

WHY SEATON DESERTED.

Would Have Had to Win 60 Per Cent. of Games to Earn a Bonus.

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—Retention by the National League of the bonus contract system was partly responsible for the Federal League's success yesterday in signing Tom Seaton of the Philadelphia National League's team's pitching staff to play with the Brooklyn Federal League club, according to Joe Tinker, manager of the Chicago Federals.

The Philadelphia contract, sent here for his signature would make it necessary for him to win 60 per cent. of his games this year and to take part in at least thirty-five games in order to earn his salary stipulated, Seaton is said to have told Tinker.

Seaton, according to Tinker, said he would rather accept a straight Federal League contract than speculate on his own luck and the strength of this year's Philadelphia team.

COLUMBIA BASEBALL CALL.

Only Ten Men Accept Invitation for Pitchers and Catchers.

Columbia's new baseball coaches, Billy Lush and Andy Coakley, were on hand yesterday to look over the material which reported on the first call for the squad of pitchers and catchers. Ten candidates reported and were put through a light workout in the cage. The coaches were disappointed at the small number who reported.

The pitchers who responded were George Smith, '15; James O'Neale, '14, the first and second string men of last year's 'Varsity; R. D. Beck, '16; O. Culman, '17, and J. A. Dornes, '17. Culman and Dornes were both members of the freshman team in the interclass series last Fall, but Beck has never played at Columbia.

Ruford Franklin, "Eddie" Shea, and George Oberrender, all on last year's freshman team, were the most promising candidates for catcher. Franklin was the regular catcher of the 1916 team, Shea being also a pitcher, and Oberrender a pitcher and outfielder. All are experienced backstops, however. L. B. Lane, '15, who has caught on his class team in interclass games, and Norman O'Leary, '14, who was a short-stop on his freshman team, also practiced. Culman, although primarily a pitching candidate, has had experience behind the plate and practiced catching for a short time. Daily workouts will be the order for the battery men, and the candidates for other positions will be called out next Tuesday.