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TIMELY COMMENTS

MANY IMPORTANT MATTERS WERE CONSIDERED AT ANNUAL MEETING OF O.B.A.A. SATURDAY

Secretary Mark B. Dulmage Resigns After Long and Faithful Service—No Successor Is Selected as Yet—Some Amendments to By-laws.

(By Staff Reporter.) It was a very large and representative gathering that appeared at the Hotel Carlisle in Toronto on Saturday for the sixth annual meeting of the Ontario Baseball Amateur Association.

There were many outstanding features of the meeting but one that will be heard with general regret was the resignation of Mark B. Dulmage, formerly of Guelph and now of Owen Sound, from the position of secretary, which position he has held with honor to himself and benefit to the association for some time.

Mr. Dulmage has moved to Owen Sound and has taken up a new position there with greater responsibilities and he felt that he owed it to the governing amateur baseball body as well as to himself and his family to relinquish his post in favor of some officer who could give the duties more time and attention. A successor has not yet been named but there is a possibility that a permanently paid secretary may be employed, so great has become the scope of the organization and the burden of work to be carried by that officer.

President D. P. McFarlane, who by the way, is just starting another term in office by acclamation, was in the chair and surrounding him were all the officers of the association, prominent among whom might be found Past President Kennedy, Past President Robbins, Vice-President Solomon, Vice-president Snyder, Treasurer Walsh, Secretary Dulmage, Governor W. J. Smith of the A.A.U. of C. and many other gentlemen prominent and active in the sporting world.

Morning Session. The morning session was mostly occupied with the business of getting acquainted and of receiving routine reports. Copies of the short report of the secretary and of the full report of the treasurer were submitted to delegates and the more lengthy detailed report of the secretary re-

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ceived with great applause, when he read it to the meeting. The president opened with a short address in which he outlined the work of the association and thanked the members of it for electing him to the chair for another term by acclamation. He spoke with pride of the work of his officers and those who have rendered him such able assistance during the past year in furthering the aims of the body and concluding assured those present that he would do his best to turn in as good a record during the coming baseball season.

A. J. Walsh, the treasurer, gave a very complete report, showing receipts during the year of \$7,806.11, disbursements of \$4,214.38 and a surplus of \$3,591.73, the best year the association has had since its inception. The receipts from the western Ontario were the largest of any and two or three games in Toronto and the west made up the bulk of the year's earnings. The work of getting things under way and submitting the reports of the officers occupied the time of the morning session completely and the more important matters of amendments and changes were left until the afternoon, when a larger number of delegates would be on hand, thus giving all an opportunity of using their votes.

At about twelve o'clock the meeting was adjourned for lunch with the request made that representatives be back sharp at one-thirty to start the afternoon's work. At the afternoon session the discussions were frequent and at times tiresome. The president, while his attention was distracted by other matters, was prone to let delegates ramble on digressions from the topic under discussion, with the result that he was forced to put his foot down heavily later on and later topics for discussion did not receive the attention they merited.

No Filing of Certificates. The proposed amendment to the constitution reading: "That all playing certificates be passed upon by the O. B. A. A. executive or by their appointees before being passed by the various leagues." The T. A. B. A., the H. A. B. A. and other associations and leagues, among them the Central Ontario League, lined up their delegates and with many of them speaking four and five times on the matter despite the principles of well conducted annual meetings, so confused and bewildered the unversed delegates who had no previous warning, that the amendment was lost by a very close vote, two short of the necessary two-thirds to pass it. It means that the association must take the word of league secretaries and association secretaries concerning the status of players and that the supposedly controlling body of amateur baseball in the province has no direct means of keeping tabs on things. A further clause, providing that amateur cards must also be sent into the association secretary with certificates, could not be acted upon because of the loss of the first.

Other Amendments. The first motion that 10 cents a mile will be paid teams when a third game is necessary to decide a winner and played on neutral grounds was set aside, and on an amendment, which was carried, it was raised to 15 cents per mile. When a game is postponed on account of rain, and the team remains in town or city over night they will be paid actual hotel expenses by the home team.

After a lengthy discussion, the amendment that playing certificates be passed by the association was thrown out. The association now has control of baseball over every series from hamlet to seniors. The former was added at this meeting, and the age limit is to be under 15 years May 1st. In midge series the senior ball will be used.

Professional coaches will be permitted. Where players' class is governed by an age limit and there is no team of his class where he resides, he is permitted to play with the nearest team in his class. In intermediate series the visiting teams are allowed 10 cents a mile for legitimate traveling expenses. All leagues and associations must forward to the secretary, by August 10th, the grounds, dates and general expenses regarding grounds where their championship teams will play. The motion that a professional under condition of the amateur definition shall not be eligible for reinstatement and the executive have no power to entertain same, and only reinstatements for players expelled be considered at the annual meeting was defeated.

Any team guilty of playing a man over age in a limit class; the player will be dealt with by the executive. All players and teams playing in exhibition games must secure consent of their executive or association and violation of this clause will render club or liable to suspension. "Any club or player who shall play under an assumed name, or who shall play on Sunday, shall be sus-

ended from the Association. The Executive shall have no power to reinstate such club or player, and the club for which he has played be suspended."

That the Executive was empowered to revoke certificates, but the player must be given notice of same. In case of change of residence the Executive is given permission to grant certificates and to deal with special cases.

General Business. W. H. Farrell outlined conditions in the Nickle Belt League and suggested that the association send a man to organize baseball there. A. C. Givens, representing Kingston City, asked that similar efforts be made for this district and for the eastern section generally. James B. Garvin represented the Frontenac County League and requested support for the impending union of the Lennox and Addington and Frontenac leagues and recommended more encouragement.

A pleasing feature of the afternoon meeting was a presentation of a diamond stick pin to Past President "Pat" Kennedy by the association. John de Gruchy addressed the meeting and strongly advocated broader treatment of players in regard to amateur standing. Other prominent men in athletic matters also addressed the delegates. The visiting representatives were guests of the association at luncheon in the Carlisle between the morning and afternoon sessions.

The following members were elected to the executive committee: C. R. Penfold, Guelph; George S. Martin, London; Hugh Maguire, St. Catharines; W. H. Farrell, Sudbury. A resolution of congratulation was passed and will be forwarded to the Canadian Olympic team, the Soo Greyhounds, the Owen Sound Greys.

Outfielders and Infielders. Cobb, Crawford and Veach could outfit any outfield we ever saw, but for all-around worth Speaker, Lewis and Hooper were unbeatable. No infield to-day is up to the Chance-Evers-Tinker-Steinfeld combination, or that of McInnis, Collins, Barry and Baker, the latter outranking any we have ever seen. But who can say it outranked Tenny, Lowe, Long and Collins, of Boston, in the late '90's?

If young Travis Jackson comes up to early promise, the Giants will have baseball's best infield in 1924 in Kelly, Frisch, Jackson and Groh. The Yanks have baseball's best pitching staff for the year in Hoyt, Pennington, Jones, Bush and Sharkey—a pitching staff that would take either Detroit or Cleveland over the pennant jump without tearing a ligament. The right and left arms are still important details in our national pastime.

Firpo's Earnings. At the time a brief review of Firpo's earnings and the length of time it took him to fight for the championship of the world is interesting. Firpo arrived in America on his first visit in January, 1922, and remained six months. During that time his earnings was as follows: Sailor Maxted ..... \$ 125 Joe McCann ..... 1,000 Italian Jack Herman ..... 1,500 Total ..... \$ 2,625 Firpo returned to the United States in February, 1923. He stayed six months and earned as follows: Brennan ..... \$ 15,000 McAuliffe ..... 15,000 Willard ..... 79,000 Dempsey ..... 100,000 Tour ..... 30,000 Havana and Mexico ..... 12,000 Exhibitions ..... 15,000 Moving pictures ..... 75,000 Total ..... \$ 336,000 Add to this amount \$58,000 for his fight with Tracy in South America, and \$2,525 earned during his first visit, and you have the neat total of nearly \$400,000. Besides this amount Firpo refused twenty-six weeks' engagement at Keith's, paying him \$6,000 per week. All this was accomplished in a little less than a year.

Cambridge having won the big boat race this year, the English followers of rowing will now have material for fireside discussion for another twelve months. It is rather interesting to note that, on this side of the water, many would have selected Oxford as the winner.

If baseball is to be properly advanced in this neck of the woods, and if the O.B.A.A. has any regard for the welfare of the game in EVERY part of Ontario, then it is high time that more attention was paid to this district. One would hardly know that the game was played east of Toronto, under present conditions.

An Eastern Ontario Baseball Association affiliated with the O.B.A.A. is one solution which might bring about better things. The small league has no show at all at an annual meeting where large associations gather their representatives solidly and vote as one man. The only way to combat such things is by similar preparedness in the east.

"This Brown has got Tris Speaker treed!" "Kid Smith's another Cobb!" "With Jones in form the club will need No fielders on the job." We eat it up with joyous gulp And cry aloud for more, And all the time we know full well, It's bunk and nothing more. —Forl C. Frick in N.Y. American.

They say Jackie Solomon is not on the job as helmsman of the Peterboro C.O.B.L. club this year—they say Oshawa has the series won hands down—they say Belleville is knocked cold without Pitcher Williams—they say Kingston's young players will not make good—but just wait till the season gets started and see how many of those things fall to come true.

Luis Firpo made about \$400,000 in one year at the boxing game. He did it with a good right hand, a hard head and luck in dodging knock-outs until he ran into Dempsey. Then he almost outboxed Dempsey. His luck must have turned badly—there is no other apparent reason for his reported retirement.

Derby point to the number of times the pacemaker has won, or been defeated by a slight margin. Zey led the entire route last year. Morvich did likewise the year before, while in 1921 Behave Yourself nosed out his stablemate, Black Servant, after the latter had led all the way. Exterminator, Paul Jones, Sir Barton and Old Rosebud, holder of the record for the race, all set the pace or

FROM THE OUTSIDE—LOOKING IN.

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COLTS AND FILLIES IN CAREFUL TRAINING

Many Starters Being Prepared for the Famous Kentucky Derby. Louisville, Ky., April 6.—Not more than 20 or 25 of the 152 three-year-olds nominated for the fifteenth renewal of the Kentucky Derby at a mile and a quarter, for a purse carrying \$50,000 in added money, will go to the post in May, in the opinion of turf experts here.

Most of the colts, fillies and geldings nominated for the golden anniversary of the classic, already have started training or are being seasoned at winter tracks. Many of the candidates of strictly Derby class have had careful preliminary training and are either ready now, or will be shortly, to do a half mile at about .50 without danger. Profiting by the experience of last year, however, when many of the colts had gone a bit stale, trainers are not rushing the youngsters.

Last year the record number of 21 runners faced the barrier. The field usually is somewhat smaller, due to the \$500 starting fee and the class of animals entered. A field of even 25 starters would not be too large. The track is at least 120 feet wide at the starting point and the field has a quarter of a mile to run before making the first turn, which also is very wide. In this connection followers of the

Former Mint Leaguer, who is playing his second season with the Toronto club, and his third in organized ball. Miller is a promising youngster with a good arm and a fair wallop. He is a hard left field hitter, and if he is playing regularly this season is sure to improve on his .339 average of last year.

Tom Gibbons waited entirely too long after the Shelby carnival to swing at another chin, banking too heavily upon a return party with Dempsey. Now he has started to build up by knocking a brace of heavyweights loose from their moorings. Dempsey drew around \$500,000 for the Firpo fight. If he collected that much from a Gibbons engagement there would be only a little loose change left for Tom and the promoter.

Hence the idea is to have Gibbons stop some one like Renault or Willis before any noisy hullabaloo can be opened that will bring out important money. Gibbons, by fighting again, may soon be able to start fresh chatter along Dempsey lines. In fact, Dempsey may need him badly before 1924 is gone.

President Coolidge offered the arbitration-generalship of the United States to Nathan L. Miller, who declined because "he had spent so much of his life on the bench and in the governor's office at Albany he thought it was about time he was earning enough money to buy frocks for a family of seven daughters."

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Intercollegiate Athletic Union was held at Queen's University on Saturday with President E. L. Bruce, of Queen's, in the chair. The business was mostly routine work and was handled expeditiously. Applications were accepted or regularized from the following: University of Montreal—For membership in the intermediate and junior divisions of the football union. Loyola College, Montreal—For membership in the junior section of the football union. Osgoode Hall, Toronto—For membership in the intermediate division of the basketball union.

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