

UNION GIANTS TO PLAY HERE; TEAM IS NOW COMPLETE

Manager Smith After Players
With High Class Teams Only
—No More Youngsters Will
Be Taken On.

The Benders have added another contest, this time a stiff one, to their list of exhibition games, the Union Giants of Chicago, a colored team, being booked for April 26, a Sunday.

The Chicago team is now in its 36th season. It has held the name of being the best colored team in the country for many years and has the reputation of being a tough team to beat. Smith signed the contract for the game as late in the spring as possible as he wanted to have his men in condition for the game.

All of the contracts which Smith sent to prospective Benders have been

returned signed and there will be no more additions to the team for the present, unless one or two first-class men are offered for sale cheap by some club above. The nine as it stands now is about what Smith wants in the way of recruits and until he has had a chance to weed them out and to determine which of the bunch will do he does not expect to go after much new material.

Men to Arrive Soon.

The first of the out-of-town Bender recruits will begin to drift into South Bend soon. Joe Mee has written that he is ready to come at any time and other members of the team are expected to drift in a day or two before the time set for the opening of the training season, April 17. About Sunday Smith looks for the vanguard to show up and Monday they will be cropping off every train. Tuesday it is expected the entire squad will be on hand and if the weather is propitious the preliminary details will be settled in time for a workout by the entire gang of hired men during the afternoon.

It was dry enough Thursday for a workout, but the weather was far too cold for anything of this kind. Smith is not taking any chances of a charley horse for himself or his recruits and he will rather lose the benefits which would come from an early start than risk the loss of a promising player through work in cold weather. If the sun comes out and the air warms up before Tuesday he will get a part of the recruits out at once, but if not he will let them all start together.

Hartsel Makes Headway.

Topsy Hartsel has practically made up his Toledo team and with the ex-

ception of the pitchers, knows pretty nearly who's who at Syayne Field.

With Cosma of Jackson on first; "Chuck" Nihols, at second; Ralph Jolly Bucyrus, third; Mike Breyette, last year with Virginia, of the Northern league, where he led the short-stops and hit .285, the infield is not worrying him.

In the outfield Hartsel has one position to fill. He will take care of one garden and Cahill another. The third will be occupied by some youngster.

In addition to Breymaier, who will coach the pitchers, Hartsel has two class B men he is sure of behind the bat, and one youngster now in the American league, upon whom he is relying, as first string man.

In the box department, Walter Clarkson, ex-Yankee and Nap, who last year pitched in the Lake Shore league, is the most experienced. Topsy will have first pick of three men from Jackson in addition to a host of youngsters just breaking into the game. Local players will report this week and out-of-towners April 7.

The clubhouse of the Benders at Springbrook park after a day's work by Bill Silver is almost ready for occupancy by Pilot Smith's bunch of athletes. He spent the whole day at work upon the buildings and grandstand and has them about ready for the painters.

Smith signed a new recruit in a peculiar way Wednesday afternoon. He

walked into one of the local billiard halls and was accosted by a young man who said he had come to report. "But I don't know you," said Smith. "That's easily remedied," answered the young fellow. "My name is Wilcox." "You don't belong to my club," said Smith. "No, but I will if you have an old uniform handy. I'll be out when you start training," replied the young man. "Well," said Smith, "if you have that much nerve, you ought to swing a bat the quickest way. I'll be looking for you the first day out." And the young fellow walked away whistling.

On the eve of opening training, Harry Arndt, who has been materially assisting Smith in the picking of a lineup, said that he felt like a colt. "Feathers is not going to train this season like he did last," said Pilot Smith last night. "He was overworked as well as overtrained then and this year the old boy is to have all the time in the world to get in form. His legs were put on the hummer last season by overwork and early training, and as I want him to hold down first

base if possible for the Benders, I will let him train rather slowly."

Feathers said last night he never felt better. Pilot Smith said he expected him to bat at least .350 this season.

South Bend News-Times, South Bend, IN

Thursday, April 2, 1914, Page 8, Columns 1 and 2