

# JINX" MAY FOLLOW MACKMEN--VAST AMOUNT OF INTEREST SHOWN IN APPROACHING SERIES GAMES

## **CONTESTS WILL** FILL PARKS TO FULL CAPACITY

Much More Entlusiasm Over World's Series This Year Than Last-Facts About Former Meetings.

If it were possible to ascertain just how many people would buy world's series tickets if they could, there isn't a doubt that the games to be played between the Athletics and Braves would make a new record. There has been a steady general increase in the interest taken in world's series games over since the first one played in 1903, when Boston took five games out of eight from Plitsburgh. The increase in interest, which is shown concretely by the increase in at-fendance, has always been greater in tendance, has always been greater in yours when a given series was played by clubs not taking part the previous year. Conversely, there has been a slight fall-ing off in attendance at world's series games which have been played by the same clubs. For instance, in 1966, 1907 and 1908, the Cubs won the flag in the Na-tional League. The result was that there was a slight annual decrease in the aver-age attendance as well as in the ictal age attendance as well as in the total gate receipts.

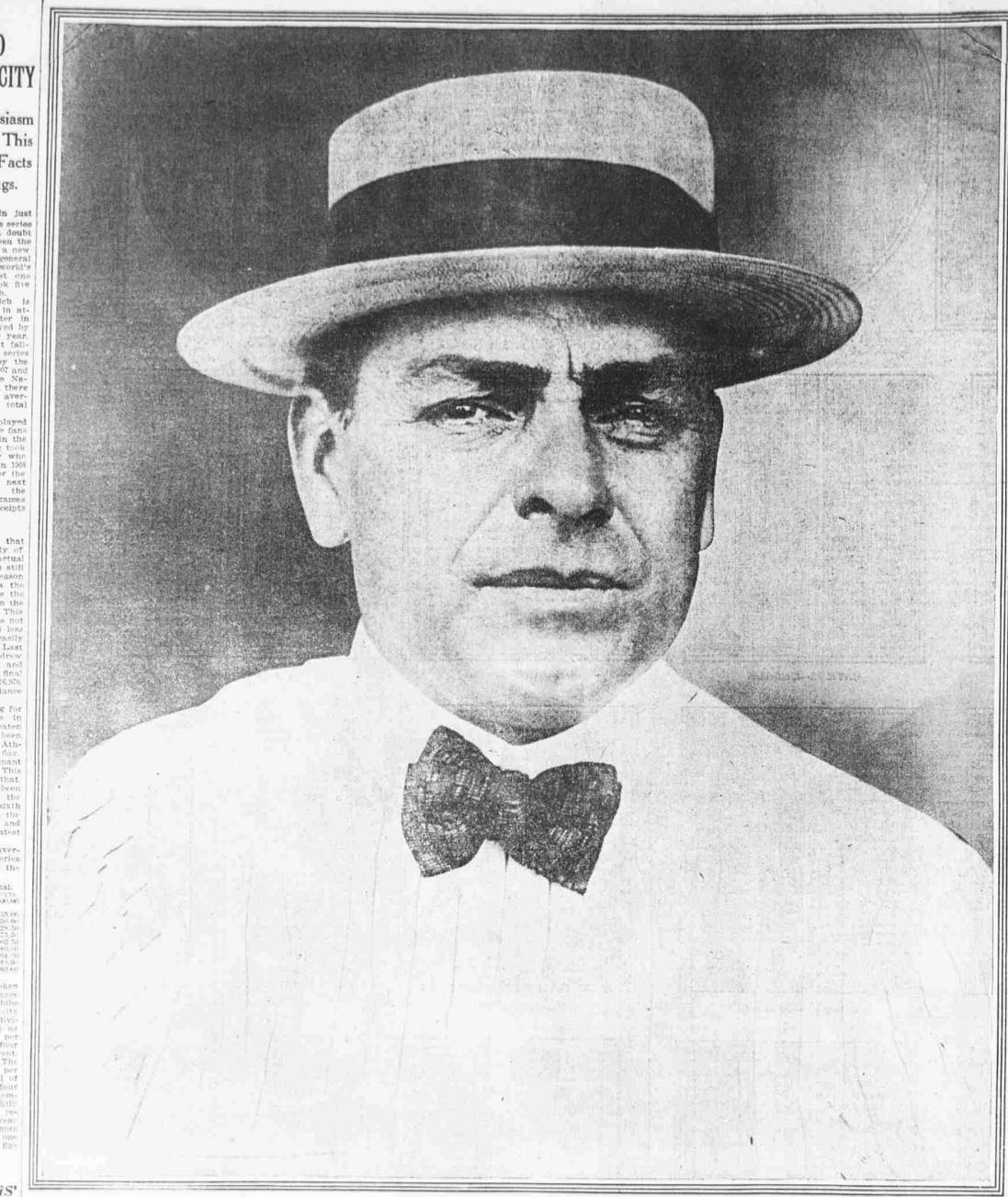
In 1969 Fittsburgh and Detroit played In last ritisburgh and Derroit played for the championable. Obviously the familie were glad to greet a new winner in the National League, for the attendance took a big fump. The average number who saw the Cubs and Tigers perform in 1968 was 12,146, and the total ecclots for the series amounted to \$91,975.50. The next year, when the Pirates defeated the Tigers, the average number at the games was 20,756 and the total gate receipts were \$158,302.50.

### DON'T WANT MONOPOLY.

These figures prove conclusively that the public does not like a monopoly of winners. Furthermore, the steady actual increase from 1505 through 1912 adds still more to this conclusion. Last season when the Athletics met the Giants the average attendance was 20108, while the year before the average per game in the New York-Red Sox sories was 31.485. This apparent dronping in the figures does not indicate in the least that there was less interest. On the contrary, it is easily interest. On the contrary, it is easily seen that the reverse was the case. Last year each of the five names played drew capacity crowds both in New York and Philadelphia, while in 1912 the final Giants-Red Sax bout drew only 16,550, whereas the lowest previous attendance in that same series had been 30,148. Unconstionable it was a coad thise for

Unquestionably it was a good thing for everyflody concerned, except those in New York, that the Giants were beaten eversflody New York, that the Glants were beaten by the Braves, and it would have been a help to the game in general if the Ath-letics had been defeated for the flax. A continued cornering of the penmant market is not what the people would. This season in Philadelphia has shown that. The attendance at Shibe Park has been only a little reserver then then at the only a little greater than that at the Phillies' park and the latter are in sixth piace in the National League, while the place in the various Leake, which is former are six-time pennant winners and considered generally to be the Sreatest baseball club ever gotten togother. Herewith is a table showing the aver-

ave attendance at the world's



## JINX MAY CAUSE ATHLETICS TO LOSE Misfortune Has Habit of Following in Wake of Manager Getting Choice of City for First Game.

"WINNING-TOSS"

Is there a jinx in winning the toss to decide where the first game of a world's series is to be played?

Those who are superstitious will anawer in the affirmative because the records show that the manager losing the toss has been almost universally successful. If this jinx holds good this year the Boston Braves will carry off the baseball honors. President Gaffney failed to call the turn when Herrmann tossed the coin last Tuesday week. That, ac-cording to the jinx theory, gave Mr. Gaffney's clut the championshin ittle, while it only gave Manager Mack the right to open the series in Philadelphia. right to open the series in Philadeiphia. This calls to mind again the many incl-dents which go to show the honesty of baseball. It would have seen far more profitable to the club owners and to the National Commission to have the first game played in Boston, if it turns out that only five games are to be played. In that event the increased seating ca-nectly of Fenway over Shibe Park would pacity of Fenway over Shibe Park would net the clubs many thousands more dol-lars. Yet there was no attempt made lars. lara. Yet there was no attempt made to decide the matter any way except by the spinning of a coin. This happening took place regardless of the prediction of a paragrapher who recently said: "If the coin falls heads or tails, the first game will be played in Boston. If it stays in the air, it will be pulled off in Philadelphia."

MAY FOLLOW ATHLETICS.

But to get back to the original subject, this jinx which has been hanging over winners of the toss, is one of the big-gest arguments against the Athletics to win, or, at least, that is the theory ad-vanced by many ball players who would otherwise favor the Mackmen in their scrap with the Braves.

The first world's series game under the present rules was in 1963, but the rules were different from those of the present, hence we will only consider those cham-plonship struggles from 1995 to the present time. During that period there have been nine series played and seven times the defeated club has won the toss. The two exceptions were the Athletics in 1910 and the Pirates in 1909. In those years the winners of the series won the toss. The following shows who won th tuss and the series from 1905 to 1913, in-

1905-Athletics won toss, lost to Giants.

1905-Cubs won toss, lost to White Sox, 1907-Detroit won toss, lost to Cubs. 1908-Detroit won toss, lost again to

1909-Pirates won toss, also heat De troit

1910-Athletics won toss and beat Cubs. 1911-Giants won toss and lost to Athictics

1912-Glants won toss, lost to Red Sox. 1913-Glanis won toss, lost to Athletics. 1914-Athletics won toss This jinx has followed the New York team with unwavering regularity. The Giants have played in four world championship series and the only time they have won was in 1905, when they lost the toss. For the last three years the Gianta have been consistently successful in calling the turn of the coin and just as consistent in losing the series to their opponents. It appears that the Glants have been besieged by baseball hoodoos. Resides having been followed by the linx just discussed. McGraw's chances to win the pennant in the National League this sup-son were somewhat lessened, according to popular opinion, because no club had ever won four pennants in a row.

games from 1903 to 1913, along with the total gate recolpts:

Average	Total.
Year, attendance,	ried) rits.
12,354	*8.5(1.4).81.687
B9H No series played.	
	AN 435 CC
1005	1041.550.00
1907 15.614 1998 12.446	14,975.54
1900	173,980,00
1011	242 144 (0)
1012	400.4410.01
1913	
*Estimated.	treation of the

While no records are ant to be broken this year in the matter of attendance and gate receipts, both Fenway and Shike Parks are sure to be filled t The division of the spoils will be the same as usual. The players will divide 60 per cent, of the receipts from the first four cent, of the receipts from the first four games, the winners getting to per cent, of that amount and the basers to. The magnates' share will amount to 40 per cent, of the first four sames, and all of the rest of the receipts if more than four games are played. Last year each mem-ber of the Athletics received slightly more than \$250, while the Gamts re-received a little more than 1200. This year the amount to be precived by the winners and lowers will provide as within rms or two hundred dollars of the 105 firtwo hundred dollars of the 101 fir-

### MACK'S METHODS UNLIKE STALLINGS'

Continued from Page 1 lief. After he had einched the pennant he drove his men just as hard until the close of the season vestorday as he did is fortember, when he was trying to dis lodge the Ginnts from first pince. ladge the Ginnts from first place. In the recent series with the Ginnts, played after the flag was won, Stallings had his men-going at the fastest clip he could send them. His theory is that when a team has been going first enough to win the pennant, the men will slow down to such an extent that they won't be able to do a themselves justice in the series unless they continue at the same rayid rays. Hence last weak the Braves were in the

game with all of their resultes, while benost of the players in Athletic uniform thwere unknown to the "eligible" members

foor the White Elephant squad. In the beginning it was stated that sel-dom in world's series games has there been occasion for any great amount of managerial strategy. And this is true. Yet last October Mack was severely criti-Yet has before what many fans believed to be an inexcusable error of judgment. The incident referred to was in the second game of the sectes, played in this city, when Plank and Mathewson ware the ap-posing pitchers. In the ninth inning, with the bases full and he one out is the pointing pitchere, is the miner mining, with the bases full and no one out, Larp and Plank batted in their regular turn. When the Athletics were ultimately beaten out in the tenth binning, Manager Mark re-cetved all the blame for the defeat. At the time he did not reply, but later, when he did make a statement should for more he did make a statem-fit about the mat-

he did make a standard model the mat-ter, he thoroughly convinced every one that he had not erred in judgment. The trouble was that neither Lapp nor Plank had been able to drive in a run. If either of them had, Mack would have been either of them not, state gist by the sec-praised as a great strategist by the sec-and-guessers. This was one of the few incidences where Muck was called upon to exercise his judgment in a way which would give any one a chance to criticize

ugh a wast bulk of the credit for the victors in the coming world's series should be given to the withing manager, it will be his constructive work of a sec-son, rather than his indemont in the series, which should be the real subject

GEORGE STALLINGS Braves' Leader, who drove his club from the bottom of the league to the top in an unprecedented baseball sprint.

## JOHNSON SELECTS UMPIRES FOR SERIES IN ROTATION

When the National Commission met | Idea is that the two umpires who have here had work and unnounced the une done the best work throughout the pires for the world's series the soneral season should be the judges of plays in inpression was that the two selected from the National Lengthe had made the best records for this but there was a ques-tion in the minds of some us to whether the two chosen from the American League and the variable of siving the same satisfaction to the contending players be in capable of siving the same satisfaction for the contending players be in capable of siving the same satisfaction in the word's series, which, of course, different series only in the the stakes are higher. Johnson's method appears, after a close series difference if the same satisfaction is the stakes are higher. others selected if the highest efficiency

were the basis. These selections merely go to show that

the methods of choosing the umpires for the series vary in the major lengues. It

has always been the policy of the Na-tional Lesaue mainates to choose the two men why, in their estimation, have

this for having the test in the house in the house same men were chosen year after year the effect would be to discount the work of the other members of the um-pire staff. Throughout the season both players and spectators would be more or bear disarticited when the world's or less dissatisfied when the world's series umpires were not working. They would thick that if these other men were beyor chosen for a world's series they were not canable, and if they were not capable of doing that work they surely would not be antisfactory in the

done the test work that senson. Hence it is that year after year, Klem is chosen because of his recognized ability "Ban" Johnson, who trakes the selec-tions from the American League staff. tions from the American League staff does not necessarily pick the men for the series whom he considers to have done the meet subfactory work. Or course, Johnson would not put a man in the world's series whom he did not think thoroughly capable, but his methods thoroughly capable, but his methods chance at the easy money if they have shown themselves to be good arbiters. The reason for the warying methods of selecting the unpires is simply that Than Johnson looks can the maiter dif-forently from Governor Tener and from these who preceded him as president of the parent league. The National League championship race. Furthermore, the moral effect on the

SHOWN BRIEFLY Manager Stallings, of the Braves, 1870. Is serving his 23d year as a baseball

STALLINGS' CAREER

D.B.Fraider, Played his first game as an outhis first pennant as manager Augusta Southern League club

Twenty-one years later he has wor

Started out as a catcher, but in DSS book to the outfield and retired calledy after 1991 with Detroit. Has been manager for 22 years with be following:

1914-Boston	1902-Buffalo
1913-Boston	1901-Detroit
1912-Buffalo	1966 Detroit
1910-Yankees	1899-Detroit
1999-Yunkeen	
1995-Nowark 1997-Idia	1997—Philadelphia 1996—Detroit
1905 Buffalo	1895-Nashville
1905 Bulfalo	1894-Nashville
1963-Buffalo	1993 - Augusta 1992 - San Jose
The Party of the	Contra Contra States

working, clear-sighted, efficient man, and

## HOT BATTLE FOR CATCHING HONORS EXPECTED IN SERIES

various positions without thinking of the battle which they will wage for individtheir club to win. Almost as keenly as the work of the pitchers, will that of

the work of the pitchers, will that of the catchers be watched. This means that Wally Schang, Jack Lapp, Hank Gowdy and Bert Whaling will be the centre of much attention. Gowdy and Schang will, no doubt, do most of the work behind the bat, al-thering Larn for the Athletics, will be used when Mack sends a left-hander to the mound Whether Whaling will get

used when Mack sends a left-hander to the mound. Whether Whaling will get in the series is a question. As far as world's acries experience is concerned, the Athletics' pair of receivers have a big edge on their rivals from hoston. Lapp has taken part in three world's series, although fast year he worked in but one rame, despite the fact that Flank pitched in two. In Edl, when t was predicted that the Glants would was predicted that the Glants would

in which in the base, Lann by perfectly, proved himself the hero of the hour-until Frank Baker made the fans formet corrything in the "home-run" exftement.

citement. Wally Schang is the superior of any receiver on either the Braves or the Athletics. This superiority is gained iargely through his ability to hit the hall hard and often, and to run the bases like an outfielder. 'He is the fleetest catcher in the game, has the nimbleness of a cat behind the bat, and has a ter-rific wing, although at times this see. rific wing, although at times this sea son he has shown a tendency to be wild in showing the ball to second base. In the world's series of 1918 Scheng played a magnificent game in every de-

When any department of play is con- | Lartment. Incidentally, he dealt the ball sidered in the world's series, it is diffi- a home run blow, driving it to Baker's cult to see the contending plays in the favorite spot in the right field stand. This year Stallings has depended almost entirely on Gowdy, who has ual supremary while they are pulling for | caught in 131 games. This means that, urless some unusual condition arises, he will probably be seen in every game arathasi the Athletics. Schang has been used by Mack in 108 games, Lapp taking care of most of the others. McAvoy worked in two or three only. Schang has been batting the ball around 270

all season, while Gowdy has hit only at a 240 rate. Lapp, once a 300 hitter, has not been above 225 this year, but if the

figures are to be considered, he is worse off than Whaling, who is about 10 points lower. There is really little chance of the Braves doing much on the bases against the Athletics. If Schang should have an off day, he would be immediately replaced

by Lapp, and the carnage on the paths

by Lapp, and the carnage on the paina would cease forthwith. Whether Eddie Collins and the other speed kings of the Macklan chan can pilfer with any degree of certainty in doubtful, but, on the whole, the Athleting have a better chance to steal than their opponents, both on account of the higher speed and because the local catchers have an edge on the Brayee' pair.

speed and because the local autohers have an edge on the Braves' pair. As far as handlink the plichers is concerned, every one of the catchers who is ant to be called on in the series can be relied upon implicitiv. Each of the quartet has good judgment and knows how to be of material aid to the plichers. This is essentially true when youngstorp are working. In case Brossler, Shawkey or Bush should be sent in, Lopp and Schang will make all the decisions for the plichers.

SUPERSTITION IN BASEBALL.

Superstition has been going hand in hand with baseball and baseball players since the game began. When a player loses or breaks a favorite bat his hitting is sure to be way off for some time to come, because he believes that a certain bat "has the hits in it." This was the case with Rube Oldring this season. Rube was hitting above .300 when some one made way with his stick after an exhi-bition played in Buffalo. Rube's hitting immediately went bad and he failed to connect for many games. The slump caused by having his bat taken from him caused Oldring to finish the season under the 300 mark, when otherwise he would

probably have been among the elite. Many times fane' attention has been called to the queer movements of Louis Van Zelt, the Athletics' mascot. Louis gces out before a game and makes little impressions in the ground with his spikes Every indig when he takes his stand to carry the bats back to the bench he places his spikes in those same holes. If some one should kick up the dirt or tear the sound when the back he dirt or tear the ground where Louis had been standing he wouldn't give two cents for the Athletics' chances to win.

Many persons will scoff at the idea of uch things playing any real part in basasail in this enlightened age. Nevertheless they do, and it is not at all improbable that more than one of the Athletics, in-cluding Connie Mack himself, will feel that the-chances are materially lossoned

that the chances are materially lossened by this so-called jinx. Time and again things have harmened on the ball field that have caused objects to believe that they were followed by some kind of persistent ill hick and you find that many of the New York National Leaguers this season at no time expected to win, because they had won three pen-mants in a row, as newlocally marked nants in a row, as previously remarked.

### FOULS NOT PASSPORTS TO WORLD'S SERIES

### This Source of Joy to the Fence-Hanger Boy Denied.

The world's series is not a joy to the small boy, who stands outside the areas day after day during the season walting for feat balls. In every city in the roomfor four many in the full for boursts is nontry it he the rule in the bound of scheme, they whoever branes in a ball which has been batted outside the incidence shall be admitted to the scheme. This, however, does not added to the world's auries graves. The missionly of the baths which an over the size of the

the service stars of frame at the series raines avfrate at the series bulles is a three same small boy. It is there are small boy to be struggly of that. The factor is the factor youngster to the to bue way out to the factor of hermelts away with it to it himself or rolls it for it himself or sells it for who are always in the marinel no such