

Ball Field Lights to be Installed

April 15, 1956 – Putnam County Sentinel

A contract for the erection of lights on Ottawa's Memorial Park baseball diamond was let by the Ottawa Community Boosters club last Thursday night and the lights will be ready for operation at the opening of the summer baseball season.

The Barnard Contracting company of Montpelier was the successful bidder for the contract, which was let for \$7,000. Completion date was set for May 29, but Mr. Barnard, who attended last week's meeting, said he hopes to have the light in operation by May 13.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that Ottawa's first home game in the West Central baseball league has tentatively been set for Tuesday May 29, against Kalida.

Plans call for the erection of 100 lights on eight 75-foot poles. Lights will be 1,500 watts each.

MR. BARNARD said he hope to move his equipment to town within the next couple of weeks and the actual work of erecting the lights should take 10 days to two weeks.

Letting of the contract brings to a climax the work of the local Booster

club which was organized a year ago with its first project the lighting of the ball field

Donald J. Meyer, president of the club, said they still are about \$650 short of the \$7,000 needed but he feels confident the money will be raised. The club has 90 days after the lights are erected to pay the final ten percent of the cost.

MEYER SAID that several pledges have yet to be collected and some others have promised to donate towards the lights after work on them has been started. The club has also been running weekly promotions which are netting near \$100 per week for the last several weeks.

The club's member ship drive for 1956 is still in progress. Meyer added at present there are 129 members. Dues are \$1.00 per year.

Officers of the club besides Meyer are Homer Ruhe, vice president; Forest Hopkins, secretary; Paul Schomaeker, treasurer; and Hubert Beckman and Millard Boss, trustee. Dean Krouse is chairman of the pledge committee.