

CHANCES FOR PIEDMONT BERTH BRIGHTER

FANNING AND PANNING

Goldsboro sportsmen back of the attempt to secure professional baseball for this city are split on the amount. They like the company and are going to make a strong bid for the available berth.

Mr. Bramham is a keen-sighted level-headed baseball man. If he wasn't he would hardly be at the head of three leagues. And Mr. Bramham has hinted that Goldsboro has a good chance of breaking into the select class next season.

The club fixes Goldsboro will have for the coveted berth at Danville, Va., and Burlington. Sportsmen from the latter city are already working, because they realize that hustling little burg is yet a bit small to support class C baseball. The writer believes Danville will offer stiffer competition.

LOST CARROLL

SEVEN GOOD half-brothers and a nest sum of money due from the sale of players last season go with the Greensboro franchise. Three of these players are almost sure of negotiating into faster company next year.

What a pity Charlie Carroll, who played the Patriots last season, is not one of the chatters to go with the franchise. Carroll was given his unconditional release by the Patriots management some time ago when it became apparent that there was small likelihood of Greensboro retaining her franchise, so that he might land a job while the landing was good.

Carroll immediately took on with Winston, and will lead the Twins next season. He was recognized as one of the ablest players in the league last season, and his services were much in demand among the small minor leagues.

VIRGINIA LEAGUE UNSETTLED

THE VIRGINIA league is still in a chaotic condition, despite the fact that one new owner has already been admitted. When Kinston was granted the Petersburg franchise, the Old Dominion league seemed all set for another campaign, but since then Rocky Mount has come upon evil days and the North Carolina city may yet withdraw.

Changes are favorable, however, for Rocky Mount remaining in the league. The managers are holding a meeting tonight, and news dispatches radiate optimism.

JOSEPH FLANNER

JUST BEFORE the day of peace on earth and good will toward men, the spirit of A. J. Flanner passed on to the Great Beyond. The average base ball fan never heard of Joe Flanner yet he was one of the men who helped most to put the game on the high pedestal it enjoys today. And Joe Flanner was born and spent his youth in the Old North State.

Flanner was a quiet, unassuming fellow, yet his knowledge of baseball was unsurpassed by any man in the United States. He wrote baseball as he lived it, with his whole heart and soul. He wrote with a sweet pen that was dipped in the ink of accurate information before the writer began.

Born in the South, Flanner was of gentle high and high intelligence. He was editor of the Sports News from 1905 to 1908, when he resigned to accept a position as assistant secretary of the national commission.

THIS PROVER VILLAGE

WILSON, Va., 2 (AP)—Wilson is so far as is known, is believed to be the only town of its size in the country which failed to observe the advent of the New Year in the customary and usual manner. Not a single bell tolled and not a single whistle blew as 1924 was incorporated into 1925. No one was able to tell just exactly how this negligence occurred but everybody today was wishing the other fellow.

TO BUILD UNDERPASS

DURHAM, Jan. 2—Tram and level are set up on that section of Chapel Hill street which will be affected by the Chapel Hill street underpass ordered by the United States Supreme court to be constructed between the tracks of the Southern Seaboard and Norfolk and Western tracks here.

GOLDSBORO SPORTSMEN TO PRESENT BID FOR VACANT BERTH TO PREXY BRAMHAM

President William G. Bramham of the Piedmont League is inclined to look with favor on Goldsboro as a possible pinch hitter for Greensboro, who surrendered her franchise in the circuit last Wednesday night when last minute efforts to raise funds to keep the city in organized baseball were unavailing, it was learned here today.

Burlington and Danville, Va., now look as the chief contenders with Goldsboro for the coveted berth, but even Burlington sportsmen are inclined to the opinion that professional baseball is too big a mouthful for even that enterprising and progressive city to swallow. Burlington's chief argument for the post lies in the closer proximity to the other cities of the loop than either Danville or Goldsboro, but the smaller size of the city makes it extremely doubtful that the Greensboro franchise will be moved there. Danville has already capitulated already and her franchise has been transferred to Salisbury-Spencer by Mayman and Moore, new owners. However, the Virginia city has made a desperate rally to save the pastime for the city and may yet produce the necessary support to claim the berth vacated by Greensboro.

There are some, including Greensboro sport writers, who incline to the opinion that angels will yet step in and save baseball for Danville and that in the event the money is raised that city will get the call over all other applicants when the franchise is disposed of.

It is understood that President Bramham looks with favor on Goldsboro's application for entrance into the Piedmont league and chances are for this city's debut into the Bramham baby loop gleams brighter than a newly minted dollar.

The Piedmont president has invited a conference of prominent Goldsboro business men to discuss the situation with him in Durham Monday and the following delegates have been appointed to formally present the local application for membership in the Piedmont League of Professional Baseball Clubs: Walter Denmark, A. T. Griffin, Solly Isaacs, C. Green, J. C. Vassilatos and W. L. Rawlings.

Some of these delegates, it is thought, may not find time to attend the conference, but most of them will make the trip to Durham to lay Goldsboro's claim before the Piedmont praxy.

Nucleus For Good Club

With the Greensboro franchise gone seven good ball players carried over from last year's club, besides a nest sum resulting from the sale of several players from the club last season. In addition, the club that takes over the franchise will find itself richer by two automobiles of ancient models, the craft used by the Patriots in traveling from city to city. The Piedmont is and always has been, an "automobile league", that is to say instead of traveling by rail, the visiting clubs made the jump in autos owned by the club.

SEVEN STARS WILL GO WITH VACANT BERTH

Two Pitchers, Two Catchers, Two Infielders and Outfielder Travel

(By CHARLIE BROWN)

GREENSBORO, Jan. 2.—The seven players who will accompany the Greensboro franchise when it is placed in some other city by President William G. Bramham, are considered among the most valuable in the league. Two of them are pitchers, Sam Crews and Lefty Sherrill, right hander and left hander, respectively, who have several years of good work left in their sturdy arms. Crews is a speed ball artist, while Sherrill, a youngster, with one year in pro company is considered a splendid prospect, though not large in size.

Toots Brandon, secured from Birmingham in the trade which sent Mickey O'Quinn to the Barons is one of the best catchers in the Piedmont league. He is a heavy catcher and a dangerous man at the bat. Railroad Ray, local boy, is also one of the best in the league. He can play behind the bat or in the outfield. His specialty is pinch hitting.

Faber O'Hara, one of the fastest outfielders on the circuit, is the gardner of the seven. He didn't

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KILLED 4 CHILDREN

ELIZABETH CITY, Jan. 2.—Christmas sport was turned into stark tragedy when Arthur Martin aged seventeen, shooting a new shotgun in an empty field, brought down a wire line charged with 22,000 volts of electricity which brought instant death to himself, a brother and a sister and injured another brother at Rockingham.

Those killed were Arthur Martin, 17; Ethel Martin, 14; and Willie Martin, aged 9. A still younger brother, aged eight, was seriously but not fatally burned. All of the victims are children of Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Martin of Hamlet where the father is employed in Seaboard Air-line shops.

The Martin children, together with ten or twelve neighbor children, were playing in a corn field near the cotton mill and the oldest boy was firing a shotgun, said to have been given him as a Christmas present.

Whether by accident or design a shot from the gun broke the glass insulator on a pole of a high power line of the Yadkin River Power Company. The pole was at an angle in the transmission line, with each of the adjoining poles coming in towards the spot where the children stood. The live wire was thrown to the midst of the children, but all except the four members of the Martin family fled to safety.

The victims were badly mangled and the family completely devastated.

SCHOOL DAYS By DWIG



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