

PHILLIES' SHOWING BRINGS DENIAL FROM M'GRAW-GOOD FIGHT STAGED AT OLYMPIA

M'GRAW ADMITS THE PHILLIES ARE CONTENDERS FOR PENNANT

Giants' Leader Denies Alleged Interview in Which He Termed Spurt "Flash-in-the-Pan"—The "I" Plays Yesterday Which Would Have Turned Tide of Battle.

John McGraw, manager of the New York Giants, denied that he ever said the Phillies were a "false alarm" or "spring champions." The leader of the many-time champion Giants says that he could not have been quoted as saying that the Phillies were a joke ball club because he honestly believed Moran's team would be in the fight to the finish.

Teamwork Better Than Flashes of Stars

"I want it understood that I never said the Phillies were a joke team for league leaders," was McGraw's sharp answer when asked why he had predicted a second division berth for the Phillies in a recent alleged interview.

"Some people say he has not a good club because he has passed up some stars, but that is wrong. This fellow Whitted is every bit as good as Magee and perhaps a little better. Magee is a wonderful ball player, but he makes sensational work with some very bad playing, and this hurts a team that must settle itself into the steady gait that wins pennants."

Whys and Wherefores of Phillies' Success

"Moran has the best pitcher in the land in Alexander," continued McGraw, "and with Mayer and one or two others, he has a staff strong enough to win any pennant if the club holds up, and there is no reason why it should not hold up. And, remember, we also will be in the race. We don't look good now, but we will. My team is composed of veterans and they are slow in rounding into form. This, together with the bad luck in the form of accidents, has sent us to the bottom, but when warm weather comes we will start to climb."

"I look to see the Braves, Giants, Phillies and Cubs stay up at the top or thereabouts. I don't think that the Braves are a bit better if as good as last season. The mad spurt last season kept the men keyed up to a high pitch and they really went better than they knew how. And then again they will not carry the other teams off their feet as they did in 1914, nor is it likely they will ever get such consistent pitching as that done by Rudolph, James and Tyler for the last half of the season."

Records of Double-plays in Baseball

When the Yankees made four double plays against the Athletics on Saturday it was said that this was the American League record for the season and equaled the best record made in Johnson's league since its inception. That is wrong. This mark has been beaten five times in the American League.

Just a week ago the St. Louis Browns made five double plays in five successive innings. Prior to Tuesday, April 27, the Browns had twice made five double plays in a nine-inning game. They turned the trick first on July 27, 1912, and again on July 2, 1913. Other American League teams to make five double killings in a game were Boston, on May 8, 1904, and Cleveland, on June 1, 1913, but five double plays in five consecutive innings was never accomplished before the Browns did it against Detroit last Tuesday.

In the National League Brooklyn has been the only club to accomplish the feat in nine innings, though it has often been equaled and beaten in extra-inning games. Brooklyn got away with the trick on August 23, 1913. The record performance of this kind was by the Kansas City Club, of the American Association, which made six double plays in six consecutive innings on May 4, 1914. The greater number recorded in one game was eight, made by the Boston American League Club in an 18-inning game in 1903. Five of these plays were made by the famous Parent-to-Ferris-to-Lachance combination.

Real Test Now for the Phillies

The fans now may see what the Phillies are made of. They are facing the crisis in the next two days. Any ball club looks great in victory and with things going their way, but it takes a real club to come back after losing a heart-breaking struggle like the Phillies dropped to the Giants yesterday. The Athletics were anything but a beaten team in the world's series until Eddie Plank was downed in that nerve-racking 1-to-0 game. But after that defeat they cracked.

Will the Phillies crack. Apparently yesterday's game was merely one defeat, but its moral effect will be great. The team will either fight back like a game ball club, or lose heart when facing just such a contingency that arose in the ninth inning yesterday. One does not realize what a defeat of that sort means to a club until he has seen the men and watches how they take it.

What Might Have Happened "If"

It was a game of "ifs." One could mention many "ifs" that would have turned defeat into victory. All the Fates seemed to combine against the Phillies in that eventful ninth inning. Chalmers pitched a beautiful game until then, and even after Lobert had doubled and scored on George Burns' sacrifice fly there did not seem to be a chance for the Giants.

Two men were out when Robertson stepped to the plate. He had made a double and two singles out of three trips to the plate, and the crowd was on the anxious bench. When Chalmers shot two strikes across, the crowd breathed easier. The next pitch was a ball, but the following one appeared to be right across the centre of the plate. Eddie Burns, catching for the Phillies, started to run for the clubhouse, but Umpire Quigley called the pitch a ball.

Catcher Burns Could Have Won Game

Robertson had another chance and started fouling off pitch after pitch. Five fouls were hit and then he just grazed one. The ball went straight into Burns' mitt, but he dropped it. If he had held it the game would have been over. But he didn't. Robertson then hit a grounder at Luderus, which bounded badly and got away from the first sacker for a hit. If he had held it Robertson would have been an easy out.

Then Brainard swung at a spitter and rolled an easy grounder down the third-base line, which he beat out. Byrne was playing deep, or he might have thrown him out. Meyers, one of the Giants' best hitters, was next up. Chalmers had him two strikes and no balls when, for some reason or other, he shot a fast ball straight across, instead of trying to work the big Indian.

Meyers sent the ball into centre and Robertson darted for the plate. Whitted threw accurately, but late, and Robertson scored the tying run. To make matters worse, Eddie Burns allowed the throw to get away from him and was slow recovering it, and Brainard also scored by cutting third base about three feet. If Burns had even stopped the ball or played it safe, as he should have, the score would have been a tie and the Phillies would still have had a chance.

Chalmers Showing Better Every Day

The crowd was stunned. There did not seem to be a chance to beat Chalmers, as he was going at his best. It only goes to show what a few little breaks and "ifs" mean in a ball game. Chalmers may or may not have been careless on Meyers, but it looked that way from the stand. The big pitcher may have figured to cross the Indian by giving him that straight, fast ball, but it was a poor chance to take on such a hard and timely hitter.

Chalmers' pitching, though beaten, was enough to encourage one who tried to be optimistic. He is looking better every day, and if he gets over the heart-breaking defeat and forgets it, he is going to prove the very man Moran needs to keep the Phillies in the fight to the finish. Four hits were all the Giants got until the ninth, and three of these were made by Robertson, a fair hitter, but one who seemed to have great confidence in facing George.

From a Philly standpoint the game was featured by a terrific home-run smash by Beals Becker, which cleared the right-field fence near the flag pole. When the ball cleared the fence it had fully thirty feet to spare. It reminded one very much of the drives Luderus used to make back in 1911.

Cravath's Batting Slump Cripples Phillies

Other features in the play of Moran's men were the several dazzling stops and throws by Bancroft, who is in the opinion of Manager McGraw, of the Giants, a second Mike Doohan, and two fine stops by Bobby Byrne. The greatest drawback to the Phillies yesterday, as has been the case since the team arrived home, was the continued batting slump of Cravath, who struck out twice, went out on a foul to Meyers and rolled an easy grounder to Fletcher. It is the worst slump Cravath has had in years, but he is due to break loose at any time and make up for lost time. That's some consolation.

Absence of Killefer Keenly Felt

The injury to Killefer is, fortunately, not likely to keep him out of the game any length of time. Killefer is to the Phillies what Schalk is to the White Sox, Gowdy to the Braves, Archer to the Cubs and Schang to the Athletics. With him the club is stronger by 20 per cent, not only for his rare ability, but for the confidence he instills into the pitchers and other players.

Burns is a good catcher and a mighty handy young man to have on the club. In fact, they are mighty lucky to have such a high-class second-string man about, but he is not a Killefer just yet, and it is a matter of great doubt whether the Giants would have been able to win that game with Killefer watching. It might or might not have permitted Whitted's throw to get away, but the general belief is that he would have seen to it that Chalmers stopped Luderus' ball for Robertson, Brainard and Meyers.



ADVENTURES OF ARABELLA CINCH IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

FIFTY-EIGHT TEAMS OF BOWLERS COMPETE

Strawbridge & Clothier Sueds Open Tourney for Tristate Honors—Tonight's Entries.

The opening matches of the first annual tenpin tournament of the local City Association of the National Bowling Association were rolled last night on the Terminal alleys, Filbert street below 13th. The president of the national organization, Elmer E. Dungan, former Chief Executive William Kirk, of Wilmington; local President H. E. Heldman and many prominent followers of the pastime, as well as many ladies, witnessed the opening exercises. After a short address by President Heldman, the opening balls were rolled by Harry Tily, of the Strawbridge & Clothier League; Joe Travis, William Kirk, George M. Moss, secretary of the local organization; H. C. Fehr, E. E. Dungan, Joe Avill and Howard Wright.

The championship is a tristate affair, entries having been received from Wilmington, Del., and Camden, N. J., in addition to representative five-man teams from a majority of the leagues of this city. Jenkintown, too, entered a five-man team. All counted, there are 58-five-man teams entered, in three-men combinations, 107 two-man teams and 155 individuals. They are divided into three classes, according to their bowling strength. The five-man teams will occupy the eight alleys each evening except Friday, and the final squad will bowl their final games next Wednesday a week, May 12. Immediately after they are through the other three classes will begin their matches, in each of the latter five games being rolled.

Six of the Strawbridge & Clothier League teams opened the tourney. They proved well matched. The best three-game total was by Clothing, who totaled 213, which, with their handicap of 32 plus a game, made their grand total 245. Retail Credit was second with 234 and had a 3-pin-a-game allowance, bringing their score to 243. Sporting Goods were third with 240; Rugs fourth, with 226; Jewelry fifth, with 216, and Accounts next with 214.

Table with columns for Bowling League, Score, and Handicap. Includes entries for Athletic, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, St. Louis, and Washington.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER BOWLERS OPEN TRISTATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNEY



The teams of the Strawbridge & Clothier establishment played in the opening series of matches at the Terminal alleys, Filbert street, last night. Reading from left to right, the players are: First row, seated—Paxson, Sheets, Bewick, Pelly, Pearson, Sides, Londenslager, Harry Tily, Jr., and Harley. Second row, seated—Clark, Smith, Clymer, Arrison, H. Tily, Whitesides, Johnson, Bretherton, Skolay. Standing, the players are—Lewis, Sides, Mathis, Best, Roland, McGinley, Randall, Flower, Knipe, Wilson, Cairns and Roberts.

"FANNING" WITH GRANTLAND RICE

Some expert has referred to the Yank uplift as a "fluke start." Why the fluke? They have in Nunamaker and Sweeney two first-class catchers. In Caldwell, Fisher, McHale, Brown and Keating—with Cole, Pish and Wahrop in reserve—they have all the pitching they need. They have had the pitching and fielding for a year. What they have lacked is the punch at bat—and now with Cook, Pipp, Crouch, Nunamaker, Sweeney and Hartzell their aggressive strength is doubled.

As the situation now stands there is only one affair that can drive the Yanks back into the second division—and this will be injuries or accidents linked to a slump that may bring back the old days of discouragement. If they can meet their first slump and keep on fighting, with the indige tradition of old forgotten, the Yank habit for 1915 should be among the first four to a rekindled certainty.

There are two more notches in the gun handle of old Doc Time. Only a year or two ago Mathewson and Bender were world series stars, in possession of the spotlight. Now May is slipping on toward June, and neither has yet put through a victory.

Table titled 'RUNS SCORED BY MAJOR LEAGUES THIS WEEK' showing runs scored by various teams like Athletics, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, St. Louis, and Washington.

ALL SCHOLASTIC BALL GAMES ARE POSTPONED

Inclement Weather Caused Idleness Among Schoolboy Athletes on Diamond.

Interscholastic League Standing. Games Won. Lost. P.C. West Philadelphia H. S. 4 2 .667 Northeast High School 3 2 .600 Central High School 3 1 .750 Catholic High School 1 4 .200 Southern High School 0 5 .000

Interacademic League Standing. Games Won. Lost. P.C. Friends' Central 2 2 .500 Germantown Academy 2 2 .500 Penn Charter 1 2 .333 Episcopal 1 2 .333

President Tener Yet to be Heard From on Row. ST. LOUIS, May 4.—Charles Herzog, manager of the Cincinnati club in the National League, and Rigger, the umpire, were each fined \$5 and costs in the police court here for fighting at the St. Louis-Cincinnati game on Saturday.

Big Ed Walsh Seriously Ill. LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 4.—Developing a severe case of grip from a cold contracted five days ago, Ed Walsh, Chicago National League pitcher, suffered from a high fever last night, and today he is in a very serious condition. It is unlikely that any ordinary fighter could have withstood the punishment that he did while suffering from the disease.

Killed by Pitched Ball. INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 4.—Lewis Wagoner, 20, was struck on the head by a pitched ball pitched in the opening of a Sunday school league here. He died today as a result of the accident.

PHILS AND ATHLETICS BATTING AVERAGES

Table showing batting averages for Philadelphia Phillies and Cincinnati Reds players. Columns include Player Name, AB, R, H, T, B, R, F, C, P.