

NOT TO BE BIG ELEVEN

NEBRASKA AND NOTRE DAME REFUSED MEMBERSHIP

Their Applications Sternly Turned Down by the Middle Western Big Nine College Athletic Board—This Action Was Unexplained.

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—Applications for membership in the college conference made by Notre Dame and Nebraska universities were rejected by the representatives of the big nine at the annual meeting here today. This action was rather unexpected, as it had been said Nebraska had the backing of Allen and Stagg, of Chicago, and Jones, of Minnesota.

Nebraska's winning football team this season was supposed to be a strong card in her favor, while Notre Dame hoped to get in because of her adherence to the conference rules this season. Both, however, shared the same fate.

Representatives of the big nine colleges of the Middle West—comprising the college athletic board, made up of the universities of Chicago, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Northwestern and Purdue—attended the meeting. The men representing the different institutions were: A. A. Stagg, Chicago; Judge Lane, Michigan; Prof. Charles S. Slichter, Wisconsin; Prof. F. S. Jones, Minnesota; E. A. Wilcox, Iowa; Prof. H. J. Barton, Illinois; Prof. Sampson, Indiana; O. F. Long, Northwestern, and Prof. Moran, Purdue. Prof. Barton acted as chairman.

Among the more important questions to be taken up are the extension of the four-year limit to five years and the request by the Illinois university that the athletes be allowed to play baseball.

Gridiron Feast.

Faculty representatives of the Western college "Big Nine," coaches of football teams and some of the best known varsity gridiron athletes were the guests of the Chicago Press club tonight in a "gridiron feast" and dinner. Big-Capt. Johnnie Flynn, of the Minnesota team, and "Jake" Stahl, of the Illinois; Coaches Huff, Holt, Williams, Stagg and others sang football songs, and the faculty leaders of the "Big Nine" told about the work of the annual conference meeting for the recognition of college athletes. Among those who responded to the call of Toastmaster Packard's whistle calls for downs were Prof. Jones, Minnesota; Prof. Long, Michigan; Prof. Jones, Northwestern; Prof. Stagg, Chicago; Prof. Barton, Illinois; Prof. Moran, Purdue; Prof. Walden, the referee of the college conference; Coach McLean, Knox; Dr. Williams, Minnesota, and President Homer J. Carr, press club.

The immediate object of the testimonial to the college men was the desire to make the faculty representatives who have to deal with college athletics better acquainted with representatives of the press. All the speakers said that the bon homme spirit had improved the standard of the game.

Conference Track Meet.

It was decided at the conference to limit the entrance for the conference track meet to the "big nine" universities and other colleges, following the conference rules, to be invited by a special committee. The argument which decided the whole question was that to be effective the conference must not be unwieldy. It is not considered unwieldy now because of the geographical location of the colleges in it.

It was agreed, on account of the past extremely unwieldy character of the conference track and field meet, to restrict future meets to the conference colleges and such other colleges as would be invited as a result of their adherence to the conference rules. This decision was reached on recommendation from the graduate committee, which conducted the meet a year ago.

A committee consisting of Northwestern, Purdue and Wisconsin was appointed to pass on the invitation of other colleges. It is known that Notre Dame and Nebraska now adhere to the rules, but it is expected that some of the colleges represented in the meet a year ago may not be able to enter next spring.

Steps for settling the much discussed question of allowing college baseball players to play on semi-professional teams during the summer were taken. A committee consisting of Chicago, Illinois and Indiana was appointed to prepare a report on the question. The secretary will send the committee's report to the colleges for a mail vote. It is expected that, in this way, a rule can be adopted and made effective for the coming summer vacation.

Prof. Jones, of Minnesota, was elected president, and Prof. Sampson, of Indiana, secretary.