

## LEAGUE MEETING TO BE CALLED SOON

President Williams of Spokane  
Declares That Organization  
Is Not Disrupted.

## WILMOT WILLING TO QUIT.

Time Now Seems Ripe for a Reor-  
ganization of the P. N. L.—Lucas  
May Have Other Schemes.

President Williams of the Spokane baseball club is not at all pleased over the announcement, some time ago, to the effect that the Pacific National League was to be reorganized. He emphatically denies it, and declares it is necessary for the league to be reorganized. Why Lucas made the announcement is one of the many peculiar things he has done.

Lovers of the game here, and in other cities, represented by clubs, are asking if Lucas has some other scheme, and if he really wants to see the league disbanded. Some believe he has; that he wants to organize a league in the northwest, and give this and other towns the go by. Certain it is that such reports have been sent out from cities where Lucas has visited of late.

The thing to be done now is to call a meeting of the league officials and decide upon something at once. Delays are dangerous, and the officials have delayed too long for the good of the game.

There is no reason why the league should be broken up simply because Lucas, McCloskey and Walter Wilmot have not reached an agreement over the Butte franchise. There are other cities anxious to get into the league. According to Wilmot, the story sent out that he had demanded \$250 for the franchise is not true. He declares that he did not demand that amount, but claims to have made a most reasonable proposition to Lucas and McCloskey. He says he offered to part with the franchise if he was given absolute assurance that the city of Butte would have a good team in the field, and that it would play throughout the season. He offered, he says, to go to some other city and manage a team. If this is true, and there is little reason to doubt it, what is to prevent the contending parties from getting together and straightening out the tangle that threatens to kill the game here?

Helena, Great Falls, Seattle, Tacoma and Ogden are all concerned in baseball towns, and with a little hustling a team could be placed in either of these cities, and the services of Wilmot could be secured.

It is likely that President Lucas will call a meeting of the league for the near future. Williams states that he will ask Lucas to issue the call. If he does not, then the directors of the various clubs might get together and do a little organizing themselves.

Lucas is not the only man in the world who has the position of president of a baseball league, and neither is Butte the only city in which a good team can be placed. Why is the Montana town the key to the situation?

## PLAY BALL!

## NORRIS O'NEILL PRESIDENT.

Chosen for That Position by Western League Magnates.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 12.—The meeting today of the magnates of the Western League of baseball clubs proved to be a reorganization meeting, which was approved a large number of items of business which had been previously agreed upon in conference. At the conference Norris O'Neill, of San Francisco, was agreed to for president and no other name was presented to the regular meeting. The finances of the association were shown to be in good condition. The league was made more substantial by dropping the non-playing clubs and transferring three franchises to substantial business interests in the city represented. The schedule will not be adopted until the spring meeting, which will be held some time in March.

## AMATEUR SKATERS.

All Their Organizations Have Been Consolidated.

New York, Jan. 12.—Amateur skating organizations of the country have been brought into body at the annual meeting here of the National Amateur Skating association of the United States. Thirty-two members of the association were present, and the meeting was a success. The association was organized by the late "Father Bill" Curtis several years ago. The holding of the annual meeting was accomplished by the cooperation of the American Skating association and the Skier Athletic club, both of Chicago, the former governing body of the west, and the Canadian Skating association.

In further carrying forward the govern-

ment of figure and speed skating and ice hockey, the constitution was revised so that in future all amateur skaters must be registered in conformity with the method pursued now by the Amateur Athletic union. Slight changes were also made in the adoption of new rules to govern the competition of figure and speed skating. President Henry Buermeier of the New York Athletic club, vice president, Jerome Karst, St. Louis skating club, secretary, treasurer, Francis M. Clarke, West Chester skating club.

## ON THE RACE TRACK.

Free Handicap Was Marred by Deceived by Poor Start.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 12.—The feature race of the card at Ascot today, the free handicap, at one mile, was marred by a poor start. High Chancellor, the favorite, and Sals, the heavily played third choice, never figuring in the running. The former got off ten lengths behind his field, and the latter was left standing. Flo Bob won in a drive from Hans Wagner with Rags Young third. Weather, clear; track, fast. Summary:

First race, six furlongs—Hinda Rose won. Whitestone second, Jardin de Paris third. Time—1:18.

Second race, one mile—Varro won. Capable second, Frangine third. Time—1:34.

Third race, five and a half furlongs—Interlude second, Don Anderson third. Time—1:06.

Fourth race, one mile—Flo Bob won. Hans Wagner second, Ralph Young third. Time—1:40.

Fifth race, five and a half furlongs—Descento won. Tramator second, Azelina third. Time—1:37.

Sixth race, one mile and seventy yards—Duffell won. Ray second, Patsy Brown third. Time—1:45.

## Events at Oakland.

San Francisco, Jan. 12.—Veterano was a good one again and easily won from Little Wally, the favorite, at Oakland today. Meade, long overdue, won at 7 to 1. Cousin Carrie, Alice Carey and Martinmas gladdened the heart of the talent by landing the money in easy fashion. Summary:

First race, six furlongs—Meade won. Suckharat second, Andvria third. Time—1:17.

Second race, six furlongs—Cousin Carrie won. Box Elder second, Yellowstone third. Time—1:37.

Third race, five and a half furlongs—Alice Carey won. Edron second, The Republic third. Time—1:06.

Fourth race, one mile and eight—Veterano won. Little Wally second, Ink third. Time—1:39.

Fifth race, seven furlongs—Martinmas won. Sillicho second, Rowena third. Time—1:29.

Sixth race, mile and fifty yards—Yada won. Sea Air second, Lady Goodrich third. Time—1:40.

## ROSE NOT A FIGHTER.

New Yorker Raises Question as to Big Fellow's Gameness.

Those who read some time ago the scarecrow yarn that Ralph Rose, "the perfect man," who is undoubtedly a phenomenon when it comes to handling weights, could kill Jeffries with a single blow, were disappointed when they looked him over in the Madison Square Garden Saturday night. While Rose is a young giant and a powerful boxer, his strength is not built on true fighting lines. Neither does he show the general make-up of a great pugilist like Jeffries.

On the contrary, he appears to be a big, overgrown, good-natured boy, who would be decidedly at sea if he should be compelled to face a fighting machine after the manner of the champion heavyweights always in the ring. A man who has mixed with fighting men, who would not be a little overawed, and who is looking for a fight, is not a fighter.

Over said: "He's big and strong, all right, but is he game? He doesn't look to me like a man who would fight a man who is a man's heart is made of—New York Sun.

## WHERE NELSON STARTED.

Battling Was "Discovered" by Colonel Andy Mulligan in Hot Springs.

When some individual suddenly bursts forth from obscurity, it is usually to the light, there is always a greater or less number of alleged "discoverers." This is the case with Battling Nelson, but as all who are familiar with his Hot Springs (Ark.) achievements know, it was Colonel Andy Mulligan, right promoter and manager of the fight, who first discovered him. He, who really started the Dane on his way to fame.

In February, 1903, Battling Nelson was cashier in a small restaurant here, said Colonel Mulligan, speaking of a number of victories. He put him on in a semi-wind-up for a try-out and he made good in a decided manner. Later I gave him two star bouts and he won both of them. Young Corbett was here shortly after this and I offered him a match with Nelson, but he then champion refused on the grounds that the Battling One was too far removed from prominence. The season closed with me, and Nelson drifted back to Chicago, where he won several minor affairs. From Chicago he floated westward and his rise became almost phenomenal. I discussed the matter with Britt, Mr. Mulligan said: "I think that Nelson fought Britt too soon after his battle with Corbett. He didn't give himself time to recuperate after his excessive exertions in that go and the rigors of the incidental training. I firmly believe that had Nelson waited until next spring some time there would have been a very different story to tell of his meeting with the California champion.

## MORTON ON RAILWAY RATES

First Disclaims that He Writes  
As a Representative of the  
Administration.

## WHERE THE TROUBLE LIES.

It is Chiefly With the Relation of  
Rates Between Markets—Federal  
Supervision is Necessary.

Washington, Jan. 12.—Secy. Morton, secretary of the navy, and formerly vice president of the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad, is the author of an article on the railway rate question, which will be published in the Outlook tomorrow. At the outset he expressly disclaims writing as a representative of President Roosevelt's administration, and says he speaks merely as one with somewhat of experience pertinent to an important subject.

The secretary, in the article, says there are few complaints against railway rates in the United States; the chief trouble being with "the relation of rates as between markets." He says there are as many rates which are too low as there are rates which are too high, and that either class of rates may be equally disastrous to communities. He expresses the opinion that federal supervision of railroad rates is necessary, but that regulation and protection should go together.

He says that one of the three things following is sure to take place in the conduct of our railways:

First—Legalization of pools—the right of the railroads to make enforceable contracts between themselves as to a division of earnings, so that they can resist the temptations of big shippers, and be assured a fair share of the business moving at stable rates which shall apply alike to all patrons.

Second—The further unification of ownership, thereby delivering in time the entire railroad ownership of the country into the hands of a few individuals or one syndicate.

Third—Government ownership, the worst of the three evils, "if such they may be called."

In the opinion of Mr. Morton, government ownership of our railroads would be the beginning of industrial and political chaos.

He rather favors the first proposition, with adequate provision to assure rates being reasonable.

As to pending legislation, Mr. Morton favors the continuance of the interstate commerce commission in substantially its present form, saying:

"Let it go on making investigations and findings. If it finds a rate is unreasonable (either too high or too low), everything else being considered, let it order such rates as it deems reasonable, and if the railroads do not make them effective in 30 days, then the entire matter is to be referred to a central court of transportation of, say, three or five members, to be created to especially consider and expedite all questions of interstate commerce far as the transportation of the country is concerned, it being understood that this central court shall have power to adjudicate in all such cases, except those involving constitutional questions; and the findings of this court in interstate matters to be final."

"I would urge severe punishments for railroad or steamboat lines engaged in interstate commerce which violate the device protected rebates, commissions or in any way afforded preferential rates, and the punishment should be just as severe to shippers or commission agents seeking or receiving such rebates, as to permit the railroads to divide their earnings or tonnage among themselves, filing all such agreements with the interstate commerce commission for its information, thereby relieving the status of these contracts enforceable as between railroads."

"I would do this as assurance to the small shippers securing the lowest rates and as a protection to the transportation against the vast tonnage and consequent temptation offered by the big shippers, which so frequently have been used to secure inside rates. If these contracts were illegal or against public policy or unreasonably in restraint of trade, then let them be reviewed by the same court of commerce."

"I would favor, even if it were necessary to have a constitutional amendment, to accomplish it, the declaration that all transportation by railways hereafter is to be considered interstate commerce, and subject only to federal supervision, thereby relieving the status of this prerogative and establishing one central regulator—the federal power."

"I would make it impossible for others than those directly interested as shippers or commercial bodies to bring suits for action under the interstate commerce act."

"I would favor an agitation and shaping of public opinion that would not tolerate such a thing as preferential rate, and would make it equally disagreeable to grant or receive it. The president's message on this subject meets the views of all good citizens, whether engaged in railroading or shipping."

## PECULIAR ACCIDENT.

Miner Drilled Too Deep, Explosion Causing Explosion.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 12.—A miner's inquest over the remains of Anton Barnabo, a miner who was killed in an explosion on the 2,000 foot level of the Pennsylvania mine yesterday afternoon developed a curious condition which resulted in the death of the miner. Barnabo it appeared was working on the contract system and with his partner was engaged in blasting. Wishing to break down the greatest amount of rock in the least time possible, he drilled a hole much deeper than it customary and charged it with a quantity of powder so great that the explosion following sufficed to heat the adjoining rock to a degree that necessitated the use of water for cooling purposes. When another hole was drilled the heat of the rock was such that when Barnabo placed a stick of powder into the drill hole it exploded, blowing his head completely from his shoulders.

## Miles Standish's Relative Dead.

New York, Jan. 12.—Harriet Clarke Deming Baldwin, a great-granddaughter of Miles Standish, is dead at her home in Brooklyn. She was 81 years old.

## Comedian Curtis Dead.

New York, Jan. 12.—Harvey Groverne Forbes Curtis, a well known character comedian, who was killed in a married Louisiana Cutler Francis, niece of the late Ward McAllister, is dead at St. Luke's hospital from heart trouble.

He had been on the stage 23 years and had appeared in support of many well known stars.

## RUSSIA MAY CONTINUE THE WAR

She Will Probably Decide that  
Prestige Abroad and Situation  
At Home Necessitate It.

## MAY GIVE WITTE FULL SWAY.

Nor is it Likely that Prince Mirsky  
Will be Allowed to Retire—All  
Is Uncertainty.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 12.—The government seemingly is about to make the irrevocable decision that prestige abroad and the situation at home necessitate the continuation of the war till peace with dignity is possible.

Beyond this point no confirmation exists, especially regarding the immediate development of the interior situation. Emperor Nicholas is still apparently vacillating as to whether he shall allow M. Witte full sway, in the meantime declining to permit Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky to retire. The latter persists in the view that the confidence of the people in the manner in which the reform manifesto is to be worked out is vital, and that this is impossible if the work is to be left completely in the hands of the bureaucrats. Direct consultation with representatives of the classes interested, he considers essential.

It has now been definitely established that the third section of the manifesto, as it was originally drafted by Minister Sviatopolk-Mirsky, provided for representation of the zemstvos in the council of the empire, and that it was stricken out against his earnest protest.

Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky's retirement from the ministry of the interior, which was to be considered as only a matter of a short time, although the emperor seems to have been hesitating, has given the impression that the emperor hopes by temporarily avoiding the necessity of concentrating the reins of power in the hands of M. Witte, should a real storm break, however, no one doubts that M. Witte is the one strong man in sight who can be called to the bridge.

The lack of cohesion and alignment of the forces opposed to the existing state of things, and mutual distrust of each other's program, seem to make anything approaching actual revolution at the present time unworthy of serious consideration.

Socialists, revolutionists and other extreme elements, as well as the subject races on the borders of Russia, all have different objectives, with which the conservative liberals, whom the government really hopes to appease, have little in common; and, above all, Russia's unnumbered millions of peasants, although they have manifested an abhorrence of war, principally for economic reasons and because it takes their loved ones away, have given almost no evidence of having been stirred by the prevailing political agitation.

Demonstrations, and even disorders, on a large scale, in the centers of population, are regarded by the authorities as possible, accompanied by a recurrence of terrorism by those who believe the bomb is the only weapon with which they can get absolutism. This is really considered the likeliest and most deplorable possibility in the near future.

For the moment, all is quiet in the interior, the people seemingly being absorbed with the Christmas holidays. No further disorders have occurred in connection with mobilization, the only active movement of any sort noted being demonstrations at Nijni Novgorod and Moscow, both confined to meetings of school professors, who took advantage of the occasion to protest against the disabilities of the law, which they declare the staffs of the universities labored, and who adopted resolutions in favor of reforms on the line of the recent zemstvo memorial, but going further than the emperor's manifesto. The meeting at Nijni Novgorod was dispersed by the police and several persons outside the hall were injured, but none of them seriously.

## BROOKLYN BRIDGE

WILL HAVE TO BE REBUILT.

New York, Jan. 12.—Fearful lest the strain to which the Brooklyn bridge is subjected by the heavy traffic passing over it to such an extent that a great catastrophe might be possible, engineers of the department of bridges are reported to have determined that the structure must be almost completely rebuilt. To do this it will require at least two years, and meanwhile traffic between New York and Brooklyn will have to be diverted to the Williamsburg bridge, the new Manhattan bridge, and to the Brooklyn cityway tunnel, now in course of construction. Four or five years may elapse before this can be accomplished as great traffic problems will have to be solved beforehand.

Though an inspection of the Brooklyn bridge shows it to be in a safe condition at present it is admitted by all the engineers who have been connected with the work, according to the Herald, that even if it has an ace limit, and that this limit is being rapidly approached. The structure is now having to withstand a weight of traffic which it never was intended to bear when the plans for it were made, and in addition to the tear and wear which were to be expected there has been an added impairment of the structure by electrolysis.

Plans for rebuilding the bridge, which are now in course of preparation, call for the construction of practically a new structure. But little will remain of the present bridge except the great stone piers, which are practically imperishable. When finished it will be as modern in respect as the Williamsburg bridge, with a double deck and far better facilities for crossing of elevated and surface cars.

It will be necessary to add greatly to the weight of the anchorage, so as to withstand the added weight of the double deck. It may not be found necessary to alter the present promenade deck, except by strengthening it, but all the suspender girders will be replaced.

The little folks love Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. Pleasant to take; perfectly harmless; positive cure for coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma.

## TEA

Is it likely that all the good tea is sold by one firm?

No; not all; a good deal; not all.

Write for our Knowledge Book, A Selling & Company, San Francisco.

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