

In a setting unique to baseball, the rebirth of West Texas League becomes reality when franchise representatives conduct their first official league meeting seven miles underground in the "big room" of New Mexico's **Carlsbad Caverns**.

Originally, six Texas towns of **Midland, Odessa, Wink, Lubbock, Monahans and Amarillo**, as well as **Clovis, Roswell**, and **Hobbs** of New Mexico, show enough interest to warrant the possibility of forming an eight-team league.

At the meeting, also attended by National Association President **W.G. Bramham**, four towns - **Midland, Monahans, Wink and Hobbs** - are named charter members. Two more league members - **Roswell and Odessa** - will be announced a week later at a second meeting (above ground) in **Midland**.

League officials decide that the season will begin in the first week in May and continue until Labor Day and using simple business sense, decide that each team will keep all home receipts and be responsible for all of its expenses on road trips. Teams are allowed to carry 14 players on its roster, including the manager. Ten of the 14 players are to be "raw recruits" - players that have been to bat less than fifty times, or pitched less than 30 innings with a club in organized baseball.

Only three of the teams currently have baseball parks. **Midland** will have to build a fence and improve its grandstands, **Roswell** has to completely reconstruct its park and **Hobbs** will have to convert a softball field. The other three towns will have to build their facilities from scratch.

## Midland Man to Head New Baseball League

CARLSBAD, N. M., March 1.—William Collins of Midland, Tex., was temporary president of the West Texas Baseball league today. He was elected at an organization meeting held yesterday in the big room of the Carlsbad Cavern, 730 feet below the ground.

Member cities of the temporary organization are Midland, Monahans and Wink, Tex., and Hobbs, N. M. Two more cities will be admitted next Sunday at a meeting to be held in Midland. Big Spring, Odessa and Carlsbad are being considered for the other franchises.

William G. Bramham, of Durham, N. C., president of the National Association of Minor Leagues, was present at the meeting.