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**'PHONE CONCERNS IN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE**

Buffalo, Aug. 15.—Within the next few days there will be held a conference at Niagara Falls that promises to have more important and far-reaching results than any move that has been made in the telephone business in America within the past decade. It will be a meeting of representatives of all the important independent telephone companies east of the Rocky Mountains for the purpose of carrying out the formation of a comprehensive long distance organization and to bring about a close interworking affiliation between all the independent interests in the country. While no aggressive move against the Bell interests is contemplated, it may be seen readily enough that if the plans of the independents go through they will be in a position to make things interesting for the opposition.

The first matter to receive the attention of the conference will be the long distance proposition. This does not contemplate a merger of all the independent telephone companies, but calls for an agreement as to long-distance telephone business, also telegraphic business, if possible. The long distance telephone business and the telegraph business will be conducted over new circuits to be built, where needed, on existing rights of way. This means that only the stringing of new wires in some sections will be necessary to complete the entire system. The possibilities of telegraph business are said to be immense, because telegraph and telephone messages now can be sent over the same wires simultaneously. The income of the telephone companies from telegraph service thus obtained will, it is expected, in time be as great as the telephone revenues. Another important object of the new company will be to prevent any kind of a break in the chain of independent companies composing the long distance line. The financing of the new long distance company has been arranged and a group of some of the country's largest capitalists are said to be backing the proposition. The separate companies also will be financially interested and will handle the telephone and telegraph business at the terminals, where an important feature of their duties will be to originate new business.

**- - SPORTING NEWS - -**

Pitcher Domescher found the going too lumpy in Cincinnati and quit. Jimmy Ryan, the former Chicago player, has given up the management of the Montgomery Southern League team. Brooklyn fans wish the Superbas had the St. Louis Nationals every day for the remainder of the season. Yum, yum! What swell cake! Great is Billy Murray and his Philadelphia Nationals. The Quakers have landed from nowhere and are now playing like champions. The New York Americans never before were so badly off as at present. Owner Farrell has a good job in sight to get players for next season. The Cleveland team did great work during their recent stay at home. The Naps are still in the running strong. Cap Chance and his Chicago Champions came near losing their shirts during the Eastern trip. The Cubs will have to do better or they never will handle any of that world's series push in October. Detroit fans are aching if the Cubs will be the opponents of the Tigers in the world's series again. Again? Did the Tigers ever play the Cubs for the world's championship? An Indianapolis scribe lays the play for the recent poor showing of the Indians to the bad condition of the grounds. But ye scribbler does not mention the other teams. Surely the Indians have not been playing the game by themselves. Mike Donlin, of the Giants, believes Honus Wagner will be the leading batter of the National league for 1908. Don't be in such a hurry, Mike. If you take your time at the plate you may skin Honus yet. Things haven't gone so well with Manager McCloskey of the St. Louis Nationals this season. The losing of games hasn't cut any figure. The sad part of it is that he has been unable to develop any one good ball-player to sell to New York. It is said that President Garry Hermann has a crew at work gathering old tin receptacles which he will present in the near future to about seven-eighths of his Cincinnati Redlegs. A life-size portrait of "Cy" Young is on exhibition at the Boston Journal office. Albert R. Thayer, of the Journal art staff, painted the portrait and it's a corking good "pitcher," too. As Jake Beckley said: "All teams look good when they are winning and all teams look bad when they are losing." Or in other words, the winning team always looks better than the losing team. The average young baseball fan keeps better posted on the game, remembering the names of the old-timers, etc., than the average young



J. E. SULLIVAN, Commissioner who took the Olympic team of American athletes to London.

professional player. For instance, Pitcher Tom McCarthy never heard of his namesake, Tom, the great fielder, until he struck Boston.

**She Likes Good Things.**

Mrs. Chas. E. Smith, of West Franklin, Maine, says: "I like good things and have adopted Dr. King's New Life Pills as our family laxative medicine, because they are good and do their work without making a fuss about it." These painless purifiers sold at W.A. Keykendall's drug store 25c.

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