

Athletics two years ago, has been secured by the Columbus Club.

Ed Schlatter, first baseman for New Castle last season, has been sold by Milwaukee to McKeesport.

St. Paul has the only Indian battery in the game. It is composed of J. Meyers, catcher, and LeRoy, pitcher.

Charley Carr, the Indianapolis manager, has released catcher Forest Cady to the Zanesville, Central League, Club.

The Kansas City Club has sold catcher Tommy Leahy to Indianapolis, which needs a side partner for Paddy Livingston.

In three days against Columbus Monte Cross accepted twenty-one chances without an error and batted at a .444 clip.

Pitcher Charles Adams, who played with Denver last year and joined Pittsburgh early in the year, has begun work with Louisville.

Harry Hinchman, of Toledo, switched from left-handed batting to right in a game with St. Paul last week and smashed out a home run.

Louisville writers have put their stamp of approval on the work of Umpire Bierhalter. He has made a hit down there by his good work.

Monte Cross is pleased with his berth at Kansas City, and says if he can ever get his club to playing the inside ball he tells them to, Kansas City will win out.

Manager Monte Cross announced last week that he intended to release outfielder Murphy May 1, at which time he expects to land either Carlisle or Cravath from the Boston Americans.

Jake Beckley, who is now playing first base for the Kansas City Blues, says he is 43 years old. He leads the team in batting with .368, and has made 112 put-outs and five assists at first base without an error.

Pitcher Stovall, of Louisville, a brother of the Cleveland first baseman, blanked Minneapolis without a hit April 23. This is only the second time in the history of the American Association that such a feat has been performed.

W. F. Rogers, a southpaw flinger, and divinity student attending school at Louisville, will join the Columbus team. This youngster was a battery partner of Tony James at Washington, Pa., last season and regarded as the best off-side flinger in that organization.

WAYS OF SLIDING.

The Practice Not At All Dangerous If Players Know How to Handle Themselves, Says Famed Hughey Jennings.

Detroit "Times."

Hughey Jennings, always one of the best base runners in the game, and with hardly an equal in touching runners trying for second base when he was with the Baltimore Club, recently spoke of the science of base running and incidentally of the liability of a player being injured by spikes in this way. Said he: "Base sliding is not dangerous when the player knows how to do it, and spikes are not dangerous when the player knows how to handle the man that is coming in. The great success in saving yourself in base running is to slide when you start to do it. I never hesitate. The man who starts a slide and tries to stop is a goner sure. If he doesn't break an ankle he is lucky. The base runner should throw all his strength into the slide and he won't get hurt. I recall that we always had half a dozen files in the Baltimore club house to sharpen our spikes with. The diamond there was

Hugh Jennings

and the spikes wore down easily, so we had to sharpen them every day. But we did not let the opposing club know that was the reason. Two or three of them would come out to the club house and they'd find the crowd sitting on the benches filing away at their spikes, the rasping noise filling the room as though it were a machine shop. 'Look out for us to-day,' was always the admonition, and, of course, they went away pretty well determined to take no chances with us on the bases. As a matter of fact, there is hardly any chance of an infielder being spiked if he

ESPECIALLY HARD AND ROUGH

PLAYS HIS GAME RIGHT and the runner is only trying to get to the base. No matter how a base runner goes into a bag, he cannot hurt the infielder if the latter is in the right position. McGraw, as often as every opponent on the field tried to get him, was never spiked until Dick Harley handed it to him when he had no reason to do so. McGraw always made the base slider carry him into the bag. The only man who has a chance to get hurt by spikes in base ball, if he is playing his game the way he should, is the first sacker. He must keep his foot on the bag, and he is therefore bound to get nipped more or less. But nobody wants to hurt a first baseman. In present day base ball I don't know of one of them who is at all offensive. They are almost always, for some reason or other,

GOOD, BIG-HEARTED CHAPS

that nobody would purposely hurt. Of them all in the American League I know of but one who might invite trouble and that is Jiggs Donohue. Donohue and I had several rows last year and we told each other pretty plainly what we were thinking, I guess. But Jiggs proved himself a man every inch of him after the season was over when he came to our hotel during the world series, talked to the boys, advised them and encouraged them. We buried the hatchet after that. Nobody wants to hurt a first baseman. It's a sort of unwritten law that, as the poor chap must keep his foot there, it isn't fair to cut him. Matty McIntyre, for instance, would have played all last year if he hadn't turned his ankle to save Bob Unglaub.

MIKE KELLEY'S SKILL.

Jennings concluded: "King Kelley once offered to bet Jack Crooks \$5 that he could give him the ball, be 10 feet away from the bag and make it without being touched. He was so clever in dodging one way when the fielder expected him to go the opposite they couldn't touch him. Crooks declined to take the bet. He knew Kelley could do it. Famous as Kelley was for his work on the bases, Ty Cobb is a better base run-

ner, for Ty has more speed and is equally tricky, in getting around the man with the ball. Watching the guardian of the sack, of course, is

THE GREAT TRICK

in base sliding. You can usually tell by the way he is standing which direction the ball is coming from, and it is your cue to go the opposite way. But even in this there is always the chance of being out-generated. It's an old trick of the fielder to hold his hands on his hips and pretend the ball is not coming toward him. You go slow to your slide, and he suddenly becomes animated, grabs the ball and tags you. Or he will lean in one direction for the ball and then dodge over and take it from another, and, unless you can outguess him, he has you."

AN EASY BERTH.

Is the Third Base Position in the Opinion of Hobe Ferris.

"Honestly—speaking from a working-man's standpoint and considering the amount of labor involved—I would rather play third base than coach," remarked Hobe Ferris, of the St. Louis American team the other day. "When I went into the business of playing professional ball seven

THE 1908 SPRING.

Bad Weather in the West Arouses Some Comment Upon and Able Defense for the Long Schedule.

Chicago, Ill., April 30.—This has been a better spring for base ball than 1907, though the fan



Chas. W. Murphy

in Chicago, and Pittsburgh was the club that shivered. The American League fared about the same last year as the National, having 14 postponements up to April 27.

MURPHY'S VIEW.

"Some people think we ought to start

opening of the base ball season is wanted by both fans and magnates, and it looks as though it would continue."

THE I. I. I. LEAGUE.

Splendid Outlook for the Season Under a New President—The Personnel of the Various Teams.

The Indiana-Illinois-Iowa League started its eighth annual championship race on April 30 with most encouraging prospects for a successful season. The election of the new president, Tom Loftus, of Dubuque, put an end to all factional feeling and the utmost harmony now prevails. The managers have been busily engaged in trying out promising recruits and the end of the training season witnessed the release of those who failed to make good. The teams now line up about as follows:

ROCK ISLAND—Pitchers Lundin, Wilson, Howard, Powers, Neal, and Scott; catchers Eng, Gilmore; first base Edmunds, second base Cook (manager), short stop Berger, third base McBride, outfield, Murphy, Dowers, Swaim.

DECATUR—Pitchers Swaim, Bitroff, Vance, Loudermilk, Leibel, Keyes; catchers Fisher, Towne; first base Tennant, second base Frost, short stop Moore, third base Barkwell, outfield, Wagner, Long, and Jeffries.

SPRINGFIELD—Pitchers Moore, Steiger, Railings, Owens, Salisbury, Campbell; catchers Orendorf, Oils; first base Smith, second base Herbert or Hughes, short stop Schwarnhaber, third base Herbert or Berg, outfield, McCarthy (manager), Ruby, Novacek and Cocash.

PEORIA—Pitchers Eastman, Schutz, Keupper, Nelson, Bartell, Gilbert Wilder; catchers Wolfe, White, first base Iohn, second base Lewes, short stop Raymond, third base Bewar, outfield Donnelly (manager), Landry, Lee.

CEDAR RAPIDS—Pitchers Mallico, Renzenbrink, Fox, Layelle, Radabaugh, catchers Simon, Brown, first base Mullin, second base Howard, short stop Crandall, third base Mattick, outfield, Davis Laughlin, Lamb, Weaver, bench manager, Belden Hill.

BLOOMINGTON—Pitchers Barker, Jensen, Syfert, Davidson, Blackburn, St. Vrain; catchers Wilson, Sampson, first base Kuhn, second base Melchior, short stop Snyder, third base Godwin, outfield, Connors (manager), Beebe, Coover, Graham.

CLINTON—Pitchers Baker, Stauffer, Stillman, Fleet, Leonard, Lindley, Ward; catchers, Nelman, Dulaney, first base Beulow (manager), second base Eul or Hughes, short stop Mackey, third base Wahl, outfield, Corkhill, Kaphan, Thery, and Ohland.

DEBUQUE—Pitchers Gurney, Companion, Lord, Beisser, Palmer, Webber; catchers O'Brien, first base Mueller, second base Genins, short stop Carr, third base Vandine, outfield Le Jeune, Miller, Derfinger, Stevens, bench manager, Clarence Rowland.

It is difficult to determine the relative playing strength of the various teams, but the consensus of opinion among the unbiased critics around the circuit is that Decatur, Springfield, and Peoria will be the strongest contenders for the pennant, as was the case last year. Nearly all the teams have lost strong players by draft or sale, but just how the loss of these men will affect the playing strength cannot be positively told until the season is well advanced.

News Notes.

The Peoria Club has released Wilfong and Wartha, the South Bend battery, pitcher Hamilton, and outfielder Powers.

Cedar Rapids will open the league season on the 30th under unfavorable conditions. All the new players except one are in quarantine because of having been exposed to small pox, and will not be out for some days.

President Loftus last week sent out a letter of instructions and an optimistic forecast to the presidents of the various clubs. He declared the outlook for the season brighter than in years. He predicts a grand race for the pennant. He appeals to the presidents to assist him in giving the public clean base ball. He insists on managers and captains giving umpires a square deal, and when a decision is made to consider it final, as no argument can change it. Finally, he points out the necessity for pleasing the fans with lively base ball.

RAYMOND REFORMED.

The Cardinals' Crack Young Pitcher on His Good Behavior.

St. Louis, Mo., May 1.—Last winter when base ball news was in cold storage and nothing but "dope" obtainable, a lot of talk was indulged in to the effect that Manager McCloskey, of the Cardinals, would have his hands full this summer with "Bugs" Raymond. So far Raymond has given no indication of a desire to act bad. He has pitched splendid ball, holding the Cubs to one hit in the face of rank errors and preventing every team he has faced from running up the hits on him. Manager McCloskey expects Raymond to be one of the best performers in the National. At Houston the manager told Raymond he was hired to pitch and not act the clown, and Raymond assured his boss he had left all his funny work behind. Raymond is now earnestly endeavoring to stop the other Cardinals calling him "Bugs."

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1908 Inter-State League Schedule

Season Opens May 13; Closes September 7

WARREN AT HOME

With Erie	May 13, 14
With Bradford	May 20, 21
With Oil City	May 25, 26
With Franklin	May 27, 28
With Olean	June 3, 4
With Franklin	June 5, 6
With Oil City	June 10, 11
With Erie	June 12, 13
With Bradford	June 15, 16
With Oil City	June 22, 23
With Olean	June 24, 25
With Franklin	July 1, 2
With Bradford	July 16, 17, 18
With Oil City	July 20, 21, 22
With Erie	July 27, 28
With Bradford	August 3, 4, 7, 8
With Erie	August 12, 13
With Franklin	August 17, 18
With Warren	August 19, 20
With Oil City	August 21, 22
With Erie	August 31, September 1
With Erie	September 5, 7

FRANKLIN AT HOME

With Oil City	May 13, 15
With Erie	May 20, 21
With Olean	May 22, 23
With Bradford	June 1, 2
With Erie	June 3, 4
With Oil City	June 12, 13
With Olean	June 15, 16
With Warren	June 17, 18
With Erie	June 24, 25
With Bradford	June 26, 27
With Oil City	July 3, 4
With Warren	July 7, 8, 9
With Olean	July 10, 11
With Bradford	July 13, 14, 15
With Erie	July 20, 21, 22
With Bradford	July 31, August 1
With Olean	August 3, 4
With Erie	August 5, 6
With Oil City	August 7, 8
With Warren	August 14, 15
With Bradford	August 19, 20
With Oil City	August 24, 25
With Olean	August 29, 30
With Bradford	August 31, September 1
With Warren	September 2, 3
With Oil City	September 5, 6

ERIE AT HOME

With Warren	May 15, 16
With Oil City	May 17, 18, 19
With Warren	May 24
With Bradford	May 25, 26
With Warren	May 29, 30
With Olean	June 1, 2
With Warren	June 7, 8, 9
With Franklin	June 10, 11
With Oil City	June 14
With Bradford	June 17, 18
With Oil City	June 20, 21
With Franklin	June 21
With Olean	June 26, 27, 28
With Warren	June 29, 30
With Franklin	July 3, 4
With Warren	July 5
With Franklin	July 7, 8, 9
With Oil City	July 12, 13, 14, 15
With Franklin	July 16, 17, 18, 19
With Olean	July 23, 24, 25, 26
With Warren	July 29, 30
With Oil City	August 2
With Warren	August 9
With Franklin	August 10, 11, 16
With Olean	August 17, 18
With Oil City	August 19, 20, 23
With Bradford	August 24, 25
With Franklin	August 26, 27
With Warren	August 28, 29
With Warren	September 4, 6, 7

OIL CITY AT HOME

With Franklin	May 14, 16
With Olean	May 18, 19
With Erie	May 22, 23
With Franklin	May 29, 30
With Warren	June 1, 2
With Erie	June 3, 4
With Olean	June 15, 16
With Bradford	June 17, 18
With Olean	June 24, 25
With Warren	June 26, 27
With Erie	July 7, 8, 9
With Franklin	July 10, 11
With Bradford	July 23, 24, 25
With Warren	July 31, August 1
With Erie	August 3, 4
With Olean	August 5, 6
With Erie	August 14, 15
With Bradford	August 17, 18
With Warren	August 26, 27
With Olean	August 31, September 1
With Franklin	September 4, 7

OLEAN AT HOME

With Bradford	May 14, 16
With Warren	May 18, 19
With Franklin	May 25, 26
With Oil City	May 27, 28
With Bradford	May 29, 30
With Erie	June 5, 6
With Oil City	June 8, 9
With Bradford	June 12, 13
With Warren	June 19, 20
With Franklin	June 22, 23
With Oil City	June 29, 30
With Erie	July 1, 2
With Bradford	July 3, 4
With Warren	July 13, 14, 15
With Franklin	July 20, 21, 22
With Oil City	July 29, 30
With Erie	July 31, August 1
With Warren	August 7, 8
With Warren	August 10, 11
With Oil City	August 12, 13
With Bradford	August 14, 15
With Franklin	August 21, 22
With Warren	August 24, 25
With Bradford	August 26, 27
With Oil City	September 2, 3
With Bradford	September 5, 7

BRADFORD AT HOME

With Olean	May 13, 15
With Franklin	May 17, 18, 19
With Warren	May 22, 23
With Erie	May 27, 28
With Oil City	June 5, 6
With Franklin	June 7, 8, 9
With Olean	June 10, 11, 14
With Franklin	June 19, 20
With Warren	June 21
With Erie	June 22, 23
With Oil City	June 28
With Warren	June 29, 30
With Oil City	July 1, 2
With Warren	July 5
With Olean	July 12, 13, 17, 18
With Oil City	July 19
With Warren	July 23, 24, 25, 26
With Oil City	July 27, 28
With Franklin	July 29, 30, August 2
With Warren	August 5, 6
With Olean	August 9
With Oil City	August 10, 11
With Franklin	August 12, 13
With Olean	August 16
With Erie	August 21, 22
With Warren	August 23
With Oil City	August 28, 29
With Erie	September 2, 3
With Olean	September 4, 6, 7

years ago, I naturally tried to pick out the softest job and finally decided third base was about the easiest place in sight. The hardest place? Why nowhere but second base. There's a position that tries a man's soul. Yes, and his patience and his nerve as well. A second baseman has a thousand things to think of, where a third baseman has one. Some of the fans got the notion this spring that 'Hobe' was all in. One Boston Club official said I couldn't throw from third base to pitcher. The Cardinals thought so, too, I guess, for they tried the bunting game in our series down in St. Louis. I tried to show them that I could throw when I had to throw, and they changed their tactics. Third base? Why even were I a Bradley or a Collins I would be almost ashamed to take my salary for playing that position."

Stallings in Good Standing Again.

Newark, N. J., April 29.—Manager Geo. T. Stallings, of the Newark, to-day received notice from President P. T. Powers of the Eastern League, that his suspension had been lifted. Stallings was set down as a result of a fight with Umpire W. J. Sullivan, which occurred after the Newark-Brussels game last Thursday. The news came as a pleasant surprise to Stallings, as he expected the suspension would last for a period of ten days.

our seasons later," remarked President Murphy yesterday afternoon after the game had been called off with the Pirates, "but we can't afford to do it. In the first place, as long as the people are willing to pay their money to see a ball game this early in the spring why not satisfy them? It is really up to the fans; if they do not approve of early openings they will stay away and the openings will be set further along in a hurry. But if the fan comes out, and pays his money, we are going to be open for business just as soon as the weather gives us a chance. With

THE SIX-MONTH CONTRACTS

now in vogue for ball players the owners are compelled to stretch the season as long as possible to make both ends meet financially. Of course certain clubs would not have to, but there are in every league some clubs that do not make barrels of money every year and they must be considered in framing up the schedule and business judgment must rule. Despite our early opening, the Cubs have played to two enormous crowds already, each approximately 20,000. The other days we have had a fair attendance, sufficient to meet expenses and some to spare. That means we have made a good start. These bad days cut into what we might have made, but do not greatly affect what is already banked. The early