

THE TRACK TEAM.

Captain Bascom Johnson Tells of His Plans for the Season.

The season of the University Track Team of Ninety-Nine was a long and very arduous one. Starting with the training for the Fall games in October it continued well into the Winter with the cross country work. After a short respite, the regular season opened February 1, and did not really close until July 22, in London at the International games.

It seemed wise, therefore, to give the members of last year's team a rest from all hard work until the regular call for candidates was made shortly after the Promenade. It was thought best to abandon the usual Fall games held in October for the reason that young and inexperienced Freshmen who make up the bulk of Fall candidates are likely to be injured by too great a strain after so short a period of training.

In order, however, to obtain some line on the material in the Freshman class, every encouragement was given them to join the ranks of the Cross Country Club, newly organized and put on a firm basis. The work of this Club is twofold. It provides opportunities for the absolute novice as well as for the trained athlete. To accomplish this, two general squads were formed. The first carried on a more severe system of training, meant for the experienced runner, and with the definite purpose of developing a team to represent the Club at the Intercollegiate Cross Country championships held in New York in November.

The second squad was formed on much simpler lines and was meant for any and all who desired some light and invigorating form of outdoor exercise.

The work of the Club was continued in all its departments throughout the Fall term and was found exceedingly beneficial and pleasant to all its members, a good proportion of whom were novices. This Club should do a great deal to recreate at Yale that bygone spirit of healthy outdoor life which is now confined almost entirely to the University teams and their candidates. By its very nature, such a club cannot but be of great service to the Track Team in bringing out and developing otherwise unheard-of candidates. It is therefore of vital importance to the success of both that the two organizations work in perfect harmony.

PLANS OF THE FUTURE.

The Fall season for the track candidates having passed by so pleasantly and profitably, an interval of two months was granted and work began once more January 29, when a call for candidates was made.

Mr. James Robinson, Coach of the Eleven, has been engaged as professional trainer and will have complete charge of this department. Mr. Flanagan, the champion amateur hammer thrower of the world, has taken up his residence in this city and has very kindly offered to take charge of the weight men for a couple of months in return for the use of the gymnasium and its training facilities.

The graduate coaching system used so successfully in connection with the football and baseball teams will also be

gradually introduced as far as possible in connection with track work. The graduates will not take the place of a trainer, but will aid the latter, who has long found it an almost impossible task to do justice to the two hundred odd candidates who respond to the Captain's call. A few graduates have already indicated their willingness to return and it is hoped that others will come and help in developing and sorting of this great mass of material.

The men have already been divided into squads according to their events. It will be the general policy to give the candidates as much out of door work as possible, as the indoor running has been found to give bad results to many—stiffening the muscles and straining the ankles. In line with this policy Yale will not send individual runners or relay teams to any of the numerous indoor Winter meets.

The management has decided to institute a first and second training table this year somewhat on the lines of those of the football team. By this means, more men can have the advantage of good food and a graduated and flexible system of classification of candidates formed.

At present writing, negotiations are still going on in regard to the holding of a set of return International games in this country. In spite of some temporary hitch in the arrangements it seems likely that the games will yet be arranged and the combined team of Englishmen from Oxford and Cambridge will become the guests of Yale and Harvard.

BASCOM JOHNSON.

W. Bourke Cochran to Speak.

Dean Francis Wayland has announced that Hon. W. Bourke Cochran of New York will be the speaker at the Commencement exercises of the Law School next June.

The attention of Yale readers of this paper is directed to the first editorial, page 186.

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