

TEAMS ARE WELL FRAMED

Many Players Signed by Clubs Will Be Strangers to Fans
on Western Circuit

By Dave Wyatt

Sunday, May 2, is the opening date of the new circuit; and if the organization gets off to a good start, under fair skies, with good crowds in evidence, and if there is anything in beginning right the season should be all the most optimistic have predicted, so far as material success goes. As to the other end of it—how the teams will run on the diamond—the seventh sons of the seventh sons have been on the job all spring doping out the winner, and it is generally conceded that Chicago, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis, Dayton, the Cubans and Chicago Giants will win the gonfalon—it all depends where the home of the prophet is that you touch for the inside dope.

Each of the clubs in the new circuit

has some particular department in which it looks strong and yet no club stands out with a head and shoulders advantage over the other clubs that would threaten a runaway race. Kansas City is the only club in which the dopestster cannot put his hand right on one department and point out exceptional strength. But Kansas City is working under a strange manager, whose methods are not generally known, and he has assembled a few players from the far West whose work is not familiar on the circuit, also a few Cubans, so it is hardly logical to attempt any judgment on the K. C. club at this time.

Some Strong Features

Foster is strong on pitchers and infielders, and his outfield looks good. Detroit is strong in its infield combination. The Cubans are strong on pitchers and on hitting strength, but if they lose Baro and Portuanda the Islanders have no longer what looked like the best club in the circuit. St. Louis should work into one of the best hitting clubs in the circuit, and the

pitching staff looks strong. The A. B. C.s are out in front in its superiority in outfield material and the infield will rank close behind the American Giants.

Through the conditions that prevailed at the time of the formation of the circuit nobody outside of Chicago is willing to give the Giants a tumble, but a little thing like that never worries the big chief. That bird was wise in his day and generation and never does any kicking before or during the season. If the team fails to cop he has no alibis to concoct, and if the boys romp home he can sit back with a wise look. Foster has a whole raft of Roks in his camp and he retains quite a number of aspiring youngsters for further inspection.

Bobby Williams, Wrigging and Singer are battling for a place in the infield; two of them are sprinters and the latter has a 10 second record in the 100 yards. Williams has been with the team for a couple of seasons and the other two are grand prospects, but it appears that Captain DeMoss will have to select from the trio, about two, for young Ewing, the catcher, is loom-

ing up mighty strong, both as a receiver and hitter; he is also a grand thrower and ambitious. If Jim Brown flashes enough form to warrant his being placed in the outfield or on the infield, with the most likely looking youngster's retention, the Giants will be amply safeguarded against injury to regulars and at the same time will be able to put a real team on the field at all stages.

While the season is extremely young, some idea can be obtained of the number of finds. Detroiters are raving over Boyd, Hill and Iggerston, youngsters who seem to be able to do everything. Chicago bugs opine that Jack Marshall is one of the best right-handers who ever made his temporary home at Schorling park—and there have been a great group of north-paws there. Indianapolis enthusiasts declare that Houston is the best second baseman they have had since the days of DeMoss. St. Louis fans cannot help but feel proud of their kid left-hander, Luther. Considering everything, the crop of 1920 youngsters is one of the best we have had in a long time.

Chicago Defender, Chicago, IL

Saturday, April 24, 1920, Page 9, Columns 6 and 7