

NEW ENGLAND NEWS

DOVEY'S DOINGS.

FACTS ABOUT THE NEW BOSTON CLUB OWNER.

Fred Tenney Will Have a Small Interest and Roy Thomas Not Any—The New Magnate an Ardent Base Ball Lover Since His Boyhood.

BY FRANCIS C. RICHTER.

During the world championship series in Chicago President Dreyfuss informed the writer that the new owner of the Boston National Club is Mr. George B. Dovey, a street railway man, now located in St. Louis, but hailing from Central City, Ky. Fred Tenney will have a small interest in the club and remain as team manager. Neither Roy Thomas or any of his friends will have any stock in the club. Mr. Dovey has been a base ball player and patron from boyhood. In his youth his family owned coal property in Kentucky, to which Mr. Dovey and his brother were compelled to pay attention. Between times the two played on Barney Dreyfuss' Paducah team, George playing short field under the name of Colby while his brother played second base under the name of Dayton. The latter afterward played for a short time in Robinson's place on the famous St. Louis Browns.



Fred Tenney

HIS BUSINESS CAREER.
Ultimately the Dovey coal mine became inundated by a hidden river springing from the Mammoth Cave. This inundation proving unconquerable the Dovey boys turned their attention to other lines, and George B. became a railway man. He became associated with the Johnsons in Cleveland, and was with the Brooklyn Road under Al Johnson for eleven years. For the past ten years he has been located in St. Louis and Detroit as one of the right-hand men of George Kobush, the millionaire street railway magnate, of Detroit. Mr. Dovey's first connection in St. Louis was with the St. Louis Transit Company, and later with the St. Louis Car Company. This connection Mr. Dovey has resigned, or will resign shortly, to remove to Boston and give his entire attention to the Boston Club, of which he will be president and treasurer, assuming active charge on December 1. His brother, John S. Dovey, will be secretary, and Tenney will be captain and manager of the team.

HIS PERSONAL QUALITIES.
Mr. George B. Dovey, the new magnate, is 45 years old, albeit a shrewd business man, is thoroughly familiar with base ball and an ardent lover of the game. Personally, he is most affable and companionable, a good talker and "mixer" and a man who makes friends readily and, having made them, holds them; in short, he is just such a man as is needed to regain a National League following in Boston.

BOSTON BRIEFS.

The New Boston National Club Owner Extolled by Manager Tenney—The Retiring Magnates Well Fixed—American Club News, Etc.

BY J. C. MORSE.

Boston, Oct. 15.—So the new owners of the National League club—the Messrs. Dovey, of Central City, Ky.—are announced. They will control at least 60 per cent. of the stock and perhaps more. The final papers will pass December 1, when the new owners will be here. Fred Tenney has a block of the stock, and will manage and captain the club as before. The new owner is a warm friend of Barney Dreyfuss and Harry Pulliam, and it was through Barney that Fred Tenney was introduced to Mr. George Dovey. The Boston manager was very much taken with Mr. Dovey, and the latter at once conceived a warm liking for Tenney, so that there was very little difficulty on the part of the Bostonian to lend a favorable ear to the project. Doubtless it was largely on the advice of Mr. Dreyfuss, too, that Mr. Dovey was induced to get into base ball. Secretary "Bill" Locke long ago mentioned Mr. Dovey as an ideal man for the place. "He is one of the finest men I ever met," said Tenney upon his return to Boston, "and I feel confident that my feeling will be shared by all with whom he comes into contact. There is no question at all that Mr. Dovey will make a success of the Boston Club. He has all the ingredients that go to constitute popularity, and he has already entered into my plans to strengthen the club. Depend upon it, Boston will not be a trailer next season. The team will be a strong one or I miss my mark, and I look for the



J. C. Morse

best season there has been here for years. The club will be a well-balanced one. It needs little now to compare very favorably with any in the pitching department. Work would begin this fall on the ground, but owing to the fact that it has been let for foot ball purposes nothing can be done at present."

Wholesale Renovation Necessary.

Without any doubt the new owners will find plenty to do in the way of renovation to keep themselves busy. It is an open secret that the equipment of the Boston National League grounds is about the worst in the circuit. The visiting players have been loud in their complaints of the playing field, and maintained it was the toughest proposition they came across. When the club came home from its last trip the field was hard as a rock. No rain had fallen for a long time, and Tenney and his men were simply disgusted, but had to make the best of a bad state of things.

It is a question if that could be successfully accomplished in this city. It will be remembered that sort of thing was once tried in Philadelphia, and did not prove a success. The game is conducted on both grounds in New York city on a 50-cent basis, while Pittsburg is one of the best 50-cent cities in the circuit. If the club plays good ball it will be possible to make good money on the present rate of prices. Many here prefer to sit on the bleachers than to go in the grand stand, as they claim they can secure a better view of the game by resorting to the former section. Again, in the spring and fall it is very cold and bleak in the grand stand, and the bleachers are decidedly preferable to those who desire comfort.

The Veteran Magnates Comfortable.

It will be seen that Messrs. Soden and Conant get a very nice thing out of their holdings. They get \$75,000 in cash and \$7000 per annum—interest at 3½ per cent. on the grounds, on which they take back a mortgage of \$200,000. I believe the grounds are assessed for \$235,000. There was a time the railroad that runs by the grounds (the New York, New Haven & Hartford) would have given a good round sum for the grounds, but at that time the owners had no idea of selling, and even if the road cared to buy they would not give anywhere near the price they once would. One can see, therefore, that both the

Boston, and Dame Rumor has it that Moriarity was another, and it would not be a bad guess an outfielder was another. Now Boston could use Laporte admirably. A third baseman must be had. A first-class infielder is another necessity. Wagner is a good man, but he is assuredly not as good a man as Moriarity, who did some very good ball playing on the American League grounds the past season. The Boston team needs outfielders and needs them badly. Unless two good, hard-hitting outfielders are landed the team will be badly handicapped indeed the coming season. If there is no desire to make such a deal there must be something on in other directions. Chadbourne will go back to Worcester beyond a doubt, for why have Chadbourne with Wagner around? Wagner will be retained as utility man beyond a doubt. The catching department looks mighty good with Lou Criger giving every indication he will be in his old-time condition; Al. Shaw, of Louisville, Armbruster and Carrigan. There is a mighty good quartet.

Spokes From the Hub.

Congratulations to Larry. Long life to both.

"Tis said that "Chick" contemplates matrimony. 'Bout time.

Pitcher Ernest Greene, of the Buffalos, passed through Boston last week on his way to see his folks in Newport. He is to take the State dental examination here this fall. Ernie was very much disgusted with the way the series with Columbus turned out this year.

The veteran Jack Chapman was here last week on one of his periodical trips. "What a barrel of money the two Chicago clubs would make if they toured on their own hook after the expiration of their contracts. Perhaps they would not draw in Pittsburg, Philadelphia, New York and Boston!"

"Colonel Mike" Regan, the fiend of all baseballdom, took in the world's series. Even the frigid weather failed to congeal Mike's sunny disposition. Also on hand was Jack Sheafe, one of our crack bowlers; Charley Gaynor, "Sport" Sullivan and "Butch" Shea, two of the betting ring.

NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS.

Del Mason, of the Cincinnati, will coach a college team at Winter Park, Fla.

Infielder Norman Brashear, of Louisville, has signed with Cincinnati for the season of 1907.

Catcher Johnny Butler, of the Jersey City team, will be given a trial with Brooklyn next year.

Reulbach, of Chicago, leads the National league pitchers with 19 victories and 4 defeats for the season.

Roy Parkins, who has been pitching for St. Paul this year, has been signed by the St. Louis Cardinals.

Hans Wagner is at Mt. Clemens to treat his legs, which went back on him toward the close of the season.

Pittsburg has a find in pitcher Brady, formerly of the Little Rock, Ark., team. He has excellent control.

President Soden, of the Boston Nationals, has been on a visit to his mother, who is living in New Hampshire, at the age of 83.

Joe McGinnity will coach Princeton University's base ball team all during the winter until time for him to report to his club.

Before signing any new players Barney Dreyfuss, who is against the rich player, is going to consult Dun's and Bradstreet's.

All but two of the Spuds are married, and Pittsburg carries a player named Storke, who makes occasional visits to Chicago.

Jimmy Sohring missed a good thing in the world's series later when he gave up a Chicago berth for the Williamsport management.

Manager Fred Tenney has lined out for three or four new men who he believes will put his Boston team in the winning next year.

Oscar Hannifin, who covered third bag for the Giants during the absence of Devlin, out of the game with a twisted ankle, made good.

Pitcher Mal Eason, of Brooklyn, will shortly join the "Political Boss" company, a theatrical show in which he expects to secure an interest.

Miller Huggins, of the Cincinnati team, is to take part in roller polo this winter. He is one of the owners of the new Princess rink in that city.

Tom Nicholson, once a well-known major league second baseman, is now a shoe dealer in Bellaire, O., and was Mayor of the town last year.

Fred Tenney bought an interest in the Boston Club just to show Umpire Klem that he has the authority to search an Ump at any time for missing base balls.

Zeke Moore, of Alton, Ill., has applied for a place on the National league umpire staff. He is an old player, and was once manager of the Guelph team, of Canada.

Judging by appearance pitcher J. A. Maxwell, purchased by Pittsburg from the Birmingham (Ala.) Club, will need a lot more of experience and skill to make good in fast company.

The Philadelphia "North American" humorously remarks: "A Norristown capitalist, inmate or resident not stated, is said to have backed Roy Thomas in the Boston Club deal."

Pitcher Leever, of the Pirates, was the only member of that team who thought the White Sox might beat the Cubs in the world's series. He feared the White Sox's southpaw pitchers in so short a series.

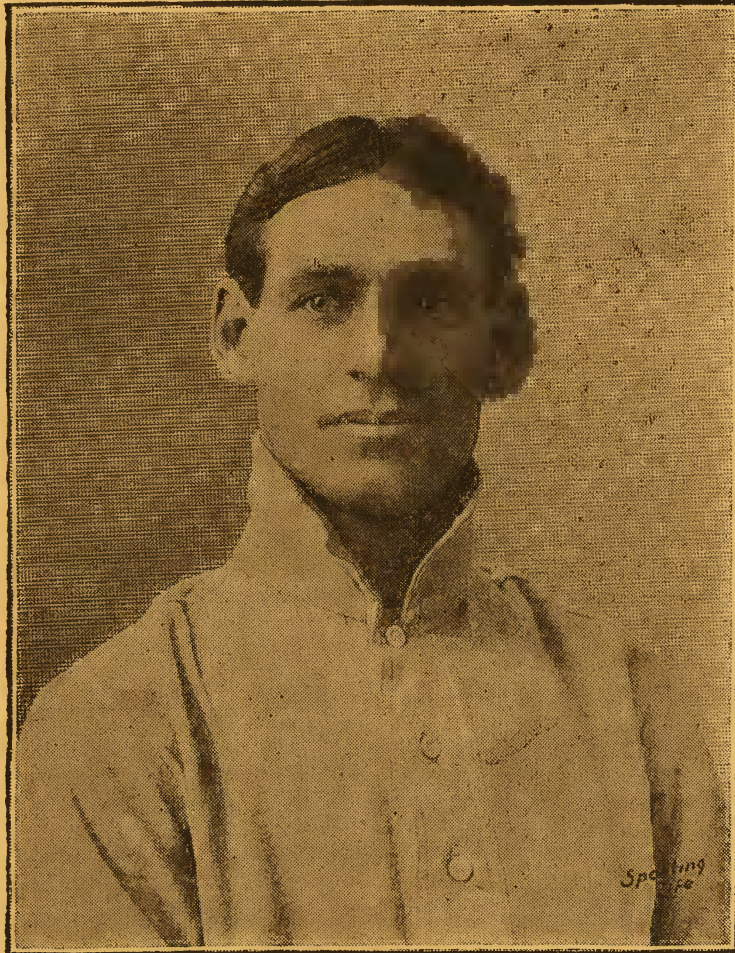
According to official averages, Hans Wagner has come into his own again, leading the batsmen with .337. Donlin is second with .322, and Lumley third with .320. Only nine men all told are in the .300 class.

President Murphy, of the Chicago National champions, is thinking of taking his team to some small town in West Virginia for their spring work. Last year his men remained North while other teams went South.

Secretary Knowles, of the New York Giants, declares that his team will not train in Memphis next spring. The hard luck with Matheyson and the fact that the Giants did not win the pennant is responsible for this decision.

An effort was made to induce Dave Fultz to help out the Boston Nationals this year, but he said he was out of the game for once and all. He has formed a partnership with F. W. Murphy, with office on Nassau street, New York.

John Ganzel has come to terms with President Herrmann and has agreed to wear a Cincinnati uniform next season. He will not sign a contract until he has disposed of his interests in Grand Rapids, but he has accepted terms, which amounts to the same thing.



ROY THOMAS,

Outfielder of the Philadelphia National League Club.

Roy Thomas, the famous center fielder of the Philadelphia Club, is a player famed for ability, steadiness, intelligence and good deportment. He is a clever left-handed batsman, who excels at bunting, "inside work" and place hitting, and whose cleverness in fouling off balls to the out pitchers was given as one of the excuses for the adoption of the foul-strike rule. Thomas' professional career is confined to the Philadelphia Club, which he joined in 1897 after a brilliant career with the base ball team of the Pennsylvania University, and a season with amateur seashore teams. Thomas is practically a Philadelphian, as he hails from Norristown, Pa., where he was born thirty-four years ago. Thomas has come into the limelight owing to the fact that he has interested capital to purchase the Boston National League Club in conjunction with Manager Fred Tenney, of that team. That means that if he can make a deal for his release from the Philadelphia Club he will become a member of the Boston team next year.

Depend upon it, things will be remedied in another season. The fences and the bleachers are in a most dilapidated condition and will come in for very serious attention. The grand stand is like a sieve and must be wholly reroofed. The press box is entirely unfit for use. The dressing-room for the players is something else that must be attended to, and without doubt Tenney will see that the proper bathing facilities, with a shower and hot and cold water, will be furnished. Without a doubt the plant will look as it never looked before when the first championship game is played there the 19th of next April, for it will be the turn of the Nationals to have that holiday next season, and the crowd on that day ought to be a hummer. All reports to the contrary, the former owners of the club made money this season, and that being the case, with a team run as close to the pole as was the team of 1906, what can be done with a team run by up-to-date men with up-to-date methods? Without a doubt it will be necessary to increase the seating accommodations, or, if that is not done, to restrict the number of 25-cent admissions. It is a fact that almost all of the patronage in Boston is on a 25-cent basis. The whole of the first-base bleacher goes for a quarter, and, despite the fact that the seats in that section are most undesirable in hot weather, the patrons make for that section the year round. President Murphy, in Chicago, succeeded in limiting the 25-cent section, but

former owners need have no apprehension at all about their financial future. Each is rated at near the million mark. They were able to withstand the ravages made upon their holdings by the entrance into the field of the American League, but not so Mr. J. B. Billings, who was forced to give up his holdings. For years readers of "The Sporting Life" heard about the Boston triumvirate, but of late years the triumvirate has dwindled to a duo.

It is now extremely quiet in base ball circles. There is little doing about the American League headquarters. There is no information as to the disposal of Jimmy Collins, and this, of course, is the news the curious would like to know. That Jimmy is to be traded everybody knows. It looks as if the terms of any deal would not be made known until the annual meeting of the American League takes place this winter. It has leaked out that New York offered three players for Jimmy some time ago, and it is said that offer was renewed when the Highlanders were here on their last trip, but nothing came of it. Why, it would be interesting to know. It is stated that Collins insists upon a sum something like \$3000—the pay withheld during suspension—as one of the terms of his release. He says he is willing to go elsewhere if he is not wanted here. There is no doubt at all he would prefer to remain here than go elsewhere, but that now looks impossible. Laporte is mentioned as one of the trio who were to be given to