on the outstretched fingers. With increasing energy the right hand then prepares the rod for the "shoot." Every muscle in the wrist and forearm becomes tense as the final casts are made.

How Cast Is Made.

At the first forward cast the smallest coil is whisked off the waiting fingers; at the next cast the second coil vanishes. Then comes the final throw. By this time the momentum of the flying line is so great that the remaining coils are quickly snapped away, the whole cast straightens out beautifully, and like a thing of life the fly drops gently on the water, a good 50 feet away. And if it happens to be the angler's lucky day, his skill will be rewarded by the sudden strike of a hungry trout.

No one ever regrets the time spent in mastering the art of fly-casting. It has been justly called "the poetry of angling." The strongest and most vigorous fish; the long-remembered struggles with big ones in almost inaccessible places; the pleasure of taking a gamey quarry in the most sportsmanlike manner—all are the well-earned reward of the persistent fly-fisherman.

The contest scheduled for next Saturday opens the season for 1909. After that date regular tournaments will be held every two weeks.

Fly casting for distance; accuracy casting at buoys 25 to 45 feet, and half-ounce bait casting are among the events already listed.

The club has been fortunate in securing the use of the pond located in Hawthorne Park, at East Fifth and Salmon streets, for the coming season. A cordial invitation is extended to all anglers and others interested in fly-casting to attend the contest next Saturday—and all future meetings as well.

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BIG GAME AT WOODBURN TODAY

Macks, of Portland, Will Play Scio for Purse of \$600.

The J. G. Macks, of Portland, will cross bats with the fast team of Scio at Woodburn today for a purse of \$200. This will be the first game this season at Woodburn and a large crowd is expected. A special excursion will be run from Scio to Woodburn and the Southern Pacific will run special trains to Woodburn from the North End south on the main line.

The Woodburn fans will be treated to a red-hot exhibition, for the two teams contain some of the best semi-professional players in the state. The men wearing the Scio uniforms are the following: Shea, catcher; Gardner, Lake and Concanan, pitchers; Fay, shortstop; Monrath, first base; Burns, captain and second base; Newell, third base; Hinkle, left field; Gardner, center field, and Somerville, right field.

AMERICAN HORSES IN REAR

Fail to Finish Even in Place at Kempton Park Races.

KEMPTON PARK, England, May 29.—The 26. Margaret's 3-year-old selling plate of 20 sovereigns, distance five furlongs, was won today by the Tritonella fly. Cooch, was second and Baton Rouge third. August Belmont's Lukewarm was one of the 11 starters.

The Windsor Castle handicap plate of 500 sovereigns for 3 year olds and up, distance six furlongs, was won by Glenelg, who was second and Baton Rouge third. August Belmont's Lukewarm was one of the 11 starters.

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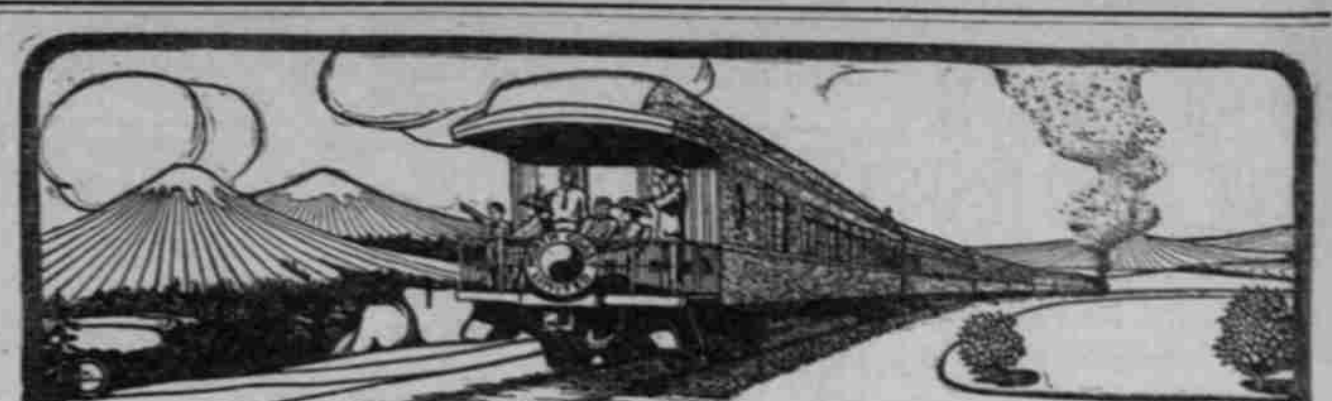
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Eastward thro' The Storied Northwest

A trip of scenic surprises, of thorough comfort, of unexcelled meal service; in short, a trip to live in memory forever.

After May 23, Northern Pacific service will comprise

Four Electric-Lighted Through Transcontinental Trains

Providing through standard and tourist sleeping-car service between the Pacific Coast and Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City. Direct connections to Duluth and Superior for the Great Lakes Steamer Trip.

Visit Yellowstone National Park en route. Pullman Drawing-room Sleeping Cars; Leather-upholstered Tourist Sleeping Cars; a la Carte Dining Cars for all meals.

Illustrated literature and full information about the low round-trip Summer fares upon request. A. D. CHARLTON, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, 255 Morrison St., Portland.

Northern Pacific Railway

Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, Seattle, June 1 to October 14, 1909. Rainier National Park and Paradise Valley, by auto or rail from Tacoma, June 1 to October 1, 1909. Yellowstone National Park season, June 1 to September 23, 1909. Rose Festival, Portland, June 1 to 12, 1909. Seventeenth National Irrigation Congress, Spokane, August 9 to 14, 1909.

FEASTS FOR FANS

Coffroth Filling Programme to Limit With Matches.

IS EVEN AFTER JOHNSON

California Promoter Has Good Array of Scraps Scheduled Ahead and Is Still on Jump to Fill In Intervals.

BY HARRY D. SMITH.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., May 29.—(Special.)—Although Coffroth has been busy with the Nelson-Hyland fight, the promoter is discharging his duties for other matches. He intends to keep himself thoroughly busy during the summer months with fights, and is not losing any in his plans. As was naturally to be expected, the bouts that he had in sight left through, and that has kept him busy to substitute others.

For example, Johnny Coulson, the so-

called bantamweight champion of the world, crawled out of his match with Monte Attell, alleging that he was not in good shape. Coffroth immediately commenced to hustle, and in a couple of days declared that he had signed Frankie Neil to fight Monte on June 15, the date having been moved ahead one week. Frankie is at present in New York, and will leave there May 30 with his manager, Helme Rafael. They will sign at once and commence training for the fight. Monte Attell is at present in the mountains taking a much-needed rest.

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