EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 1915.

PITCHING DAYS OF NAP RUCKER OVER-MEL SHEPPARD SUES NEW YORK ATHLETIC CLUR

NAP RUCKER, ONE OF THE GAME'S GREATEST, HAS SEEN HIS DAY

12 *

Great Brooklyn Pitcher, Cunning Unimpaired, Shows Ravages of Time-Baker-Mack Controversy Begins to Wear on Fans' Nerves-Ruse to Avoid Conflict of Contracts.

Napoleon Rucker, once known as the king of southpaws, tried to twirl against the Phillies yesterday. He remained in the box for eight innings and was able to keep the game reasonably close. But it was shown clearly that the famous left arm had lost its strength. The wonderful brain that made Rucker famous is still cunning, but the speed is gone and the wonderful sharp-breaking curve ball is now a "roundhouse curve," with little to it.

Rucker's brain was working all the time and he outguessed the Phillies in a remarkable manner for a time, considering that he did not have as much speed as the average schoolboy twirler. To those who can remember the blinding speed of the Rucker of a few years ago, yesterday's exhibition was indeed pitiful. In other days Rucker would have faced Cravath, or any other slugger in the game, with a smile on his face and calmly proceed to humble the hitter-but not now.

Rucker Pitched to Cravath and Trusted to Luck

When Cravath came up in the second inning, Rucker tried to keep the ball away from the centre of the plate and seemed to know that he had nothing that could deceive the slugging Quaker. Cravath refused to go after two wide ones, and then Rucker just tossed the ball up, trusting to chance. Cravath met the ball fairly and it flew far into the left field bleachers for a home run.

Rucker was not disappointed or surprised. He seemed to feel that it was coming, and each time Cravath came to the plate he strained the fast-weakening left arm trying to put all he had in his work. In the eighth inning he passed Cravath intentionally and filled the bases, only to have this piece of strategy miscarry. Whitted stepped to the plate and sent a single to deep left, scoring two runners and clinching the game.

The National League strike-out record of modern times is still held by Rucker, who fanned 14 Boston batsmen in a nine-inning game. Perhaps the fans will also remember the afternoon in 1910 when he fanned 15 of the hard-hitting Phillies in a 12-inning game. That feat was accomplished with blinding speed and only an occasional curve ball to the left-handed hitters.

Chalmers Like the Chalmers of Old

Looking the box score over, one naturally would be under the impression that George Chalmers was hit hard and was also lucky to last the full game. But this is one case where figures deceive. Twelve hits were recorded for the Dodgers, but six of these were on balls that did not leave the infield, while still another was a misjudged fly ball by Whitted.

Chaimers really looked like the Chaimers of 1911. He was not quite so fast as he used to be, but his spitball was breaking fast and his control was much better than he has shown in three years. So fast was his spitter breaking that almost all the Dodgers were striking over the ball. Hitting the ball in this manner caused the many hard infield bounders that could not be handled. When Chalmers used his fast ball it was hopping a bit, and high flies resulted. All told, there were only about five balls met fairly on the big fellow.

Ruse to Evade Baker's Contract Conflict Reports today say J. Franklin Baker is to have a position as manager of John P. Crozer's stock farm, with a salary of \$10,000 a year, and that he will not be signed to an Upland baseball contract. Instead he will receive his money as a farm manager and give his services to the Upland team, which is financed by Crozer, gratis.

In this manner the Delaware County League hopes to avert a split with the Interstate Association. Manager Miller, of Upland, intimated that the Delaware County League in general and the Upland Club in particular would allow no interference with its plans by the Interstate Association, while J. Borton Weeks, president of the Delaware County League, quoted a rule of the Interstate Association which declares that contract jumping is against its rules only when a man jumps a contract signed with a club of that particular association.

Fans Tire of Mack-Baker Controversy

As badly as the fans wish to see Baker return to the Athletics, they are beginning to tire of the affair. If Baker returns he will be welcomed by thousands as a ball player, and probably will be loudly cheered on his first appearance, but he will never be the idol he was before his breach of faith with Manager Mack.

The latter has always treated Baker fairly, and the greater sympathy is with Manager Mack. But there has been too much stalling in this matter to suit the fans. The sooner Baker and Mack do something final the better it will be. Mack says one minute he does not want Baker, if one is to believe telegraph dispatches, and in the next interview he intimates that Baker may still return. Baker is likewise switching his opinion every other day. There should be some action; either get together or split for good.

Phillies Have "Bumps" Coming, Says Critic

"Herbert," in the New York Tribune, has this to say concerning the

SWIMMING STARS OF THE TURNGEMEINDE

(11) AND

Some of the best swimming talent in Philadelphia has been developed at the Broad street and Columbia avenue natatorium. Here are shown Mrs. C. D. Klump, of Girard avenue, and her little daughter (on the left) and Ethel Shutt, wee swimmers, who have won the plaudits of the club by their brilliant feats.

TURNGEMEINDE WOMEN TO SWIM NEW YORKERS

National Life Saving League Members Coming Here for Dual Meet on May 15.

Philadelphia Turngemeinde women are training like Trojans in their natatorium for the dual meet with the New York Women's National Life Saving League, to take place in the local tank May 15. Elaborate preparations are being made for the reception of the visitors. From indications the meet will be one of the best ever held here.

The Turngemeinde

The Toast Incarnate

Sing if you will of McGraw and Mack-Chant the science of their attack Up with the beaker-up with a will To Hughey Jennings or Smiling Bill; But off apart from the awirling mart And a fellow feeling within my heart— Here goes—and deep to the final drop-To the Ultimate Dreg of the cup, old top-Though luck may leer where fortune frouns-

Here goes-THE MANAGER OF THE

KENTUCKY DERBY HAS MADE SENSATIONAL TURF HISTORY

Classic This Spring Will Be Run Over Churchill Downs Course, How Apollo Nosed Out Runnymede Is Still a Favorite Tale in Track Circles.

was wagered on his chances in the win-ter books. As a result his price was cut and dropped to the shortest odds ever offered against the chances of a ever onered against the chances of a winter favorite. His owners had sent Hindoo to Kentucky the year previous, and that great performer walked away from his field in the stake. The pres-tige of the Brooklyn stable affected the betting and wagers were made from ocean

As the day of the Derby approached Runnymede found increased support and on the eve of the great race was quoted at even money by the layers. At post time he was an odds on favorite and regarded he was an odds on lavorite and regarded as a certain winner by all the supposed good judges. In the meantime, however, there had come up from the South a rather ordinary looking gelding named Apollo, which was in the stable of Green B. Morris, who is still in the harness as a trainer at the Juarez track with the well known performers Brightstone Bose weli-known performers Brightstone, Rose

well-known performers Brightstone, Rose Ring and Wavering. Morris bought Apollo in the spring of 1581, when the future Kentucky Derby winner was a 2-year-old. He was not campaigned in his juvenile year and in the spring of that season Henry Brown, a Kentucky trainer, had Apollo in his care. While working him one morning with another horse, the latter carried the future crack all the way around the future crack all the way around the future crack all the sy around the future crack by his owner. D. Swiger, to

MEL SHEPPARD SUES FOR \$25,000 DAMAGES

Philadelphia Athlete Blames

New York Club for Injuries in Recent Race.

NEW YORK, April 28 .- Melvin W. Sheppard, of Philadelphia, one time champion runner, representative of the United States in several Olympic contests, and one of the best-known figures in amateur athletic circles that this country has produced, has been forced to retire from the track as the result of permanent injuries suffered by him in a fall, caused, he alleges, by rotten planking in Madison Square Garden. Sheppard was a par-ticipant in contests in the garden, con-ducted under the auspices of the New York Athletic Club, on February 10 last, and on that date, he sets forth in an affidavit; he met with the accident which removed him from the field of athletics after public appearances extending over

the price he asked Morris. Time the price ne asked Morris. Time rolls around and Swigert received the arm 500 from Morris, for Apollo won the Deriv of 1882. Previous to winning the Deriv Apollo won the Cottrill Stakes, here ridden by his exercising boy, "Babe Hurd.

Hurd. To this day many excuses are offered for Runnymede's defeat. The heavy track condition was one cause that contributed to the son of Billet's downfall. The to the son of Billet's downfall. The to the son of billers downal. The again it was claimed that he was ne keyed up to a mile and a half race for the Derby was his initial 3-year-old ap pearance. In after years the winter beam were charged with having something is do with Runnymede's downfall, as set eral firms then operating stood to loss a fortune in the event that Runnymede in lahed in front.

The truth is, however, Apollo under til conditions that day was the better horse over a mile and a half of ground He never for a moment left the in doubt, and while Runnymede a few

MCANDREWS AGAIN WINS

Manayunk Fighter Outslugs Moy at Norristown. NORRISTOWN, Pa., April 28. - Eddie McAndrews, of Manayunk, defeated Eddie

Moy, of Allentown, in the 10-round windup at the Palace Athletic Club here last night McAndrews outslugged Moy during the greater part of the bout, the Allentown boxer using a jab that had little effect on McAndrews. Moy's right eye was cut in the sixth and this bothered him to a great extent. The three preliminary bout re-sulted in knockouts. In the semiwind-up Eddie Bratton, of Manayunk, went down for the full count in the fifth from han right to the stomach administered by Harry Allen, of Philadelphia. Seeaw Kelly, of Philadelphia, knocked out he Butcher Boy, of Bryn Mawr, in the fifth round, and Topsy Campbell forced Kd

Dwyer to quit in the second session

RADNOR RADNO



"Sensations are much a part of baseball. Nothing else perhaps accounts so largely for its gripping interest. The frolicsome Phillies, who three short weeks ago appeared to be literally shot to pieces, have been providing the first sensation of the new baseball year. The Braves, the Giants, the Cubs first sensation of the new baseball year. The Braves, the Giants, the Cubs could have rushed off at the same wild pace without causing a ripple of excitement, but so little was expected of the Phillies under their new manager, Pat Moran, that their wild whirl has set all tongues wagging. Without detracting from the credit due the players, who have settled so quickly into their stride with a show of spirit that is impressive, it may be suggested that the race is not always to the swift, and that one year the Pittsburgh Pirates won 15 out of their first 17 games and yet finished far back in the ruck.

"About May 10, 1914, the baseball writers were marveling and saying much the same things about the Pirates as they are now saying about the Phillies. On May 9, to be exact, the Pirates were sailing along far in front with a percentage of .882, while the Boston Braves were trailing with a percentage of .231, having won just three of their 13 games. But, oh, what a difference a few months made! Every baseball fan knows where the Braves were in October. All this is not recalled for the purpose of discrediting the Phillies. They may not follow the example of the Pirates and slip back to a place in the rear, but the fact remains that followers of the Giants, to say nothing of the other teams in the National League, have no reason to grow restive or to count the battle over.

"Everything else aside, it looks as if Pat Moran would make a name for himself as a big league manager. Judging from their play here last week in winning four straight, his men have been inspired with that fighting spirit which counts so largely in any contest. Grantag, however, that Grover Cleveland Alexander ranks with the greatest pitchers of all time, granting that Chalmers has come back, and that Mayer, Demaree and Rixey make up a pitching staff of which any manager could be proud, the team as a whole does not yet measure up in skill or ability with the Giants. Braves, Cubs or Superbas. Things have been breaking right, the men have been aroused and encouraged by their success, but the comparative newness of the infield is likely to be felt when the bumps, which are sure to come, are reached." . . .

Phillies Are There, Avers Another Scribe

The New York Herald has some appreciation of the Phillies. It says:

"Coming from the South only a mediocre organization, as far as past records can be believed, Moran paraded before Boston and New York 'fans' a team filled to the overflowing with confidence and winning spirit. The pitching staff was all that a manager could hope for. Headed by Grover Cleveland Alexander, who is acknowledged the best twirler in the National League, the flingers of Moran overrode all the hitters they met until Saturday, and then only a thorough beating made the Clan na Moran declare they were losers.

Some of the critics of baseball took up the subject of the Phillies, analyzed their strength both afield and at bat, and at the end of the arguments it was the consensus that 'Cactus' Cravath is the most dangerous hitter in the pinch . in the league; that Moran's infield performs defensively better than any ever representing Philadelphia in the National League; that the pitching staff is well organized and founded upon power; that 'Bill' Killefer is just as close to the top as any catcher in the game, and that the men already have displayed a knowledge of the finer points of baseball that will make them dangerous.

"None of the critics would attempt to say where the Phillies would finish in the race, although most of them figured that Moran's club was a first division probability. The argument in favor of the Phillies finishing in the first four was based on the fact that St. Louis, Cincinnati, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh and the Giants are all weaker this year than the Phils."

members some of the swiftest swimmers in the city, and it will be surprising if

100-yard swim, fancy diving and the plunge for distance. As one of the at-tractive features of the program the visitors will give a practical demonstration in the art of life saving and resuscitation of apparently drowned. The director of swimming at the local

institution has issued a call for the mem-bers tonight, and the women will be put through their paces in preparation for the coming event WILLIE LUCAS EASY VICTOR

OVER KNOCKOUT FARRELL

Right and Left Swings Tell in Bout at Fairmount.

Willie Lucas scored his third straight victory over "Knockout" Jack Farrell in the final bout at the Fairmount Athletic Club last night. During the early rounds Farrell appar-

ently could not gauge his distance, and many of the blows which he directed at his opponent's head flew wide of their mark. Lucas had the blood trickling from Farrell's mouth throughout the bout with straight lefts and left hooks to the face.

Farrell rocked his adversary with a series of right and left swings, delivered to the head in the third round, but he was apparently unable to check the short right and left swings which were launched by Lucas at close range, and in order to protect himself he at times resorted to holding and clinching. In the last round Farrell retreated so fast from his opponent's attack that he almost broke into a run.

Murphy in 1 minute and 10 seconds of the first round with several well directed right hooks to the jaw.

In the other bouts Charlle Smith and Johnny McAvoy boxed a draw. Frankie Alexander is qualifying among the Pitch-Hart held Black Dixle, of Memphis, to an even break. Battling Butcher, of Milwaukee, was knocked out in the hird round by Sammy Miles and Jack Smith stopped Reddy Lynch in the last round. ing Immortals. Alex began his great run back in 1911. He starred for four campaigns, and now, beginning his fifth year, looks to be greater than ever. So he has proved his worth-not over the short way,

"Buck" O'Brien With Providence BOSTON, April 28.-"Buck" O'Brien, a number of the Red Box pitching eight when he team would be world's championship in the segreet to terms with President J. C. Langing of the Providence International

Columbia Plays Penn Today The Penn baseball team will play the Co-hundra University nine today on Franklin Field at 3 o'clock. Coach Thomas will have his usual time-up, with either Wisnes or Speilman doing the twirling.

He's a human being-I know the guy-

With a regular nose and a regular eye-He sleeps in a bed and he lives on food, While clothes prevent him from going nude:

And a few of us who have hit the chutes With a harrowing run of muffs and "boots"

Can take a moment or two and slip A bloke one push for an uphill trip-Over the sweep of the flag-crazed towns, And drink-THE MANAGER OF THE BROWNS,

One Reason

Dear Sir-I see most of the so-called experts are picking Johnson and Alexander now as the two greatest pitchers. What's the matter with Dick Rudolph and Bill James, who pitched a tail-end

club into a pennant and then beat the hardest-hitting machine of 10 years and made it look foolish? Or what is the matter with Ray Caldwell, who shut ou, Walter Johnson, and who last season, with a weak club, had a winning percentage of over .650?

Just a Fan

Nothing is the matter with Rudolph, James or Caldwell. But in rating a slab-man as a great pitcher it isn't a matter of one year or two years-but of the test of time. There have been any number who starred for a year or so-and then fell back out of range. Joe Wood drew one record-breaking year. Vean Gregg was a Nap Rucker for one season. Russ Ford illuminated the trail two campaigns. But one or two years form no lasting test.

The Difference

is complete.

to eight years?

Caldwell has it in him to reach almost any pitching height. But the test is not in what a man might do, but in what the record shows he has already put through, for, after all, it is the cold, unbiased record that furnishes the full reply. Opinion is a small part of it when stacked up against the pallid figures of won and lost and earned runs.

Ray Caldwell

The same goes for Slim Caldwell, a

pitcher with as much stuff as any liv-

ing man. Caldwell, potentially, is on a

But Caldwell, with all his amazing pos-

sibilities, has never yet won 25 games in

a season. On what grounds can he yet

be compared to two men who have aver-

aged more than 27 victories for from four

par with Johnson or Alexander.

Rudolph and James got their start to-ward greatness last year. But in this pastime no one qualifies in one season to sit with the Stalwarts. The two Brave workmen were away to a flying start toward fame, but it will take another two or three years at least of continued high-grade work before they can take their places among the elect.

Stone one season led the American League at bat with an average of .358. After that he faded. No one, therefore, would ever rank Stone among the game's great hitters. Wagner, Lajole and Cobb draw the hip-hip output, not because they had any one brilliant season, but be-cause they have stuck up there for one year after another against all varieties and conditions of pitching.

Pierre Maupome Defeats Jones

RACES TODAY At HAVRE DE GRACE

Six Races Dally-Including a atceplechase. Special Trains-Fenna. R. R. leave Broad St. 13:34 p. m., West Phila, 12:38 p. m.; B. & O. leave 24th and Chestnut Sts. 12:45 p. m. Admission, Grandstand and Paddock. \$1.50. Ladles, \$1.00. First Race at 2:30 p. m.



Game at 3.50 P. M. Admission, 26c, 50c and 75c. Box Beats, \$1. On sale at Gimbels' and Spaidings'.

a period of 12 years. In a suit brought in the County Clerk's office yesterday. Sheppard makes the F. & D. Company, the show corporation and the New York Athletic Club parties de-fendant, and demands \$25,000 for dam-ages which he alleges to be due to their negligence. Sheppard holds the 600 and 1000-yard world's championship, and was a member of the relay hurdle championship team for one and two miles.

after public appearances extending over

Loescher Clears 6 feet 2 Inch Bar NEW YORK, April 25.—An intercollegiate possibility for the high jump title appeared in the Columbia track ranks when Ernie Louscher cleared 6 feet 2 inches yesterday. The bar sagged only about an inch. The sopho-more showed his performance was no fluke by clearing it three times in a row. Loescher is short for a high jumper, but has a forceful spring. spring.





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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES-AND THE WORST OF IT ALL, LOUIE, IS THE "A's" MUST FACE THAT DEMON



The semiwind-up was of short dura-tion, Al Britt, of Baltimore, stopping Joe Matty with 15 years and Plank with 14 years of stardom have proved where they belong. Walter Johnson has been a grand pitcher for eight seasons. And now