ATHLETICS INVADE WEST THIS WEEK-INTERCLUB TENNIS PLAY-COFFEY IS A VICTOR

ATHLETICS FACE CRUCIAL TEST ON FIRST WESTERN INVASION

Pitching and Batting Good in Turn, Mack Seeks to Get the Combination-Alexander's Fall Before Recruit-Tener Upholds Rowdyism of Umpire and Punishes Player.

The Athletics are at home for a three-game series with Washington starting today, after which they leave on the first swing around the western end of the American League circuit. This first Western trip will either make or break the chances of the champions. Little can be told of the

relative strength of any of the clubs until the East has met the West. Detroit and Chicago have been burning things up in the West, while the Yankees have been going at a mad pace in the East. But in the inter-

sectional clash none of these teams may show to advantage,

Although the Athletics lost the series in Washington, Boston and New York on the recent trip, there were plenty of happenings that should gladden the hearts of the Athletica' followers. After a miserable all-round exhibition in Beston the team came back to the form that may be expected of it in the future.

Poor pitching has been a great handicap to date, but in Washington and New York flashes of brilliant box work were shown, and with the burling good the team looked 50 per cent, better

When the Fireworks Start in Both Departments

In games that were well pitched by Mack's twirlers the Athletica looked like a different ball club, though the batting has not been what should be expected. When the pitching was poor the batting was good, but as soon as the hurlers started to show the batsmen failed to come sthrough.

Manager Mack looks for all departments to be working smoothly in a few days, and if they do the Athletics should start to climb. The team must strike its stride while in the West or it will be hopelessly out of the runnings. Several times within the last five years the Athletics have started out in a similar fashion and found themselves on the first Western trip. The consistent twirting of Wyckoff and Pennock, together with an apparent return to form by Bressler, presage a better trip than is generally expected.

It Took a Youngster to Beat Alexander

After star pitchers had taken a try against Alexander's winning streak, Manager McGraw decided to play a little percentage and shifted a youngster in against the Phillies in the final game of the series, and the Nebraskan was beaten. McGraw admits that the Phils are going to be a dangerous contender, but it is Boston that he fears most, and for this reason he decided to save Tesreau for the opening game with Stallings' team in the Hub City. He selected Ralph Stroud, a recruit from the Pacific Coast League. who had been released by Detroit two years ago, as the opponent of the league's star pitcher.

Believing that none of his pitchers was likely to win from Alexander If he was right, and that a youngster with a good day had a chance if the Nebraskan was off form, McGraw took his chance and won. Stroud pitched great ball, and was particularly effective just when it seemed the Phillies were about to start a rally.

The conqueror of the Nebraska speed merchant is a wise pitcher. He has had considerable minor league experience and would never have gone out of the American League had it not been for a lame arm that Jennings thought would never be right again. Great credit is due Stroud. He outpitched his more famous opponent all the way, but it must be admitted that all the breaks of the game were with him.

Byrne First of Phils to Kick Out of Traces

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed by the fans and players at the umpiring of Quigley and Eason, but the action of Byrne in kicking himself out of the game was uncalled for. The umpiring was poor, but has been bad for all teams. The Phillies have received their share of the bad decisions, but so have their opponents, and there was no occasion for Byrne to kick himself out of the game. Had Byrne remained in the fray the Phillies would have had an excellent chance for a victory, as Manager Moran was forced to send Baumgardner, a pitcher, in to pinch hit in the ninth inning with men on second and third and two runs needed to tie

Ball players in the National League should remember that the 21-player limit, with eight pitchers included in that list, leaves but few changes for a manager in a game such as the final clash with the Giants.

Byrne's bad judgment in kicking on a called ball which really had no direct bearing on the game, except to place Alexander in a temporary hole, from which good pitching could easily have got him away, was not the only time the Phils lagged in brain-work. Paskert played too close for some of the Giants' hardest hitters, and Brainard hit a double on a drive which Paskert should easily have fielded, while Paskert was guilty also of sleeping when Doyle scored from third on Fletcher's short fly.

Whitted Plays Great Ball at First, His Old Position

The injury to Captain Luderus will prove quite a handicap to the Phil-Hes for a few days, as the husky first sacker was hitting hard and timely, but his absence will not be felt as badly as is generally believed. Whitted replaced Luderus and gave an exhibition that surprised the fans. His excellent performance at first base should have occasioned no surprise, as that is his original position.

When Whitted first broke into minor league ball it was as a first basein at Jacksonville, and he continued playing first base at Durham, in the North Carolina League, until a few weeks before he was purchased last night. by the St. Louis Cardinals. He likes first base better than any other position, and had it not been for the fact that the Cardinals had Ed Konetchy going at his best Whitted would have tried for that position.

As a third baseman Whitted was never much of a success, but in centre field and at first base he appears to be a star.

Efforts to Get "Nerve" of Little Bancroft

The bad blood that existed between the Phillies and Giants for years before the departure of Mike Doolan, Otto Knabe and Addie Brennan to the Feds again cropped out vesterday, and several times it seemed there would be trouble between some of the players. Alexander and Doyle were both threatening each other throughout the game, while several of the Philly players went after Fletcher when he slid into Bancroft at second in

Most likely it was accidental, and the fans hope so, but Fletcher's slide had a nasty look. 'The Giants' shortstop rode into Bancroft with his right foot three feet in the air, and Bancroft was lucky to get away from him. As it was, a gash a foot long was torn in his trousers at the thigh. Several other visiting players have slid into second in the same way when Bancroft was covering. Evidently they are trying to frighten the little wonder, but have not succeeded. It is bad ball, however.

Tener Upholds an Umpire's Rowdyism

The recent ruling of President Tener in suspending Manager Herzog, of Cincinnati, and not punishing Umpire Rigler for their fist fight at St. Louis is apparently a great injustice, unless the facts of the case have been exaggerated.

Regardless of what the provocation happened to be Umpire Rigler lost all claim to immunity from punishment by striking the first blow, and it was a cowardly one. Rigler is fully four inches tailer and 30 pounds heavier than the Cincinnati manager, and yet he struck him with his mask. Herzog's nose was broken and both eyes closed.

No doubt Herzog deserved suspension for the things he said to Rigler, but the latter certainly does not deserve to get off without even a reprimand. Tener's decision is going to have a bad effect in the future. Ball players probably need a stern hand running the games, but they also need a clear head. There are too many major league umpires now who carry a chip on their shoulder, and some are likely to be even more arbitrary, now that Rigler's action has been condoned.

Case of Sherwood Magee Recalled

When Sherwood Magee assaulted Umpire Finneran he was threatened with expulsion from the game and finally was suspended for quite a period and fined heavily. Other similar wases have been punished accordingly, though it was admitted at the time that the umpire's remarks helped to provoke the player. In this case Herzog did not attempt to strike Rigler, but addressed the official in terms that Rigier did not like. Why place the umpires on a pedestal?

Wade Killefer, of the Reds. who was batting at the plate, and Frank Snyder, the St. Louis catcher, both have filed affidavits with a Cincinnati paper to the effect that Herzog did not spike Rigler or use language that warranted the attack. The whole affair requires more of an investigation than it received, as such things hurt baseball and disgust the spectators,



THE SEASON IS YOUNG YET

MERION TENNIS TEAM WINS OPENING FRAY

Belfield Women Defeat Germantown - Wallace Johnson Bests Dr. Dewhurst in 2 Sets.

Merion defeated Huntingdon Valley in postponed first division Interclub League tennis match at Haverford yesterday by three matches to two, one of the matches going to the winners by de-

Wallace F. Johnson proved that he is in good form this early in the season by defeating Dr. E. B. Dewhurst in straight SEES, C-3, 6-3,

Singles-Wallace F. Johnson, Merion, defeated Dr. E. B. Dewhurst, Huntingdon Valley, 6-3, 6-3; A. L. Hoskins, Huntingdon Valley, defeated Rowland Evans, Jr., Merion, 7-5, 6-3; H. B. Riley, Merion, defeated Allen Butler, Huntingdon Valley, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 Doubles—S. H. Collum and F. H. Bates, Huntingdon Valley, defeated F. W. Gibbs and J. C. Bell, Jr., Merion,

JIM COFFEY BLASTS HOPES OF REICH WITH KNOCKOUT

Heavyweight Battle in New York Lasts Three Rounds Only.

NEW YORK, May 6.-Jim Coffey, the Dublin giant, knocked out Al Reich, the series bonus. Many others signed up in New York heavyweight, in the third the same belief. Then came the shockround of what was to have been a 10- and the end of all world series dreams. round bout at Madison Square Garden Collins was sold, while Bender, Plank

Coffee weighed 200 and Reich 203. The Garden held the largest crowd since the repeal of the Horton law, a dozen years

After two rounds, in which Coffey had After two rounds, in which Coney had a slight lead, his aggressiveness caused Reich to break ground in the third round. A left hook and a right smash to the jaw and a hard left to the stomach as Reich was falling were the blows that recided the light.

Reich openel the second with a rush, Reich opened the second with a rush, and after some sparring crossed a right to the chin, stagegring Coffey. Coffey managed to keep Reich away with left jabs for a while, but Reich broke through with another blow on the chin that sent Coffey to the ropes.

Coffey came back with a rush, landing

straight left that knocked Reich down, he bell stopping the count at "four." Reich assumed the defensive in the

Coffey will now try to arrange a match with Jess Willard.



COFFEY WINS BY K. O. Jim Coffey last night blasted the championship hopes of Al Reich in New York, flooring the heavyweight in three rounds.

No one could ever accuse the Mackmen, | was unable to even trade them-and he

back at their best, of any frenzied enthuslasm or racy dash. They were in the main a body of serious minded, cleanliving young fellows, who behaved themselves, let umpires alone, started no trouble of any sort, played baseball-and let it go at that.

But while bereft of all enthusiasm there was a certain earnestness in their play, which, plus their power and smash, made them almost unbeatable.

But in those days-from 1916 to 1915-the Mackmen were playing for two sti-pends-their salaries and the annual world

The Mackman getting \$4000 could figure on at least \$5500 for the year's work. They all figured this way for five years. Last September we asked Jack Coombs how long the Athletics expected to keep on winning penannts. "At least two more seasons." he replied. "Most of the stars -Collins, Baker, McInnis, Barry, Eddle Murphy, Schang-are still well under 20. They haven't started to slip. Who is there to stop them?"

THEN THE SHOCK ARRIVED. Frank Baker signed a three-year con-

tract at something like \$4500 a year, figuring on that extra \$2500 or \$3000 world and Coombs were practically cut adrift That is exactly why Frank Baker isn't playing ball. He figures that he will be working for \$3000 less money than he has worked for before-\$3000 less than he ex-

cted his contract to call for. And to our mind that is exactly why the Mackmen are now down so far in the race. Those who had signed up, and most of them had, figure their salaries have been cut by \$2500 or \$3000.

They knew at the season's start with Collins, Baker, Bender and Plank miss-ing, the world series collection was over. They might finish second or third fourth-but there is no individual \$3000 for those who play on a club that winds up in second place.

THE VANISHED PEP So vanished ambition in the Mackian

camp. This is not to charge that Mack's players are deliberately quitting or loaf-ing. But it is not a widespread human attribute for the average citizen to figure that his pay check has been cut almost half in two-and then for him to go out and hustle just as blithely as he did

It is seldom done in any line-baseball not excepted.

not excepted.

The Mackmen are not what they used to be. But a club that has such people as Schang, McInnis, Barry, Eddie Murphy, Strunk, Oldring, Lajoie, etc., hardly belongs in last place. The main answer is in the loss of that extra money they have been collection; or expecting to collect for been collecting or expecting to collect for the last five years. They collected four years out of the five—but for 1915 the door to the mint was slammed in their dis iraged faces. When Eddle Collins left Mackmen lost their inspiration—that golden apple was no longer hung for them in the gardens of October.

H. L. G .- So far as we have known the Yankees have never outdrawn the Giants in New York on any complete season.

THE DIFFERENCE "If eldtime ball clubs, and even clubs

of recent date, could get along on from 15 to 18 men, why can't McGraw?" querica L. F. J.

There is this difference: In other years for it this difference: In other years if a club started to slip the manager could enforce the ten-day release clause, weed out the fading players and start building up. There was none then signed to two- and three-year nonrelease contracts. There was no Federal League to enforce any such system.

enforce any such system.

For 1915, before the 21-player limit was passed, McGraw had 17 reterans signed to nonrelease contracts. When these began to slip he couldn't let them go—he

was also unable to bench them or fill their places, because he was restricted to the use of 21 men only.

Under normal conditions there is no rea-son why a club shouldn't operate with 18 or 20 players. But present conditions are not exactly what even the most stirring optimist might label normal.

"When," asks an editorial exchange, "does America intend to protest at her ships being sunk and her citizens being killed?" What's the hurry? The first feeble protest will probably come when some outside nation has captured and burned Washington.

EVIDENTLY.

Hughie Jennings figures the American League pennant rests with Detroit and Chicago in the West and Boston, Wash-ington and Philadelphia in the East. Hughie may be correct. But one might also call Hughle's attention to the pres-ent standing of the clubs. Evidently Hughle hasn't observed the Yankees in action this season. Quite evidently. No one is picking them to win any pannants. But any one who figures the Mackmen as

Charley Herzog, in losing a decision to an umpire, marked the 55,916th ball-player who had lost similar decisions out of 58.916 starts. Yet the frenzied athlete persists in attempting to put one over.

We have read a number of expert articles on how to play an approach in gulf, but, after all, there is only one system, viz.: Keep your head still, hew to the right line, and let the chip shots

It may be that Walter Hagen, the Rochester pro, is good enough to take Ouimet's place an an unplayable stymic for Ray and Vardon. He is begining to look the part.

"Magnates may take baseball out of The old saying was right. Constant dripping wears away bone

Harvard Crew in Great Try

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., May 6.—Over the same mile and seven-eightlis course on the Charles River, where Harvard will row Cornell on May 22, the Crimson varsity crew had a trial race sgains; the freshmen yesterday. The underclass men were allowed a start of two and a quarter lengths and were nosed out at the first. The coaches expressed satisfaction with the varsity's showing. No time was given out.



YOUNG DIGGINS The clever Gray's Ferry bantam will meet a hard-hitting opponent in Joe O'Donnell in the star bout at the Broadway Club tonight.

KENTUCKY DERBY PROMISES TO BE GREATEST RACE IN TURF HISTORY

Saturday's Event at Churchill Downs Has Attracted a M. Remarkable Field of Three-year-olds-Matt Winn Believes Race Will Mean a Record.

this week to attend the annual meeting of the directors and stockholders of the Maryland Fair Association, before returning to Louisville declared he anticipated the greatest race in the Derby, Saturday, that has ever been run at the Churchill

It will be the greatest Derby ever held, and one of the best three-year-old races in the history of the turf," said Mr. Winn.

There is certainly plenty of circumstantial evidence to corroborate Mr. Winn's testimony. A glance through the eligibility list for the Derby discloses such sterling three-year-olds as H. P. Whitney's Regret, the unbeaten filly: Schuyler L. Parson's Sharpshooter and Phospher, both of whom may go to the post in the classic; John E. Madden's Charter Maid, the Stable's Futurity winner; Trojan, and Double Eagle; James Butler's Peb-bles, Last Coin and Kilkenny Boy, the first two of which are looked upon as likely favorites for the race; W. R. Coe's Hauberk and Captain E. B. Cassatt's Garbage.

H. C. Hallenbeck's recent purchases, The Finn and Iron Duke, are also eligi-ble for the Derby, but as both are now quartered at Belmont Park there is no likelihood of either facing the starter at Louisville, Saturday. It would be diffi-cult to uncover a higher class field of three-year-olds than those named, however, and, with weather conditions favorable. Mr. Winn's predictions should be realized.

The Sportsmans' Steeplechase Handi-

cap Dinner Stakes having failed to fill for the second day's racing of the United Hunts! Association at Belmont Park Terminal, May 19, the Freeport Steeplechase has been substituted. This event is for maidens and winners of one race, t-year-olds and upward. Entries close Monday.

Entries have filled unusually well for the stakes to be run off Saturday at the Meadow Brook Steeplechase Association's Spring meeting at Wheatley Hills, L. I. Selling Stakes, 44; the Newtown Selling Stakes, 44; the Newtown Selling Stakes, 44, all for 3-year-olds and being through the field, while the High-

Matt J. Winn, who visited Laurel, Md., Cup are over the flat. In the charge this week to attend the annual meeting been named practically all of the purpose of the later than the later t part in the time races at Hewlett Bay Park last i day. Mr. Keene's Toreador, howeve not been named.

An unusually large number of nominations have been made for the stakes of the Metropolitan Jockey to be run at the spring meeting at maica, no fewer than 37 thoroughbaring been named in any of the futures. Declarations for the Youthul, a 2-year-old stake, reach the top figure 54, while an even 50 have been named to the Suffolk selling number.

the Suffolk selling number. James Butler leads in the number James Butter leads in the number entries, with 10 listed for the Paum-Handicap, one of the 2-year-old and ward stakes. His thoroughbreds for ward stakes. His thoroughoreds far-event are Pebbles, Last Coin, Kins-Boy, High Noon, Fair Count, 12 King, Masks, Gnat, May Queen Tinkle Bell. The first six are also as for the Excelsior Handicap, which is drawn 37 nominations.

The 3-year-old and upward feater have attracted all the top-notch is oughbreds of the turf and this associose competition at the old James course. In the Excelsion and the Ris course. In the Excelsior and the Kin County Handicap such high-class ham will face the starter as Rock Via Stromboli, Filtergold, Roamer, Busia Iron Duke, The Finn, Punch Bowl, On-ner, Flying Fairy, Trial by Jury, Cu-ter Maid and Sam McMeekin. Ten Part is also nominated for the Jamaica State The Rosedale, for 2-year-old filles, The Rosedale, for 2-year-old filles to attracted four from the Butler sine Variety, Fennel, Miss Puzzle and Grad August Belmont's Malachi is anciepromising miss who will start in tarace. Thirty-four entries have be made. The Greenfield Selling Stakes his drawn 48, Tea Caddy, Fernrock and lind Horse being among those listed to size in this juvenile number.

in this juvenile number.

K. O. O'DONNELL BOXES DIGGINS AT BROADWAY

Moore and Heffernan, Meeley and McCoy May Meet in Return Bouts May 17.

K. O. Joe O'Donnell, Gloucester's hardhitting gloveman, will have an oppor-tunity of greatly improving his prestige tonight when he engages Young Diggins. local elever boxer, in the stellar scrap at the Broadway A. C. With O'Donnell da-pending on his punching powers to win and Diggins relying on his cleverness to outpoint his opponent, the encounter should ensue in a brilliant battle. The principals have each posted a forfeit for weight, 121 pounds, ringside. The program follows:

First bour-Chris Waugh, Gloucester, vs.
Johnny Lincoln, Bell road
Second bout-Phil Chip, Southwark, vs. Phil
Ryan, Fairmount,
Third bout-Mike Russell, Little Italy, vs.
Freddy Russell, Little Italy,
Semiwind-up-Joe Welsh, Smoky Hollow, vs.
Harry Tyler, Snicky Hollow,
Wind-up-Joe O'Donnell, Gloucester, vs.
Young Diggins, Gray's Ferry. Jack Hanlon, of the Olympia Club, is endeavoring to rematch Joe Heffernan

now constituted, have a better chance, is entitled to a number of additional guesses.

and Willie Moore for May 17, and also plans to stage another encounter between Johnny Meeley and Frankie McCoy. Joo Hirst, of Southwark, is anxious for a Word from Al Lippe, who is in Australia with Jeff Smith, of Bayonne, N. J.,

Jimmy Coffey, of New York, and Frank Loughrey, of this city, says that he will leave with his stable for home next Monday. Smith and Loughrey fought auccessfully in the Antipodes all through their stay there. Next Tuesday night, at the Palace Club,

Norristown, Eddie Revoire, of the 18th Ward, and Tommy Coleman, of Frank-ford, will clash in the feature 10-round Revoire defeated the Negro fighter recently. Piffy Bear, Allentown's boxing pro-moter, has announced that he will stage

open-air Saturday afternoon shows in the ball park in the near future. The first bout will be put on at 3 o'clock. He is trying to arrange a 10-round fight between Eddle Revolre and K. O. Laugh-lin, of South Bethlehem, for his opening stag, May 15. After being on the sidelines for more

than a year, Jack Stewart, a 122-pounder from Southwark, declares he is prepared to battle the best his weight. Stewart says he has engaged in seven fights, returning victor in five by the knockous Pollowing Dutch Brandt's appearance

at the Olympia Club next Monday night with Louisiana, the Brooklyn bantam's next match will be with Kid Williams in New York, May 18. Sailor Grande and K. O. Harry Baker are billed for the semifinal and a knockout probably will decide the winner.

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BASEBALL TODAY SHIBE PARK Athletics vs. Washington

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Quaker City A.A. Billy Numblekel, Prop. 5—ALL-STAR BIG BOUTS—5

PHILS' AND ATHLETICS' BATTING AVERAGE

Yesterday's games are included PHILLIES.

ATHLETICS.

RUNS SCORED BY

MAJORS THIS WEEK AMERICAN LEAGUE

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FEDERAL LEAGUE

Amateur Bouts at Gayety At the Gayety Theaire last night ten boxing bouts. There was plenty of action. at times the air was full of boxing glove none of the contestants gave any eviden ever becoming champions. This class was 105-pound boxers. The results were as fellow Fred Gallagher beat Joe Lewis, three reskid Wallace beat Jim Brown, four ross Frank Haker beat Young Dyson, three reakly Paduch beat Johnny Clark, two rounts

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