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One of the coziest and most popular resorts in the city is the Commercial. A new billiard room, a pleasant sitting room and handsome fixtures all go to make an agreeable meeting place for gentlemen, there to discuss the topics of the day, play a game of billiards and enjoy the fine refreshments served there. The best of goods are only handled, and this fact being so well known, a large business is done at the Commercial, on Commercial street, near Eleventh.

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GOLFERS IN

Many New Records Made by Amateurs and Professionals.

TRAVERS PLAYING BEST GAME

National Amateur Champion in Spiendid Shape to Defend His Title at Garden City In September-Anderson Playing Well.

Jerome Travers is now on the record breaking golf game that marked his play before he won the national championship last year, when he gained the distinction of 72, 72—144 for St. Andrews and the new amateur records of 69 for the Nassau Country club, Glen Cove, N. Y., 71 at Hollywood, N. J., 68 at Montclair, N. J., 44 at Roseville on his first sight of the course and 60 at Ekwanok, Vt. The Montclair course record when Travers moved to that place was Allan Kennaday's 74. which only Will Anderson, the former open champion, ever was able to lower by a stroke. Travers cut it to 71 in 1906 and last year cut it to 70. This year, after two rounds in 69, Travers did 68. The course is so narrow, only of 5,900 yards, that it is as hard to score over it as one of 6,500 yards.

Travers is not the only amateur who the Montchilr 68 would indicate that favorite stamping ground of W. J. Travis, who holds the amateur recdespite the new hazards, has recorded suit in a good deal more accuracy."

the professional record for Garden City of 60. Recently Findley 8. Douglas, the former amateur champion. lowered the Apawamis (Rye, N. Y.) amateur record, one of long standing. from 73 to 71, and another ex-title holder, H. Chandler Egan, has this season reduced the record of the Louisville course to 67. The former title holders, it is evident, are in the record breaking ranks with the present champion, and Travers will not lack for rivals at Garden City when the time comes to tee up. Warren K. Wood. one of the last year's semifinalists, has made two new records this month. 71 at Homewood and 73 at Normandie.

Will Anderson, who won the western open championship for the third time last June at the Normandie Golf club, St. Louis, with 299, is playing very Astoria Opera House well and will attend the national open championship Aug. 27 and 28 at the Myopia (Mass.) Hunt club. He has won the title in four different years and makes the journey to meet the present open champion, Aleck Ross of Boston, on one of his home greens. Anderson will visit New York after the Myopia tournament, and he is ready to play a match or two during the week of Aug. 31-Sept. 5. The profes-Van Cortlandt park, New York, was canceled, but it may turn up there will be a tournament there Sept. 1 and 2, in which Anderson and others to come from the west for the open championship would be eligible to play. That Anderson is to enter is sufficient proof that the rumors that the western professionals were to boycott the open championship were not

CONROY'S STEADY GAME.

New York American Third Baseman Has Shown Consistency.

While the New York Americans are this city, is unquestionably the real fighting for the cellar champlonship resort for the most perfect treatment with the Washingtons there are a few in this behalf, and the most critical of the players on the team who are putting up as good a game as many



"WIDOW" CONDOY, NEW YOUR AMERICANS

THIRD BASEMAN of the stars of the leading terms. One of them is Third Baseloup Corner Lie is playing a clever and spends game

around third station. He has shown improvement in his batting of late. In a re-get game in Chicago his batting wan the leading

Abby Proving His Worth. cured him at great cost from Boston.

FORM, DECISIONS MADE TOO QUICKLY

Umpire Klem says that the general

tendency of knights of the indicator is to call their decisions too fast, before the play is really over, and thereto hang nearly half of the mistakes they make and of the trouble they have with the players and spectators.

During one of the recent Pittsburg series in Chicago Klem worked very leisurely, so far as calling decisions was concerned. The time he took on some of them was noticeable to all.

"I have made up my mind that a large part of the trouble we umpires have and the dissatisfaction caused by our decisions come from the fact that we make them so hastily," said Mr.

"Naturally we want to make our de cisions sharp, clear and decisive, that every one may know we are not guessing on what happened, but are thorruled. Lack of positiveness in giving close decisions is sure to bring on you a heap of trouble with the players, who will take every advantage of the umpire.

"Still, there is an immense amount of kicking because the ampire calls a bail or strike before the ball is actually over the plate, so that the break is really missed. That hurts either the pitcher or the batter, and a kick is sure to follow. The same holds true on is scoring very well this season, but base decisions that are close. We might just as well wait until the play he will make a good defense of his is entirely over before waving a runtitle in September at Garden City, ner safe or out, and then we'll not N. Y. This is now more than ever the have to change our decisions because something has happened right on the heels of the play on which we had ord of 70, while recently H. H. Barker, just ruled. A little less haste will re-

SPENCER LOOKS GOOD.

St. Louis Catcher Compares Favorably With Other Backstops.

Without wishing to dim the luster of Billy Sullivan's crown, Eddie Spencer, the big backstop of the St. Louis Americans, is entitled to rank with any catcher in Ban Johnson's organization. Possibly Sullivan of the Chicago Americans and Lou Criger of the Bostons have seen their best days, "Nig" Clarke's greatest season was in 1906, although still a star backstop. Smith, Spencer's team mate, is coming fast, but the latter has matured to a point where he is recognized as one of the best catchers in the business.

Spencer has only one weakness. He is a slow runner, but his weight makes him a strong enough bulwark to withstand any onslaught made by runners coming home. He blocks them well, Spencer throws accurately to second. gets the ball away quickly and watches the bases like a policeman guarding s trust company's safe.

KETCHEL A BUSY PUGILIST.

sional tournament to have been held at | Middleweight Champion to Meet Joe Thomas and Billy Papke.

Stanley Ketchel, the middleweight champion who defeated Hugo Kelly in let up. San Francisco recently, has mapped out a programme that_will keep him busy for some time.

His first battle will be a twenty round contest with Joe Thomas on Aug. 18 before the Occidental club of San Francisco at catchweights. Thomas and Ketchel have met three



STANLEY KETCHEL, MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAM-PION OF THE WORLD.

times in the last two years at the middleweight limit, the first meeting resulting in a draw, Ketchel winning the other two by knockouts.

In the afternoon of Labor day Ketchel will fight Billy Papke of Illinois before the Jeffries Athletic club of Los Angeles. This will be a twentyfive round event for 50 per cent of the receipts. This will be the second meeting of the pair, their first fight resulting in a decision for Ketchel after a terrific ten round battle. Many of Papke's friends claimed that he was entitled to a draw. In the event of winning both these matches Ketchel is the fact that the Cubs are no longwill challenge Tommy Burns for the heavyweight championship.

Tommy Leach.

It is a pity that Tommy Leach of the Pittsburg Nationals is getting an old that he doesn't want to play third any more. Poor old fellow! He lifte! one in the ninth in a recent game and hobbled around the bases in time to break up the game.

Lobert's Heavy Hitting.

Hans Lobert of Cincinnati has made Abbatticchio is now playing some more three baggers than any other thing like the game he was expected to player in the National league. In sixplay when the Pittsburg Nationals se- y-three games he has rapped out fourcen hits for three bases

Very Exciting.

FOUR TEAMS HAVE CHANCE.

Pittsburg, New York, Chicago and Philadelphia All Putting Up a Fast Game of Ball-Long String of Home Games May Help Giants' Chances.

It has been said many, many times that the American league was "the big show." This was quite true in years gone by, owing to the runaway races in the National, but let it be said here and now that the National has this year laid claim to the honor, and unless things go amiss it will continue oughly convinced in the way we have to hold it for the remainder of this season at least.

The race between the top three teams, Pittsburg, New York and Chi



PITCHER ED REULBACH OF THE CHICAGO

cago, to say nothing of the wonderful spurt of the Phillies, is something strange in National league annals, and from present prospects it appears as though none of the teams is going to

The wiseacres still pick Chicago to win, and they may be right, but the manner in which Pittsburg and New York are traveling along makes one believe that Mr. Chance's bunch of ball tossers will certainly have to hustle to repeat the dose they administered last season.

The Cubs seem to lack the dash with which they were playing last year and have suffered from many injuries, which must necessarily have impaired the strength of their personnel. Chance is playing but occasionally, Evers was out of the game with a very bad ankle. Kling's catching has been away below par, and the batting strength of the club has been very materially weaker than in past seasons. Most important of all, Brown is the only one of the Cub pitchers who is a reliable winner,

The Chicago crowds have lost confidence in Pfeister; Overall has been hit hard quite frequently; Reulbach's control has been very erratic, and Fraser, while a good "spit" ball pitch-

er, is not so much to be feared. It will be impossible this year for the Cubs to rest up their men and wait for the big series, content in a big margin of victories. They will have to keep working as the American league teams are doing now. When the big series comes along they will be as likely to blow up as their rivals.

New York appears to have a shade the best of it, inasmuch as 'it will play more home games than either the Pirates or Cubs, and this should help considerably, for even this year Manager McGraw's men have maintained their reputation of being a great home

But, after all, with the teams playing the great ball that they are putting up. it's a toss-up, and then Philadelphia must not be figured out of the running, while even the Reds, should they take on the streak that characterize! them just before and on the last eastern trip, might be considered factors.

The one beauty part about the race er invincible. They had the majority of games won heretofore before they ever picked up a bat, but now it is different. The confidence that they have been accustomed to is not there, for reports are coming in every day of Murphy's frantic efforts and fabulous prices to obtain new material to strengthen his team with. McGraw is going along at a nice clip. His pitchers are working well, especially Mathewson, and when Matty is the Matty of old any team upon which he is playing has a chance for the old flag.

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