VETERAN UMPIRE ORTH FEARS FOR ALEXANDER—ROBINSON IS PEEVED AT JOHN M'GRAW

CURVE BALL RUINING ALEXANDER, SAYS PITCHER-UMPIRE ORTH

Veteran Philly, One-Time "Curveless Wonder," Declares Great Pitcher's Career in Endangered—Cites Downfall of Rucker. Phillies Show Classy Offense and Defense.

Al Orth, for eight years a pitcher with the Phillies in the latter 90's and now a National League umpire, believes that Grover Cleveland Alexander throws too many curve balls and that he will cut several years off his career by the continued use of this delivery. Orth says that Alexander is not the only star who is using too many curves; he attributes the sudden decline of Nap Rucker to the same practice,

Nobody is better qualified to talk on this subject than Orth, who was known as the "curveless wonder" for years after he joined the Phillies. He had a wonderful underhand fast ball, together with one of the best slow balls in the land at that time, with the possible exception of Clark Griffith and Bill Carrick; but the many Philly managers he worked under insisted that he develop a curve ball. Of course Orth always had a curve, but it did not amount to much, and he used it so seldom that he acquired the title

The development of the curve ball cut at least five years off his career, according to Orth's reasoning, and he says that too many curves are used by the present-day pitchers, and he undoubtedly is correct.

Predicts Early Downfall of Alexander the Great

Orth started on this subject when some one remarked that Hank Gowdy, Walter Maranville and Joe Connolly looked very bad on a curve ball when Alexander was on the mound. Byron, Orth's side partner, remarked that there were many others in the league who did not look good with the big Nebraskan on the mound. Orth agreed with him, but with a shake of his head, said:

"That's right, Bill, but I am afraid they are making that boy pitch too many curve balls. He does not seem to exert himself in the least; neither did I; but you can bet that it was Rucker's curve ball that ruined his arm. and he is an overhand pitcher. Overhand pitchers do not feel the effects of curve ball pitching as quickly as side-arm artists, and you must remember that Alex is entirely a side-arm pitcher.

"I may be wrong, and I hope Alexander is an exception to the rule, but I doubt if he can last with Matty, Cy Young, Charley Nichols and a few of the other great pitchers who saved that old curve until they lost their hop on the fast one. I never saw a pitcher who had a thing on Alexander, and I have seen them all since 1895. He has the natural ease of delivery and wenderful control to last 45 years, but they are making him use too many curve balls to go on for many years.

"When he is in the league a few more years be will feel every curve ball taking a little more strength out of the arm. You can't imagine the feeling until you have experienced it vourself. I did, and have talked to the stars who are just about to pass, and they all admit feeling the same way.

"Five years ago Nap Rucker did not bother much with his curve ball. He had remarkable speed, almost as much as Johnson, and a good slow ball. Except on left-handed hitters he seldom used the curve, unless it was as a waste pitch. Alexander looks just the same now, but may be wearing out in five years. If this marvelous performer starts to slip in about three years, just remember what I told you about the curve ball pitching and ask him about the condition of his arm."

Alexander's Control of Curve Almost Uncanny

While Alexander is hardly due to slow up in three years, it must be admitted that he does use an unusually large number of curve balls. His control of it is absolutely uncanny. Instead of using a fast ball, generally the easiest to control, when in a hole, the lanky Philly pitcher always uses the curve. If the count is three and two the curve comes up instead of the fast one, and though some batters have learned this still they cannot hit him, so great is the shoot and perfect the control.

Mayer Complete Master of Brooklyn

Brooklyn is still at the mercy of Erskine Mayer, the clever side-arm expert, of the Phillies. For two seasons the Dodgers have been easy for Mayer. No matter how hard other teams might bat him, so soon as Brooklyn comes along it is the end of a losing streak for the Atlantan.

Yesterday's shut-out victory was a typical Mayer victory over Brooklyn. They often hit him hard, but could not bunch the safeties. Many persons left the park saying the Philly hurler was lucky. But it was far from luck, as Mayer never exerted himself until the Dodgers threatened to score. Eight hits were made, but they were scattered through seven innings, and two extra-base hits, a triple by Myers and a double by Schultz, went for naught. On the other hand, the Phillies got their runs cheaply through the wildness of Appleton, Brooklyn's recruit from the Texas League.

Jake Daubert Ruins Recruits' Possible Chances

In the first inning, after Bancroft had singled, Appleton passed Becker and Cravath, filling the bases-thanks to Jake Daubert's persistent worrying of the young twirler. Every time Appleton pitched and a ball was called, Daubert walked over to the box to call the youngster down and offer advice. Instead of steadying Appleton, he was plainly perturbed and grew wilder than ever.

Daubert is more to blame than Appleton for placing those two men on the sacrifice fly and a c bases, and both scored executed double steal by Becker and Cravath. The Phillies' final run was also PHILS' AND ATHLETICS' due to a pass. Appleton walked Cravath for the second time, and he tallied on Luderus' long smash to the left field bleachers after Whitted and Dugey had been retired.

Injuries Fail to Cripple Phillies

Dugey was sent into the game in place of Niehoff, who tore a ligament in Tuesday's game. It has been remarked frequently, since the Phillies started on their mad dash, that the team would blow as soon as they suffered bad luck in the form of injuries to any of the regulars. But they did not even seem to miss Niehoff. There is no question but that Niehoff will be missed if he is out of the game a great length of time, as Dugey's arm is rather weak and he is not as hard a hitter as Niehoff; but he has a good head, coupled with good all-around ability. and will surely fill the bill until the ex-Red gets back in the game."

The Phillies' fielding was of the gilt-edge variety; in fact, much more consistent than at any time since they returned home. More spectacular fielding has been done by the Phillies in other games, but they had mixed good plays with bad. Yesterday's exhibition, however, was smooth and clean-cut. Beals Becker, who continues to field as never before, made three brilliant catches, one of which robbed Cutshaw of a triple and cut off at least one run.

The Three "B's" Are a Busy Little Lot

Bancroft and Byrne continued their lightning work on the left side of the diamond. Byrne is fast convincing the fans that he has it on Lobert in every way except on the bases and though his batting average is not as robust as it should be, Byrne has been hitting the ball hard-but straight at the fielders. Seldom has a shortstop shown the ability to discern where a hit is going as well as Bancroft. He seems to have a strange intuition just where the ball is going before it is hit, and is on the move even as the pitcher winds up. His catch of O'Mara's line drive, that was over close to Byrne, was an eye-opener to the spectators, who could not figure out just how the little fellow had gotten there.

Professor O'Bolger Strikes Discordant Note

Prof. Thomas D. O'Bolger, who teaches English at the University of Pennayivania, might as well try to turn back the waters of Niagara as to expect such a statement as he issued to overcome the demand of the students that the university day begin at 8 o'clock instead of 9, in order that they might have a recreation period in the afternoon. Professor O'Bolger's statement showed that he was not in sympathetic touch with the physical side of student life at Pennaylvania. There was certainly nothing unfair in the petition of the students They did not ask the faculty to do anything that they were not willing to do themselves; neither did they ask the teaching force to increase the length of their day. All they wanted was a chance to take their athletic exercise in the afternoon without having it cut short by darkness. The Pennsylvania faculty has made very few concessions to the athletic side of student life, and this request

should be granted. The request for a recreation period is natural and founded on good sense. As things are now, the students are obliged to attend recitations up to 4, and, frequently, 5 o'clock. Beginning the day's work at 8 o'clock would be a help all md. Not only would it aid the athletic teams, but it would permit many cludents who do not try for teams at least to take some outdoor exercise every gay. Further, when these students get out into the world they will have to report for work at 8 o'clock, and many of them even earlier. It would not hurt them or the faculty to begin work now at 8 o'clock.



THEY WERE THREE BUSY LITTLE "Bs" YESTERDAY

KILBANE VS. LEONARD IN NEW YORK TONIGHT

Featherweight Champ Has Another Chance to Win Favor of Gotham Fans.

NEW YORK, April 29 - Johnny Kilbane, the featherweight champion of the world. You ask me wanty why it is will be not the Federal A. C. on the The Giants and Mackmen trail each will box at the Federal A. C., on the Bowery, tonight. His opponent will be Benny Leonard, and the contest will be Amid the forefront of the fray; of 10 rounds, unless something in the nature of hard hitting brings about an And if I miss it will not be earlier ending.

In another 10-round contest Leach Cross, the ever-popular East Side dentist, will engage Packey Hemmey, the Italian lightweight, and this contest, although not dignified by the presence of champions, bigs fair to be none the less interesting. Cross, with his well-known hitting ability, and Hommey, gamest of the game and furiously aggressive, ought to make the fur fiv.

to make the fur fly.

After an absence of two years or more Kilbene will make another bid for local popularity. For some reason or other the Cleveland lad has never been able to establish himself with New York's lox-ing enthusiasts. It may be that his skill was beyond the ken of many, for in most cities Kilbane is balled as a real champion, which, indeed, he is. A master of defensive tavtics and a wizard at blocking punches as they are started. Kilbane his fougit what looked to many like a slow, uninteresting hout. As a matter of fact, he was doing a stylish piece of work. Assirat Leonard he will have to be at his best. He will be conceding a handicap in weight, and there are few boys hereshots, who can outlook this same Benny. abouts who can outbox this same Benny Leonard. Under the tutelage of Willie Ritchie he has become even more clever, and is primed to make the effort of his life tonight.

BATTING AVERAGES

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Maupome Downs Two Rivals Sering game:
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This afternoon Maupome will meet Captain William Boese, of Affantic City, and in the evening will cross cues with John Denkieman is a special match.



In Rebuttal

The first soft chance that I have muffed.

They have good men and all of that-They have the head and and of that.
They know well how to wield a but,
Or cke to trap the buzzing fly;
They have the stuff to roup along—
Their place is not against the wall—

The other pop-cycd clubs, outclassed, Are merely playing better ball,

The First Two Weeks

Two weeks are no part of a tip-off on a pennant race scheduled to absorb the best part of six months-or the worst part, as you may care to view it.

The first two weeks of April play practically have nothing to do with the last two weeks of September ranking. Yet they may start a story replete with unexpected episodes. And we fall to recall any two starting weeks that carried as many upheavals as these last two have.

Surprises and Such

There have been five surprises developed at the lowest count. The Phillies have led in upsets, with the Detroit Tigers sec-ond. And closely behind these follow



TOM O'TOOLE Considerable credit is being given Tom O'Toole, track captain of the Wilmington High School, for the showing made by his team at the University of Pennsylvania re-lays on Saturday, as well as for his own work on the team. the revised and re-edited Yanks. Just how long these three can maintain their status has nothing to do with the fact that so far they have looked to be the three best ball clubs in the game, where two weeks ago at least two of them were regarded as nix.

The Other Two

The Other Two

But the other two from the Surprise Quintet have shown even more startling stuff. No one expected either Giants or Mackinen to rule with the old sway; but pertainly no one expected them to get away on the gravel train.

McGraw, from 1985—a matter of 12 years—never had a ball club that broke as badly over the early part of the road. And it has been at least seven years since Connie Mack had a machine as notably below flag winning standards in the early episode of play.

How McGraw Feels

McGraw is holding his head up, for sport has known no gamer fighter. But in his entire career he has never been as deeply worried as he is now.

He hasn't given up hope yet by a number of leagues, but he understands that conditions are far from the old days. And he also knows that the Record of Sport and Public Judgment take in no alibi. however worthy that alibi may be.

Tough Situation

McGraw, through no fault of his own, is up against the roughest situation that ever confronted any manager-barring one or two who became entangled with the Reds and Browns, Last June he had a ball club out in

The Feds began their raids to protect himself he had to sign his men to non-release long-term contracts men to non-release long-term contracts or lose them. He had no way of knowing that a club that had won three flags and was still leading was on the verge of slipping. They don't grow that wise in human mold. When they know that much they get to be angels.

Having signed up his men to protect himself and the league, several of his stars began to skid, and then the N. L. came in with an edict that only 21 men could be carried—which meant that Mercould be carried—which meant the Mercould be carrie

could be carried—which meant that Mc-Graw had to retain at least 17 members of his-cast, with no chance left to start

Poor Economy This

This 21 player limit was supposed to be in the way of economy. Suppose the Giants break, as other star machines have broken-suppose they slip for good? Suppose they infest the bottom all the year? McGraw can't rebuild, for he can't release any veterans under their contracts, and he can't add youngsters, for he can now carry only 21 men.

for he can now carry only 21 men.

He will be cornered without having a chance to fight. There is no move he can make. And yet some six or seven National League magnates call this economy. Where will the economy come in if the Glants stay in last place and midweek crowds drop from 8000 to 1500, while Saturday crowds diven for 1500. while Saturday crowds slump from 25,-000 to \$000?

The other clubs get their share of this

kale. If the Glant slimp continues the loss will be as much theirs as Harry Hempstead's, who fought the plan. And the so-called economy will cost seven other clubs about \$20,000 apicce-net. Which is not our idea of economy

RACES TODAY At HAVRE DE GRACE

Six Races Daily—including a

steeplechase.

Special Trains—Penna. R. R. Icave
Broad St. 12:34 p. m., West Phila., 12:38
p. m.; B. & O. leave 24th and Chestaut
Sis. 12:45 p. m.

Admission, Grandstand and Paddock,
\$1.50, Ladles, \$1.00,
First Race at 2:30 p. m.

PRIDAY NIGHT — FRIDAY NIGHT Quaker City A.A. Billy Nushickel Prop. LEO TRACEY vs. YOUNG PIERCE ALL-STAR SHOW

NATIONAL LEAGUE PARK PHILLIES vs. BROOKLYN Game at \$30 P. M. Admission, 25c, 50c and 75c. Hex Seats, \$1. On sale at Gimbels' and Spaidings'.

TIPS FROM THE RACE TRACKS AND NOTES ON THE PONIES.

Harry Payne Whitney's String Off for Louisville-George D. Widener's Likely Bunch of Juveniles-Great Season Expected for Kentucky.

true.

There are at present about 250 theroughbreds stabled at Helmont Park track. The majority of the horses which wintered at Sheepshead Bay and Gravesend

are at the Queens County course.

The Juveniles, Short Ballot, Hands Off., Airman, Devoushire, Dolly, Pantomime and Prince of Como, belong to the Belmont Park track stable of Gifford A. Cochran. Mr. Cochran recently inspected his pets and expressed himself as being very much pleased with the appearance. much pleased with the appearance

George D. Widener, Jr., has a bunch of juveniles quartered at Belmont this season, which are likely to play an important part in the racing season. He has eight youngsters by Garry Herrmann, all of which are trim, smart-looking ponies.

Among the recent arrivals at the Hudson River Park track, Poughkeepsie, is

Among the lot of Harry Payne Whitney's string which will be shipped by James Rowe from Brookdale Farm Saturday to Louisville will be several candidates for the Kentucky Derby and the Oaks.

The Jockey Club will decide the case of J. H. Hendrick, whose entries were refused at Havre de Grace. The trouble arose over the running up of the filly Ada Anne several days ago.

John H. Young. Mr. Young carried with him a string of fine youngsters from Allen Farm. Pittafield, Mass.

In the lot of Harry Payne Whithit is a string of fine youngsters from Allen Farm. Pittafield, Mass.

In the lot of horses which will remain at Havre de Grace until time for the mont track, New York, will be the excellent string of John O. Talbott.

According to the reports from Rentucky, the coming senson is destined to be a great one for light-harness horse.

The news from Lexington indicates that The news from Lexington indicates that last winter's gloomy prediction by John Splan, Harry Burgoyne and other well-known horsemen did not prove to be

George W. Leavitt, the prominent Bos-tonian, who has owned and discovered more turf champions than any other man on the track, is now at Lexington, and on the trace, is now at Lexington, and predicts a brilliant breeding season. He has with him at Lexington The Northern Man, 2:06%, one of the best horses in the Hingen clan.

Among the well-known turfmen of Among the well-known turfmen of Philadelphia who have visited Havre de Grace recently is like Thompson. For more than 50 years Mr. Thompson has been a prominent figure on the turf, and is known throughout the country as an

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

	NATIONA	LL	EAGU	E.					
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	Chicago 7	6	,538	-571	,500				
	St. Louis 7	8	,467	.500	.437				
	Boston 6	6	.500	.538	.462				
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TODAY'S SCHEDULE National League

,400

American League

Pittsburgh

Brooklyn *Kansas City

*Buffalo

Baltimore

Federal League

timore at Brooklyn, threatening, Louis at l'ittalurgh, cloudy, Two game y Federal games today, * International League

Rochester at Jersey City, cloudy, Montreal at Newark, cloudy, Runnle at Providence, rain. Only International games today. YESTERDAY'S RESULTS National League

Phillies, 3; Brooklyn, 0. Chicago, 9; Chichmati, 8. Pittaburgh, 7; St. Louis, 6. New York-Boaton. American League

Federal League Chicago, 13; Kansas City, 1. (Other games called off, rain.)

International League Buffalo, 3; Providence, 6, Toronto, 15; Richmond, 4

Cincinnati Releases Pitcher Fittery CINCINNATI, April 20 - Manager Charles derzeg, of the Cheimnati Nationals, has an injunced that he had rejected Plucher Paul Fittery to the Salt Lake City Club, of the Paulfic Copast Lengue.

Joe Mayer Beats Poggenberg NEW YORK, April 26.—At Duby's billing arlor last night Joseph Mayer defeated Ferral Pergentses at 18.2 balling billing is score of 500 to 250. Mayer made for lathest run 10. while Pognenberg's highest run 41. Tonight Mayer will go against Tons 41. Tonight Mayer will go against Tons 41.

ROBINSON ANGERED: WHEAT TRADE TALK AN OLD GIANT TRICK

Brooklyn Dodgers' Pilot Declares Star Fielder Has Not Been Traded. McGraw's Old "Rumor" Trick Again at Work.

Wilbert Robinson is in nasty mood tolay, and justly so. A report from New York last night stated that Zack Wheat, his hard-hitting left fielder, had been traded to the Giants for Jack Murray, Dave Robertson and Pol Perritt and that the men would join their new clubs immediately.

Robinson was indignant early this morngn, and stated that it was a fake of the rankest sort and that he could not imagine where it originated. In the first place he says he thinks more of Wheatthan the three men McGraw offered, and in the second that he would not think of ying himself up to three such contracts as Murray, Robertson and Perritt have with New York. The latter is tled up for two more years through the foolish move made by the Giants to prevent him from playing in the Federal League where he had made a contract in good faith.

Perritt was never a pitcher and most likely never will be of the type to draw down the salary he is getting for his disregard for a contract, and Manager Me-Graw is disgusted with his work to date. He probably would be tickled if he could get rid of Perritt and the two-year, fromclad contract.

clad contract.

Robinson infinished that the yarn was started in New York to stir up discontent. It has been said before that trade talk has obtained many stars for the Giants through players becoming discontented after rumors were started. Lobert was certainly discontented and

anxious to get to New York, and he was There are many other instances. In fact, it seems as though the Glants can land almost anybody they want when the club is going bad. They have the money and a strong team in New York enriches the whole league. That is why the Giants are always in the running.

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DEVON HORSE SHOW MAY 27, 28, 29, 31

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John B. Stetson Company 1224 Chestnut Street

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES-ISN'T IT? OR WASN'T IT, BEFORE IT BEGAN? SAY, LOUIE, WHY IS A NUT?



MESS PHILACIS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS















