

TWO INNINGS IN A SEA OF MUD

Van Wert Fandom and I-O
Teams Defied Weather
Man Thursday.

MUNCIE GAME IN DOUBT.

ATHLETIC PARK IS A SEA OF
MUD AND GAME MAY NOT BE
POSSIBLE—MASON FINED BY
NATIONAL COMMISSION.

(By Tort)

Van Wert fandom, after having two opening games postponed, arose in its might yesterday and defied the extremely damp weather merchant. The honk, honk wagons were assembled, and in drizzle the Richmond and Van Wert teams were escorted to the park, where a big crowd of half drowned, but eager fanatics, roared with delight when the mayor strode through the sea of mud, made a neat little opening address and then pitched the ball across the plate.

After two rounds of desperate fighting against the weather merchant and J. Bluhus, the two teams gave up the contest, which resulted in a draw, 5 to 5. Brown started in to twirl for Richmond. He found it impossible to control the mud-caked ball and before the close of the round five Buckeyes had scampered over the plate. In the second round Richmond began to get busy and tied up the score. It was then decided to call the farcical game.

Richmond is billed to open the local season today with Muncie as the attraction, but it is extremely doubtful if the game will be called owing to the fact that Athletic park is a sea of mud. It will take lots of hot sunshine to make the diamond at Athletic park fit to play on.

It was learned today that Neil Mason, one of the local twirlers, has been fined \$200 by the National Commission for failure to report to the Kewanee, Ill., club of the Central Association. Mason accepted terms with that club this year, but when he received an offer from the Richmond club he decided that he would report here. The Indiana-Ohio league is still an "outlaw" organization, notwithstanding the fact that the league constitution provides that the league shall be under national protection and a class D organization. As long as the league remains "outlaw" Mason can remain with the locals, but should the league go under protection it will be necessary for him to report to the Kewanee club. Van Wert is harboring one outlaw player, Manager Louis Hunt, who is the property of the Sharon, O. P. league club, and Huntington is harboring one outlaw player, Pitcher Prough, who is the property of one of the clubs in the Iowa State league. Even though several valuable players would be lost by the league becoming affiliated with organized baseball, this step should be taken, and without further loss of time.

WHO WILL WIN?

NATIONAL LEAGUE.			
Won	Lost	Pct.	
Chicago	11	4	.733
Pittsburg	9	4	.692
New York	10	7	.588
Boston	8	10	.556
Philadelphia	8	9	.471
Cincinnati	5	7	.417
Brooklyn	7	11	.389
St. Louis	3	13	.187

AMERICAN LEAGUE.			
Won	Lost	Pct.	
Philadelphia	12	7	.632
Cleveland	9	6	.600
New York	10	7	.588
St. Louis	10	8	.556
Chicago	8	8	.500
Boston	8	11	.421
Washington	6	11	.353
Detroit	5	10	.333

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.			
Won	Lost	Pct.	
Indianapolis	14	5	.736
Columbus	12	7	.600
Milwaukee	12	7	.632
Toledo	10	6	.625
Louisville	13	8	.619
Kansas City	7	11	.389
St. Paul	5	15	.250
Minneapolis	3	16	.150

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS.

National League. No games. Rain.

American League. No games. Rain.

American Association. Indianapolis 2, Minneapolis 1.

Kansas City 1, Columbus 0.

Milwaukee-Toledo—Rain.

A baby girl has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Vance who reside in the Doddridge settlement, seven miles southeast of Centerville.

What Was Left.

"Mostly of Chicago" is the way a man described his residence. His characterization seems reasonable. When he was six years old, he cut off one of his toes with a scythe. When he was eight, he shot off two joints of one of his fingers. He ran away from home when he was fourteen, and the frost of a winter night took off three more toes and the tip of his nose. At twenty-five he lost his entire right foot. A drunken half breed bit off an ear in the Klondike, a Dakota corn sheller took his left forearm, and since then he has lost three fingers, a joint from another finger, and one eye. Thomas's Companion.

His Victory.

A physical culture tutor said at the end of a recent women's boxing and fencing exhibition:

"Physical culture among women, women's growing strength and pluck, lend interest to marriage, change marriage's complexion."

"How is poor Smithers gettin' on?"

"Well," said the other, "Smithers is now almost recovered from the beatin' he gave his wife last Saturday night."

—Los Angeles Times.

Affairs of the Sporting World

(By Tort)

If the general dampness is not soon dispelled there will be heard all over the land resounding crashes of minor leagues going to the wall.

Every game in the National and American leagues was postponed yesterday on account of rain. This shows that the present contemptible weather is general throughout the country.

In the event that the weather does not clear up by tomorrow morning, the formal season opening of the Richmond Country club will be postponed. Now that Hans Lobert gives promise of developing into one of the greatest stars in the game, the Cincinnati management is figuring on trading him to the St. Louis Nationals.

President Herman, of the Cincinnati

CONTINUED RAIN IS DOING DAMAGE

Every Day This Month the Weather Man Has Been Very Unkind.

ALL WORK IS DELAYED.

NOT ONLY ARE THE FARMERS COMPLAINING BUT OTHERS IN BUILDING TRADES HAVE KICK TO REGISTER.

"Rain, rain, go away, come again another day." That means tomorrow, and the use of setting the date any further in the future? It has rained every day this month. The total precipitation as recorded at the government station at the pump house of the water works company is 3.19 inches for seven days. The reading is made at night, so the rainfall of today has not been measured. The conditions in the city and country are practically the same. There is nothing but mud on the country roads and city streets. The only difference is in the thickness. The country has the lead in this respect because the roads are not provided with drainage.

Construction work in the city has been delayed. Spring plowing and planting in the country have been prevented and farmers have begun their season of complaint. It is probable that contractors for public improvement will have to ask for extensions of time. The rain has interfered with their work to such an extent they have been unable to carry it on as rapidly as expected when the contract was made.

Various reports are made of the damage that will accrue from the ill will of the weather man. Telegraph reports from all sections of the United States indicate the rains are general. Great damage has been done in some vineyards and the flood stage is expected.

Conditions in Wayne county are serious in several localities. In the neighborhood of Economy many acres are under water and there is no prospect it will drain away in time to permit plowing and planting early enough to save the corn crop of the year.

Some farmers have been so pessimistic as to bid good-bye to the corn crop and have asserted they will not attempt to raise corn.

The constant rain has had effect on the wheat crop and the blades are assuming a yellowish appearance. Wheat was damaged badly in some sections by the last storms. Oats is not regarded as a very reliable crop and present indications are far from encouraging.

Losses.

Propos of beads, etymologists tell us the word comes from the rosaries which from time immemorial have been used to keep count of prayers, for "biddan" is to pray in the old Anglo-Saxon tongue, and "beadsman" is one employed to pray for others. "Beadsman," to proclaim, is a kindred word and has its outcome in the "bidding prayer" of our universities, when plough founders are remembered to the edification of graceless undergraduates and in the "bidding" of an auction room, when one proclaims what price one is willing to pay. The tiny balls of wood or pearl or seeds or gems strung together for the purpose of counting prayers are used by Hindoo worshippers of Buddha, by Greeks, by Persians, by Roman Catholics. And from those prayer chaplets the word has passed to mean any pierced round ornament—Modern Society.

Driving Men From the Table.

Baptist Portia gives six processes for driving hearty eaters from the tables of great men. The most effective was to give them an hour before eating a glass of wine medicated with belladonna, so that attempts to masticate would occasion spasms of the jaw. The most disgusting was to set before the gluttons winds sprinkled with dried horses' blood and pieces of catgut. He says, "If you cut hard strings small and sprinkle them on hot flesh, the heat will twist them and they will move like worms."

Just Like Rich Folks.

"Marshall Field, Jay Gould and Peter Palmer habitually carried only small amounts in their pockets," said the man who has a taste for the odd.

"Well," responded his friend, "when I am gone you can truthfully say the same about me."—Washington Herald.

The Lesser Evil.

"Of course," the tragedian was saying, "in the theatrical business a short run is bad!"

"But," interrupted the critic, "a good long walk is worse, isn't it?"—Exchange.

One Exception.

"You know," began Lovett, "it is said that 'love leaves all things.'"

"Yes," remarked the crusty bachelor, "it may leave all things except the lover's head."—Philadelphia Press.

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now almost recovered from the beatin' he gave his wife last Saturday night."

—Los Angeles Times.

CHARGES AGAINST FACTORY OWNERS

Claimed That They Do Not
Want Sale of Light Plant
Because of Low Rates.

EXAMINATION IS FAVORED.

THOUGHT THAT THE INNER
WORKINGS OF THE PLANT
SHOULD BE PLACED BEFORE
THE PUBLIC.

A local business man in replying to a communication signed by "W. W. S." and which appeared in the Palladium last Tuesday, states that those who are kicking so hard against the proposed sale of the municipal lighting plant to the Richmond Light, Heat & Power company, are factory owners who secure a greatly reduced rate from the city for light and power for their factories and for their homes. The citizen referred to, further states that so long as this condition of affairs exists the factory owners do not care a snap of their fingers whether the municipal plant is being operated at a loss and that it is the cause of keeping the tax rate at a high figure. The reply to the "W. W. S." article is as follows: Editor of Palladium:

Replies to the communication signed by W. W. S., printed in your paper Tuesday evening, May 5, would say that W. W. S. pictures a very deplorable state of affairs for the city if they should sell their light plant to the Light, Heat & Power company, or any other corporation.

Does W. W. S., or any other citizen, really believe that a franchise, wherein the maximum rate was established, could ever be broken or got around? Can he name one single instance where the maximum rate, established by a franchise, was ever raised? There is no case on record of a corporation ever succeeding in raising the rates established by its franchise.

The communication of W. W. S. casts a reflection on the legal talent of our city. We certainly have a number of lawyers in our city, any one of whom could prepare a franchise that would be impossible to break, especially on the rate question.

W. W. S. is his communication is giving his views from the standpoint of a factory owner, which between the lines reads as follows:

Fellow Citizens and Taxpayers—You pay the regular rate to the city for light and bear the expense of maintaining the city light plant so that we factory owners, the favored few, can get our light and power for our factories and our homes, at a greatly reduced rate. We know that the expense of operating the city plant has been, and will be, the cause of raising the tax rate, but our saving in operating expense, on account of very low rate at which we secure current for light and power purposes at our factories, will more than offset the extra amount, if any, that we would have to pay, due to the increase in the tax rate.

Do not permit an investigation of the books in the office of the city light plant, for that would show the public just how we were favored at their expense, and we would be compelled to pay our proportionate rate for light and power.

W. W. S. plainly states in his communication that the interests with which he is connected has been maintaining its own separate power and light plant," but he does not say that "we use current from the city plant for light and power," which is well known.

Inasmuch as an official of the Light and Power company, Mr. E. E. Witherby, has stated in public that "the city electric plant was losing money, and he could prove it," let us give him every opportunity to do so, let us cooperate with him, and find out if there is any truth in his statement.

If an examination of all the books of the City Light Plant, by recognized expert accountants, should show that the city was losing money, I for one would vote to sell the light plant.

Turn on the light, have an investigation and find out where we stand. Yours very truly,

A CITIZEN

BAD TRACTION WRECK

Two Men Are Near Death's
Door and Many Are
Injured.

ON UNION TRACTION LINE.

Logansport, Ind., May 8.—Two are dying and six others are in St. Joseph's Hospital, injured as a result of a collision at Hilltop, on the Indianapolis division of the Indiana Union Traction line, between a limited car, running 50 miles an hour, and a work car.

The dying are J. E. Wirt, motorman on the work train, both legs broken and skull crushed; John Quinlan, lineman, both legs broken, spine hurt.

The seriously injured are H. C. Biles, passenger motorman, skull fractured; J. E. Griffiths, conductor, back injured; Charles Apple, lineman, serious injuries to head.

Among the passengers injured was G. B. Backus, Cincinnati newspaper man. The employees who were hurt

live in Indianapolis.