

JUGGLING OF A GOOD PITCHING STAFF CRIPPLES CUBS—"BLACKLISTED," BY VAN LOAN

ALLEGED RUSE TO SHIELD SISLER BLOW TO BASEBALL AMATEURISM

Clark, Pittsburgh Pirates' Owner, Reveals Trick by Which Michigan University Star "Put One Over" on College Rivals. Roger Bresnahan Ruining a Great Pitching Staff.

Before the National Commission is through threshing out the Sisler case, baseball "amateurism" at several colleges will receive an awful blow. Sisler was a professional long before he entered Michigan, according to President Dreyfuss, of the Pittsburgh club. Dreyfuss is making a fight for the Michigan University star, who has been playing great ball for the Browns.

According to the affidavits filed by the Pittsburgh Club, President Dreyfuss purchased the release of Sisler from the Akron club, of the Ohio and Pennsylvania League, five years ago. This was immediately after Sisler had been graduated from high school and prior to the time he entered Michigan.

Manager Clarke looked Sisler over and decided that he needed further seasoning and turned him over to Columbus, of the American Association, which has always been used as a farm by Pittsburgh. It was at this time that Sisler wrote President Dreyfuss, begging the Pittsburgh owner to release him and mention nothing about his playing professional ball, as he was about to enter Michigan and did not want his "amateur standing" impaired. In return for this favor, Sisler informed Dreyfuss that he would sign with the Pirates as soon as he was graduated from Michigan.

Sisler "Covered Up" for Two Years as Amateur

Dreyfuss was suspicious, and exercised his option on Sisler and placed his name on the reserve list of the Pittsburgh club for two years. Sisler became worried and wrote Dreyfuss again, asking that his name be taken from the reserve list, as Michigan was about to start an investigation. This time Dreyfuss agreed to help Sisler, and his name was withdrawn from the reserve list.

In return for these favors Sisler proceeded to sign up with Branch Rickey, who had coached the Michigan team when Sisler first blossomed forth as a star. It is even intimated that the whole affair was engineered by Rickey.

According to recent decisions of the United States Courts, a player becomes a free agent in the eyes of the law if he remains out of the game for one year; but according to the National Commission, which governs organized ball, a player is the property of a club in that body so long as that club cares to reserve him. To reserve him, the club must send the player at least one contract a season. Pittsburgh failed to send Sisler a contract during the last two years, only at Sisler's request.

Dreyfuss Tells Mournful Tale of Collegians' Perfidy

Sisler has proved a great drawing card in St. Louis, as well as a splendid player, and there will be much trouble before Rickey consents to give him up, in case the National Commission decides in favor of the Pittsburgh club.

In presenting his testimony, Dreyfuss mournfully remarked that Sisler was the fourth college player he had covered up for several seasons, advancing them money, etc., and that he had been fooled on three of them. Dreyfuss declares that the next collegian he wants he will show him up as a professional before signing him, and then he will not be "double-crossed."

Bresnahan Ruining a Good Pitching Staff

Roger Bresnahan convinced 8000 fans that the Cubs cannot hope to win the pennant unless Mr. Bresnahan takes a vacation. When Schuyler Britton, president of the Cardinals, released Bresnahan he was roundly scored by Mound City fans. Mr. Britton remarked at the time that he did not believe any man could manage a ball team if he could not manage himself. No other explanation was forthcoming, but Britton made no mistake when he made that statement.

Bresnahan has frequently lost his head in this city, but never has he shown such poor judgment as in the present series. It has been freely predicted that the Cubs were about through, so far as being pennant contenders, and John McGraw, manager of the Giants, has said that he would feel like quitting the league if such a team could win the National League pennant. McGraw is about right in sizing up the Cubs. There is a lot of natural strength in the machine, but it plays less intelligent baseball and is handled in poorer shape than any club in the league.

The Warm-up Process Worked to Frazzle

The complaint has been made throughout the season by Bresnahan that his pitching staff was not working right; but he has no one to blame but himself. Although he is a catcher himself and should be a good handler of twirlers, Bresnahan would ruin the best pitching staff in the country if he worked them as he has worked his pitchers recently.

Yesterday the Cub manager sent four pitchers into the game and warmed up another, thus virtually ruining his staff for a few days. Warming up day after day does more to take the strength away from a pitcher and to cause him to lose his effectiveness than overwork in actual games; but Bresnahan appears to lose sight of this fact.

The manager who succeeds in baseball is the one who is looking ahead, and this trait seems to be missing from Bresnahan's make-up.

In New York recently he sent three of his best twirlers into a game that ended 2 to 0, and he warmed up two others, while four twirlers were used in one game and three innings of the other on Monday, to say nothing of two others who warmed up continually during the afternoon.

Phillies Acquire That Old Pep That Means Victory

The victory meant much to the Phillies, as it will give the players even more confidence than they have shown during the home stand. When a team comes through in such a spectacular manner, it invariably goes into every game with the idea that no pitcher can stop it. It was by far the most sensational finish seen in this city this season, and seldom has one stirred up the crowd so much.

Most of the fans were getting ready to leave the park when the rally started, when Byrne drew a pass, with one man out. Bresnahan sent Zabel from the mound at this stage and sent in Pierce. Phelan made a poor throw after handling Bancroft's grounder cleanly, and then Stock, batting for Becker, was passed, filling the bases. Bresnahan stormed about for a time and then sent Pierce to the bench and called in Larry Cheney. The second ball pitched to Cravath was lined into left for a single. Byrne and Bancroft scored, while Stock reached third on this drive.

When a Good Pitcher, Cheney, Blew

With one run needed to tie the score, many of the fans and most of the Cubs were looking for the "squeeze play," but Niehoff hit the first ball pitched against the bleacher wall in deep centre to two bases, scoring Stock and Cravath, while he went to third on the throw-in. The Cubs were badly rattled by this time, and Whitted and Niehoff pulled a perfect "squeeze," the latter scoring. Cheney threw the ball into right field and Whitted went to second. Cheney went still further in the air and uncorked two successive wild pitches, which permitted Whitted to score. Luderus and Burns went out, but the damage had been done and the crowd was wild with excitement. The Cubs tallied one on Al Demaree in the ninth, but their spirit was gone and they were never dangerous.

Supreme Joy of Links, Hole in One, Falls to G. W. Statzell

G. W. Statzell, Jr., of the Aronimink Club, had an experience yesterday in the play at the Philmont Country Club that comes to few. He holed out a 130-yard stretch (the 11th hole) in 1. It was while playing in the invitation handicap tournament that his record was established.

So far as can be found, this is the first time in the history of the game in Philadelphia that such a remarkable feat has been accomplished.

Mr. Statzell teed for his shot, and then drove the ball on to the green; it took a little hop and then gently rolled into the cup. Some wonderful shots have been made on the local links this year, but Mr. Statzell's "takes the cake."

Last Saturday, on the greens of the Huntingdon Country Club, Douglas Conklin, president of the Bank of Huntingdon, L. I., holed out in 1. In this instance the ball was lost an hour before one of the caddies discovered it in the cup.

East Losing Prestige in Aquatics

For a number of years it was the general opinion that the East held a monopoly in the swimming line. Times have changed, however, as will be noticed in the Panama-Pacific championships. Ludy Langer, of Los Angeles, defeated the best in the East when he outswam Joe Westley and Bud Goodwin, of New York city. Just to show his greater ability, Langer shattered the quarter-mile record, held by Duke Kahanamoku, by 5 2/5 seconds. Langer's time was 8:32 1/5. Wonderful time!



GOOD-BY, CUB, OLD CHAP

BLACKLISTED

More About the "Flea" and Something About the Pennant Race. Biggs Goes in for the Critical Game After an 11-Inning Fiasco.

By CHARLES E. VAN LOAN

The World's Most Famous
Writer of Baseball Fiction.

Mr. Biggs, who tells the story, is a strike breaker. I never saw such unreasonable people as we did. It is a purpose they couldn't have made more of a fuss.

Well, sir, it came right down to one game for the bacon—with Titusville on our home grounds, the last day of the season. It was one of them heart-disease finishes you read about, but don't see very often, in any league. The Bellingham folks simply acted scandalous in that last series, and when we had a chance to see things up by winning the next to the last game—and blew it by one run in the 11th inning—I thought sure we'd be mobbed.

Why, they come right out on the field and break into the clubhouse. That night they were saying that he threw the game to get one more big crowd, and all sorts of stuff like that. Grown people can act awful childish at times. If it had been a world's series we'd been playing there couldn't have been no more excitement or scandal. And us out there doing it all for sixty-five a month! It wasn't enough!

Ike saved me for the last game, which ought to satisfy anybody that he thought I was a better pitcher than Kellerman.

There's them that has doubted it—and said so. I ain't knocking Kellerman any; I think he's a grand pitcher, and got everything a man ought to have, but—shucks!—I won't say no more. It was me that Ike picked, and you can draw your own conclusions.

We was dressing in the clubhouse after the 11-inning game and Ike came over to beak sitting his fingernails and rolling his eyes, nervous-like. There was a mass-meeting waiting outside to interview him.

"Biggs," says he, "it's up to you. They'll shoot old Anstruther at us tomorrow sure, and that means a tough game; but you've beat him before and you can do it again. You got to. Get in there and pitch your head off, and I'll see that Abe does the right thing by you; you won't lose nothing; I promise you that. If I had your arm and my head I'd make Chris Mathewson look like a selling-plater!"



Well, now, about that trouble with Ike Small. I wasn't forgetting it, but, as you get the full benefit of what happened you have to know about the Flea. He was mixed in with it.

We went along to the end of the season, about us kicking the stuffing out of Mill City and Waverly. I got along all right with Ike and never had no cause to complain of the way he treated me. I minded my business, which was pitching ball; and he minded his, which was playing first and running the club. I wouldn't go so far as to say he was in any way taking advantage of the fact, because he wasn't. Small kind of flocked by himself. Still, you'd never thought he would have done me dirt like he did, the low-down, ungrateful, ornery hound! I get hot every time I think about how he knifed me in the back.

Coming down to the last two weeks of the season, I could see that the close race was beginning to get like a "animal" a little bit. His Anzora was kind of blating in a nervous sort of way. He took to fighting umpires and hollering at us for nothing, and things like that. I've heard that it was tipped off to him that if he wanted to manage the club another year he'd better come through with a winner. Abe Marx was the owner of the team, and it would have been just like him to say that.

Bellingham is a good ball town—the best in the league—but, like most of the good ball towns, it wants a winner or it has to know why it ain't got one; and if you're beat in a whalkee finish, edged out by one measly point in the percentage table, the fans will roar just as hard as if you'd been beat a mile. Yes, harder, because a close finish works 'em all up and gets 'em excited. It ain't right and fair, but it's so.

It was having his troubles because we couldn't seem to lose that Titusville outfit. If we hooked up with Waverly and won four straight, they'd win four from Mill City. If they lost a game we'd lose one, too, and when we came together in a series it was dog-eat-dog and sick-the-Prince for fair, and nobody getting much advantage. Ike had to shoulder all the responsibility, of course, and it was him the fans bawled out when we lost a game.

He laid it on thick, but most of what he said was the truth at that. He knew that wasn't the exciting kind, and never paid much attention to noise. When I'm pitching baseball that's all I'm doing; I ain't got no time to listen to what they're saying about me over on the bleachers.

You talk about a crowd? All of Bellingham and half of Titusville was at that last game. They came with tin

A DUCK EGG AND A GOLF BALL! STATZELL GETS "ONE" AT PHILMONT

Unique Shot Feature of Play in One-Day Tourney—A Peculiar Lie on the Course at Huntingdon Valley—M. L. Langraves Wallops Longest Ball in Storm.

When the egg of the duck and a golf ball play on the same green there is evidently something doing. Yesterday there was. Nobody at Philmont knew exactly what the idea of all the birds, hens and ducks pottering around the links was until George W. Statzell, Jr., of Aronimink, showed them. Of course it was only a chance. But Statzell and his partner, Henry Hots, of Lansdowne, came to the short 11th. The only gallery was a duck squatted near the green, gazing skyward wishing for rain. Hots yelled "fore" and pitched his ball near the duck. The duck ducked and galloped to the other side of the green. Then Statzell shot his ball. On the green there was nothing visible but a duck egg. Statzell found his ball in the hole and Hots got a two.

It was decided that the egg was laid after Hots made his drive, and that the well-known hypnotic power of the egg had caused the second ball to do down. Hots regrets that he drove so hastily, as he feels that he, too, would have had a "one" if he had waited. After this a hole shot in one will be known as a "duck egg."

"Thank you for your thoughtfulness," said Statzell to the duck.

"Quack, quack," said the duck as it flew into a nearby tree and calmly combed out its ruffled feathers.

In going around the links one runs into some peculiar lies. Here is one: A. D. Ginther says he was playing the fourth hole at Huntingdon Valley last week in a 25-hole match. The break of the hole was a long hole. Ginther and Gintner was all worked up. He had a long drive, but a tremendous second shot struck in the limbs of the cherry tree to the right of the green, bringing out a squawky bird, as well as a shower of leaves and limbs.

A prolonged search in the rough all around the green failed to show the ball.

Maybe it stayed in the tree," laughed Gintner. Anything he climbed up and was having a fine time gathering cherries on the way when he came to a great clod of poison ivy. The bird, which had settled, rose again with an alarmed cry from a nest of eggs. And, caught on the edge of the nest was the missing ball. It was a peculiar lie.

Calling for his nibble, with the bird screaming o'erhead Gintner made a neat shot to the green below.

There was something more about how the bird came with any shot and gone bounding from the hole, flew over the ball as it rolled and, fusing around, pushed it close to the hole, enabling Gintner to get a par four and win the hole.

What kind of a bird inhabited the nest

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

| NATIONAL LEAGUE | | AMERICAN LEAGUE | | FEDERAL LEAGUE | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Club | Won. Lost. Per Ct. Win. Loss. | Club | Won. Lost. Per Ct. Win. Loss. | Club | Won. Lost. Per Ct. Win. Loss. |
| Phillies | 43 21 .518 | Brooklyn | 38 24 .613 | Washington | 42 18 .700 |
| Chicago | 43 28 .607 | New York | 38 24 .613 | Baltimore | 31 37 .453 |
| Brooklyn | 43 28 .607 | Boston | 39 25 .610 | Pittsburgh | 37 41 .476 |
| Cincinnati | 40 41 .494 | St. Louis | 35 39 .473 | St. Louis | 35 39 .473 |
| Pittsburgh | 40 41 .494 | Cleveland | 33 44 .431 | Cleveland | 32 44 .421 |
| New York | 38 24 .613 | St. Louis | 33 44 .431 | St. Louis | 32 44 .421 |
| Boston | 39 25 .610 | Baltimore | 32 44 .421 | Buffalo | 29 53 .354 |
| Cincinnati | 38 24 .613 | St. Louis | 32 44 .421 | Not scheduled | 19 19 .500 |

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New Outfielder for Yankees

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