

HOLDS RECORD FOR PLAYING BASEBALL

**Jim O'Rourke Played for, 36
Consecutive Years—Forced
to Quit This Season.**

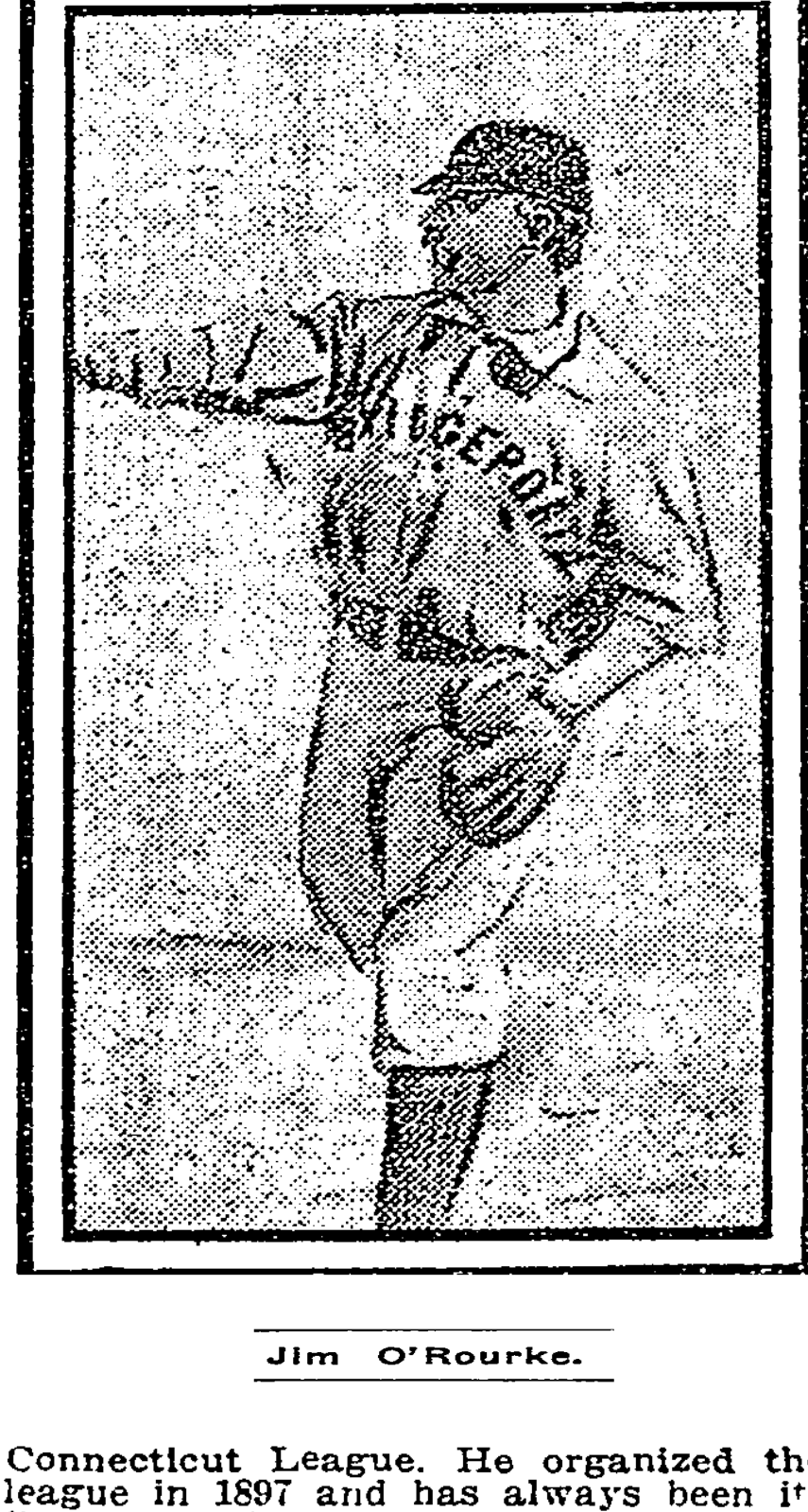
When Jim O'Rourke failed to step to the bat before the Eastern Association closed its season last week, he closed a continuous record extending over thirty-six years. The veteran has played at least one game every season since he joined the National League in 1876, and thereby established a record for continuous playing. O'Rourke was anxious to keep up his record this season, but, acting on the advice of his physician, he decided to quite baseball and athletics, owing to a severe illness last Winter. He is now 58 years old.

Another record which he held for three years is of playing on the same nine with his son, Jimmy, Jr. They were together on the Bridgeport team, which the father owned. Jimmy, Jr., has been with the Columbus Club of the American Association since his father sold the Bridgeport franchise, including a ball field on the lot on which the veteran Jim O'Rourke pitched hay when he was a boy.

Four years ago, at the close of the Connecticut League season, Jim caught one of the regularly scheduled games for the New York National League nine, and the followers of baseball marveled at the agility of the athlete who had passed the half-century mark.

To-day the veteran is President, Secretary, Treasurer, and chief of umpires of the Eastern Association, formerly the

ONE OF THE OLD TIMERS.



Jim O'Rourke.

Connecticut League. He organized the league in 1897 and has always been its Secretary. He managed the Bridgeport nine until three years ago, when he retired from regular playing, although he insisted that he intended to continue to play a game or two a year, "just to keep his name on the league records."

Glancing at the National League career of the veteran, the student of baseball statistics faces an array of facts that establish the old-timer as a remarkable player. He was in big-league baseball eighteen years and batted better than .300 for thirteen years, missing the honor list only five times. Wagner has achieved fourteen records of a batting average of more than .300 for each year; Dan Brouthers bettered the .300 mark fifteen times; Beckley, Jim Ryan, Keeler, and Van Haltern thirteen each, and Lajole will total his thirteenth mark of better than .300 this season.

O'Rourke never equaled the .400 mark for the year. His best record was .366. This was in 1890, Brotherhood year. O'Rourke did not join the Brotherhood.

O'Rourke has been a member of five National League clubs, starting with Boston at the organization of the league, and playing with Providence, Buffalo, New York, and Washington, leaving the league in 1903. Twice he has played with winners of the National League championship, the Providence and New York. He was right fielder and first baseman for the Providence nine in 1879, when it captured first place, and was with New York in 1888 and 1889 when it won the pennant. In 1879 he was third-best batsman of the league, and in 1884 he led the league, with an average of .350.

His brother, John, who died recently, played with him on the Bostons for two seasons. In 1879 John was third-best batsman of the league with the Bostons, accumulating an average of .341. He broke his leg by stepping in a hole in the Boston right field and retired from the game the next year.

O'Rourke has batted for better than .300 since his entry in the Connecticut League, although he never led the organization with the stick. Other batters who have approached his record of thirteen years of better than .300 are Billy Hamilton, with 12 seasons; Roger Connor, 12; Charley Bennett, 11; Patsy Donovan, 10; Joe Kelley, 11; Pete Browning, 10, and Buck Ewing, 9.

The veteran Adrian Anson holds the record that will stand in all baseball history in this respect, it is believed, by batting for more than .300 for twenty consecutive years.

OPEN SEASON FOR DEER.

**Bucks May Be Killed in New York,
New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.**

The hunting season for deer opens on the first day of next month in a number of the Northern States including Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and in the Western States bordering on Canada. In the Southern States the season has been open since the first of the month.

This year there will be no open season on Long Island nor in the following States: Rhode Island, Connecticut, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, Tennessee and Kansas.

Bucks only may be killed in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Oregon, West Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, California and Nevada.

Following are the general open seasons for deer:

Maine, Oct. 1 to Dec. 16; New Hampshire, Oct. 1 to Dec. 16; Vermont, Nov. 10 to Dec. 2; Massachusetts, Nov. 17 to Nov. 23; New York, Oct. 1 to Nov. 16; New Jersey, Nov. 1 to Nov. 6; Pennsylvania, Nov. 10 to Nov. 26; Michigan, Nov. 10 to Dec. 1; Wisconsin, Nov. 11 to Dec. 1; Minnesota, Nov. 10 to Nov. 30; South Dakota, Nov. 1 to Dec. 1; Wyoming, Oct. 1 to Nov. 1; Montana, Oct. 1 to Dec. 1; Idaho, Sept. 1 to Dec. 1; Oregon, Aug. 1 to Nov. 1; Washington, Oct. 1 to Dec. 1; Maryland, local laws; District of Columbia, Sept. 1 to Jan. 1; West Virginia, Oct. 15 to Dec. 1; Virginia, Sept. 1 to Dec. 1; North Carolina, local laws; South Carolina, Sept. 1 to Jan. 1; Georgia, Oct. 1 to Dec. 1; Florida, Nov. 1 to Feb. 1; Alabama, Nov. 1 to Jan. 1; Mississippi, Nov. 15 to March 1; Kentucky, Sept. 1 to March 1; Missouri, Nov. 1 to Jan. 1; Arkansas, Sept. 1 to Feb. 1; Louisiana, local laws; Texas, Nov. 1 to Jan. 1; Oklahoma, Nov. 15 to Dec. 15; New Mexico, Oct. 1 to Nov. 16; Arizona, Oct. 1 to Dec. 16; California, July 1 to Sept. 1; Nevada, Oct. 15 to Nov. 18; Utah, Oct. 1 to Oct. 16.