## BOSTON BRAVES SET PACE IN NATIONAL LEAGUE—"THE MEXICAN MARVEL," BY VAN LOAD

#### HARRISBURG BALL CLUB BLAZES WAY TO SUCCESS FOR MINORS

Good Brand of Baseball and Decent Salaries Please Fans and Satisfy Players, Proving Fallacy of Early Wails. Boston Braves' Real Test in Phil Series.

Two months ago club owners in the minor leagues were crying about the hard times, and declared that they would close up their gates if the National Commission did not come to their aid. They blamed the major leagues and the independent Federal League for their troubles. At that time an article was printed in these columns in which blame for the miner league troubles was placed on the short-sightedness of the minor league magnates themselves, who, instead of increasing their salaries in proportion with the majors', during the hard times had cut the salary limit and, in many instances, raised the price of . . .

Lower Class of Ball Hurt Minor Leagues

It was pointed out at that time that baseball fans all over the country were alike. All the talk of record salaries in the major leagues had stirred the fans up so much that they wanted to see a higher class of players. But, instead of that, they saw their good players go to other leagues because they refused to play for the small salaries offered.

The Tristate League was one of those which cut the salaries to such an extent that the players could make more money independently, and by holding a business position at the same time. It was also stated that the Tristate League could be made a paying proposition with a slightly reconstructed circuit and by giving the fans a better brand of ball,

Harrisburg Disproves Predictions of Critics

The great drawing ability of the Harrisburg club in the International League is the best proof that can be offered that these contentions were right. In Newark the same team failed to draw after the Federal League had placed a club in the same city. The fans are not supporting the Federal League team well, but they have not ignored the Feds entirely, as they did the Internationals. When the Newark franchise was transferred to Harrisburg, local fans who had followed the fortunes of the Tristate League with great interest declared

that it was a great mistake, because Harrisburg had failed to support the Tri-But as soon as the fans in Harrisburg realized that they were to be given

a higher grade of baseball, for the same admission, interest was revived, and Harrisburg is now supporting a Class AA team in better style than any other city in the International League.

Players Themselves Profit by Transfer

The players, who had thrown away game after game at Newark because they lost interest playing to empty stands, seemed to be inspired by the enthusiasm of the Harrisburg fans, and two weeks after the team was switched from Newark to the capital city, a winning streak was started, which has carried the team from seventh to fourth place, and at the present time there is not a team in the league playing as well as Harrisburg.

Without Handicap Harrisburg Would Have Been in Running Harrisburg entered the International League on July 2, and after breaking

even until July 19, a winning streak was started, and the Indians have captured 17 out of the last 24 games played, half of which have been played on the road. Since entering the International League Harrisburg has won 22 games and lost 12. If the Pennsylvania capital city had been in the league from the start of the season, or had not been handicapped by Newark's poor start, the team would probably be battling for first place with Providence and Buffalo.

As it stands, Harrisburg has no chance for the pennant, but the team is drawing better than any other in the circuit, and the splendid support of the fans proves conclusively that eastern Pennsylvania is not dead, so far as minor league ball is concerned.

Braves in Better Position Than at This Time Last Year

For the benefit of those who declare that the Braves have but little chance to win the National League pennant, the following figures may prove interesting: On August 2 of last year the Giants were leading the league, with 52 victories and 35 defeats, or a percentage of .598. The Cubs were in second place, while the Cards were third, both well over the .500 mark. The Braves at that time had won 44 and lost 45 games, with a percentage of .494.

The standing on August 2 of this year found the Phillies leading the league, with 51 victories and 40 defeats, or a percentage of .560, while the Braves were in fourth place again, with 47 victories and 46 defeats.

Davis and Hughes Take Place of Bill James

It must be admitted that the National League is better balanced this season and that four of the clubs are not loafing as they were at this time a year ago, but it must also be agreed that the Braves are stronger than they were in 1914, notwithstanding the fact that Bill James has been almost useless. The great improvement of Davis and the acquisition of Ragan and Hughes, two dependable twirlers, have more than made up for the loss of James, now that the rest of the team has found its stride.

Phillies Must Beat Boston in Next Series

Miller Huggins, of the Cardinals, says: "I am playing only to finish ahead of the Braves, because if I do that we will win the pennant." Huggins has sized up the National League race correctly in that one sentence, and it is safe to say that Pat Moran agrees thoroughly with him. Last year the Braves practically won the pennant by capturing seven out of eight games from the Giants late in the season. This year the Braves still have eight games to play with the Phillies, and it is upon the result of these that the pennant chances of each

The Phillies' greatest and only chance lies in Alexander, and as the king of pitchers has had Boston at his mercy for two years, there is much hope for the Phillies, regardless of the lack of confidence among local fans since the present alump in the West.

Only Six Batsmen in League Can "Find" Alexander

There is no better evidence of the wonderful pitching of Alexander the Great than to cite just what batsmen have been able to connect with the shoots of the Philly star. There are only six National League players who have hit safely against Alexander in every game they have faced him. The six are Fitzpatrick and Evers, of Boston; Max Carey, of Pittsburgh; Zach Wheat, of Brooklyn, and Herzog and Wade Killefer, of the Reds.

Of this group, Fitzpatrick has been the most consistent, he having faced Alexander in four games, in which he made seven hits. Evers has batted against Alexander in only two games, making a single hit in each, so he can hardly be considered.

Seldom has a pitcher been so effective against all hitters, and it is a safe bet that none of these players hit safely in their next appearance against the king of pitchers. That is just the difference between Alexander and the average pitcher, who must have opponents picked for him.

Pogue, Illinois Star, Probably Lost to Football

Harold Pogue, the brilliant halfback, of the champion University of Illinois sleven, probably will leave college because of failing eyesight, and even if he returns, it is not likely he will be available for football in the fall. Pogue was the sensation of the West last fall, and within another year, under Bob Zuppke, it was freely predicted that the West would forget the palmy days of Eckersall, Heston, Garrels, etc. But the Illinois star is paying the penalty of ignoring his physician's orders.

'Although it was not generally known. Pogue's eyes were in such poor condition last fall that he wore eyeglasses when not in public, and he was ordered to wear them throughout the summer. He went to a summer camp for boys in the woods of Wisconsin in June and falled to take glasses with him. This carelessness caused Pogue to suffer so from the glare of the sun that he almost went blind. He is now under the care of a specialist, who declares that Pogue can hardly return to college, as it may destroy his sight entirely.

Rid Stricker, a local boy, who formerly played in the Northeast League, pitched a no-hit game for Chambersburg against Gettysburg in the Blue Ridge Leagus yesterday. Stricker won his game, I to 0. He walked seven men, but always had his strike-out ball working when Gestyaburg threatened, 10 of Ira Plank's team going out on strikes.

Charles Breckiebreds, of the St. Charles Natatorium Club, of St. Louis, is a swimming prodigy, and will have to be considered when the next ten-mile A. A. C. swimming championship is held. In a recent five-mile race he was beaten enly 10 seconds in actual time by the scratch man and former national champion,

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



#### THE MEXICAN MARVEL

Ramon Oliveras Has Some Trouble With English—But He Is in Fair Condition-And He Can Play Ball-Cards He Knows a Little, but the Ca-rap Game He Will Learn Manana.

> By CHARLES E. VAN LOAN The World's Most Famous Writer of Baseball Fiction.

> > ing right along."

nlimbered himself.

to first!"

10-second man.

no more. "I'll be workin' at my trade

When Senor Ramon Oliveras made his first appearance on the field with the

other recruits, every newspaper man was present, and the press squad grunted with amazement as the Mexican marvel

never done anything else all his life, and look at the way he whips 'em over

Oliveras was, inded, a marvet. Light-ning fast on his feet, possessed of two good hands, seeming to field a ball by

By the time the blase regulars arrived,

some of them fat and lazy, others lean

and nervous, Oliveras was the sensation of the camp. His bearing, when pre-sented to the real big leaguers, was

Joey Bostwick, scout for the Orphans, discovers a marvelous second base player down South. For obvious reasons Bud Buckner is ineligible, but if he can be passed off as a Mexican his color will not eagainst him. Kelly, the manager, is suspicious of the trick.

Buckner is smooth, knows Spanish and is willing. The scheme is worked, and at the beginning of the training season Kelly sends Carter, another scout, to make the discovery of Ramon Oliveras, whe is Buckner, Ramon arrives in Mexican costume.

(Copyright, 1912, by Street & Smith) "What do you know about that!" he hought. "He's gone and made himself

up for the part!" Senor Oliveras hesitated and looked Senor Oliveras hesitated and looked about him, as if puszled. Kelly strode out from the group and held out his hand.

"Aha!" exclaimed Oliveras, dropping both sultcases, also his cane and umbrella, and removing his hat to show his wayy black hair. "Aha! It mus' be this is the Senor Kally? S!! I greet you, senor! I am please'. I am mos' delighted to meet you!"

good hands, seeming to held a ball by instinct, and getting it away from him like a flash, he made a tremendous impression upon the manager, as well as upon all others who watched him at work. At batting practice, he stood up to the plate well, choked his bat short, and teared it with a payardil, chopy a wing. To save his life Kelly could not repress a grin, but he, too, removed his hat and grasped the hand of Senor Oliveras. stepped in with a powerful, choppy swing, and, after a hit, was off for first base like "Put her there!" he said. Then, under

"The senor will pardon my English," said Oliveras. I do not yet speak him so

"You're doing fine, old top!" said Kelly. "Come and meet the push."
Introductions followed, and to each newspaper correspondent Oliveras made a

"Yes, yes," he said; "I know what he is—this power of the press. I have in my portmanteau some ver' excellent cigars of my country. We shall be good friends, no?"

"Not no-yes!" said the newspaper men. And they gathered around this most amazing recruit and plied him with ques-tions. Oliveras answered them all smil-

ingly, showing his white teeth.
"In the firs' place, senores," he said, "I shall not say I am ready to play—ah—the shall not say I am ready to play—an—the game of my life. That is customary, no? I shall not say that. I mus' only do the best I know. A photograph? I regret I have not any. You have a camera? Buene! Good!" Then Kelly and, Oliveras again chasped

hands for the edification of the far-away fans in the home town, and, this formal rite being completed, the procession start-ed for the hotel. Kelly and the new recruit walking slightly in advance of the

"Great stuff!" said Hank Marston, rep-resentative of the Morning Flashlight.
"This fellow will be good for a column a day. It won't have to be the old stuff

"Painfully polite, ain't he?" said Phil Hawes, of the Evening Boom. "I wonder if he'll take off his cap before he tags a

if he'll take off his cap before he tags a man out at second?"
"He'll get over that," said Johnny Mc-"
Shane, of the Daily Breeze. "All Mexicans are polite—the high-grade ones. And get onto the cut of his clothes! I'll bet they were made in the City of Mexico."

Ont in front Kelly and Oliveras were talking in low tones.
"How bout it, Mr. Kelly?" asked Senor Ramon, with a grin. "Did I get by with

"How bout it, Mr. Kelly?" asked Senor Ramon, with a grin. "Did I get by with them newspaper reporters?"
"You bet your life you got by!" said the manager. "Where'd you get it all?"
"Hanging around those Mexican swells at the hotel in El Paso," said the recruit. "Play actin' comes easy to me; I used to be on the stage." to be on the stage."

"That's how you happened to dress the part," said Kelly, with a sidewise giance

"That's now you happened to dress the part," said Kelly, with a sidewise glancs at the cutaway coat.

"Yee, indeedy!" said Oliveras quickly. "That was a right good notion. These rags will cost you 40 bucks. A tailor in Juares made 'em for me out of a 19-year-old fashlon plats."

"It's worth it," said Kelly. "And now you listen to me a minute. I'm going to tall you something I don't want you to forget. You can pull all this high-toned Mexican bunk around here that you want to—spring it on the resporters and on the ball players—but don't come any of it with me, savyy? You sin't a Mexican to me, understand?"

"Yes, sir, Mr. Kelly, yes, sir," said Oliveras played a very veras humbly. "But at first I've got to do a certain amount of it to get by, Once I get my spangles on I won't be actin' let the cutaway coat.

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After all, ability to play the game is the open days and when the requirement in his own to get a gentlement in his own to get a gentleman in his own to get a gent

they explained the rules of the fascinatpastime many times, and at great length, Oliveras shook his head hope-"Cards I know a little, si," he said,

deprecatingly; "but these ca-rap game with the dice, I do not understand him."
"Well, If you're going to be a big leaguer," said Bagby, "you'll have to learn. Craps is the ballplayer's national learn. Craps is the banpings. "
pastime; didn't you know that?"
"Then I will learn him some day," said
Senor Oliveras, "but not now, Manana."
"
""" that manyana thing?" de-

"What is that manyana thing?" de-manded Pickies. "You hear it all over down here. "Oh," said Oliveras, "she mean the

Yes, sir, I know my place."
"Keep it, then," said Kelley. "What kind of shape are you in?"
"Fair," said Oliveras. "I been worksame as 'tomorrow.' 'By and by,' no? In Mexico everything it is manana." But there was no "manana" in the way Senor Ramon played baseball, and the other recruit infielders despaired when they watched him flashing about the keystone sack. When the regulars began their work as a team, Oliveras was dropped into the line-up, and the way he fell in with the working of the sea-"Where did he get it? Where did he get it?" said Johnny McShane. "Why, he goes after a ground ball as if he'd ne reil in with the working of the sea-soned machine gladdened Dick Kelly's heart. Even old Mush McKnight, who had been prophesying a streak of yellow, changed his mind when he say how Oliveras went after sliding base runners. "What do you think of him, Mush?" asked Kelly one afternoon, as they were trudging back to the hotel.

"The best second baseman I've seen in a dog's age!" said the old-timer, prompt-ly. "If he's got a weakness, I don't know what it is. I was afraid at first he might have a streak, but I've changed my mind. You take my tip, and send Bill Carter down into New Mexico and Arizona; you might find another one like him."

"No," said Kelly, smiling to himself.
"I guess there sin't any more just like him anywhere."

"You never can tell," said Mush, oracularly. "I can, if you can't," said Kelly. "But at that he's a wonderful ballplayer. (CONTINUED TOMORROW.)

### FEDS WANT "ALEX," COLLINS AND M'INNIS

"If Money Can Get Them, We Will Have Them," Declares Gilmore.

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 4.—The Federal League threatens another raid on organized baseball in the fall, according to the decision reached here at an impromptu meeting of President James A. Gilmore and other magnates of the organization. The independents have eyes on from 12 to 15 players, among whom are J. Franklin Baker, Eddle Collins, "Stuffy" McInnis and Alexander. "If money can get them, we will have them with us on the spring training trips," said President Gilmore. Baker is spoken of, it is understood, as we will have them with us on the spring training tripe." said President Gilmore. Baker is spoken of, it is understood, as being the logical man to lead the proposed team in New York city, which will be the only change in the circuit next year. No verification could be obtained of the rumor, but there were no attempts at denials, and the fact that the Feds have been negotiating with Baker gives it support. St. Louis wants McInnis, and Chicago would spare no money in luring away Alexander and Eddie Collins. The identity of the other stars could not be learned; but negotiations are understood to be on with several stars with the Pittaburgh Nationals and Detroit Americans. Otto Knabe's Baltimore Terrapins are likely to be switched to New York, according to the rumors following the gathering here. It is understood that the Monumental City magnates are not satisfied with the returns there and are willing to change. Kansas City was reported ing to change. Kansas City was reported as the only club making money in the leagus at present. President Gilmore will open offices shortly in New York city, and the league's headquarters will here-after be in that city.



TENTS to HIRE BERNARD McCURDY

# TENDLER PLANS BOUTS Marcy, stroke, and P. J. Foster, eswain. The only opponent to the Undine a is the strong Argonaut aggregation, Canada. Several weeks ago it was that the crew had been disbanded to list in the army, but the report was founded. However, immediately after races are over Saturday the Canada will take up arms. The crew of the Arnaut will be seated as follows: R. Slat bow: E. Butler, 2; C. Carruthers, I. Hogart, 4; G. M. Balfour, 5; C. Kelt R. Gregory, 7; E. N. Harcourt, six and W. MacLeary, coxswain. Matthew Lukens' opponents in junior singles race will be G. Fritz, of West Side Rowing Club, of Buffalo; Edmonstone, of the St. Catherine Row Club, of St. Catherine Row Club, Larry Dibbie, of the Don Row Club, of Toronto, Canada, a brother WITH TWO CHAMPIONS

Elongated Bantam Hopes to Meet Williams and Kilbane. May Box Dutch Brandt.

Lew Tendler, bantamweight-elongated and lean-who was one of the few chief attractions in local fistiana last season, has commenced light training in preparation for the 1915-16 campaign, but a month off. Providing the plans of his manager, Phil Glassman, do not go astray, Philadelphia fans will have an opportunity of witnessing Lanky Lew in combat with two champions.

Speaking of his project, Glassman hopes to draw Kid Williams and Johnny Kilbane, at 116 pounds and 123 pounds, respectively, into the 24-foot ring with Tendler here. Phil declares the newsboy champion would have little or no trouble making the "16" weight. Before starting his preliminary workouts Tendler tipped the beam at 121 pounds, says Glassman.

An endeavor is being made by a local promoter to match either Dutch Brandt or Billy Bevans with Tendler. A Brandt-Tendler melee probably would result in a corking mill, as Brandt's aggressive-ness would keep Tendler busy throughout

or Billy Bevans with Tendler. A BrandtTendler melee probably would result in
a corking mill, as Brandt's aggressiveness would keep Tendler busy throughout
B minutes' action.

While Young Jack O'Brien and Willie
Herman are flinging fists into each other's
features at the Allegheny A. C. Friday
night, Eddle McAndrews will be swapping
slams with Buck Fleming at the Ludlow
Club.

Kid Beebe, who has started in more
than 500 ring battles and never had the
pleaseure, or rather displeasure, of hearing "19" counted over him, showed that
he still knows a few choice pointers in
the art of hit and get away. He gave
will be Benckert an artistic trimming.
When clever Al Nash opposes Benny
Kaufman at the Broadway Club Monday
night he will discover that the latter is
punching as hard as ever. "Moon" is
working conscientiously for the match.
Reds Sullivan, a South Philadelphis have

working conscientiously for the match. Reds Sullivan, a South Philadelphia ban-tam, wants to meet Gus Lewis. Reddy is boxing well at the present time.

A 10-round match between Patsy Brannigan, who has been boxing for 12 years,

and Dutch Brandt may be consummated by John Weissmantel, of Brooklyn, for Ebbets Field. Jimmy Krouse, hard-hitting welter-weight, postals that he is in shape for bouts with Tommy Howell, Joe Hirst.

Henry Hauber and Willie Herman.

The real inside reason for the second postponement of the Jack Britton-Johnny

Dundee fight in New York is because the former decided that he would have much trouble in making 133 pounds in this warm weather. Battling Levinsky will meet Colin Bel in a 19-round match at Far Rocksway, N

Y., Friday night.
The date for a lightweight tournament at Ebbets Field, Brooklyn, has been fixed

for August 10.

STANDISH

Clusts Peabody & Co.Inc. Makers

FOUR UNDINE CREWS

LEAVE CITY TO RACE

Vivian Nickalls Confide

His Proteges Can W Big Events at St. Caf

erine's, Ont .- Detroit a

Buffalo Boats Entered.

Four local crews, representing that dine Boat Club, left the city last as for the annual Canadian Henley we will be held Friday and Saturday at

will be held friday and saturday at Catherine's, Ont. For the last three me in fact, since the People's Regnita, o Vivian Nickalls, of the University Pennsylvania, has been hard at getting the members of the Undine of in trim for the Canadian events.

Coach Nickalis announced last patter another hard workout. that men were in good trim and that a

had a great chance to win from the or

that Philadelphia will be represented the Canadian Henley. There are sweeten entries from Detroit, Buffalo and respectively who are going out to win. If

entries from Detroit, Bullaio and appoints who are going out to win. If Philadelphia crews other than the same eight-oared should win on Friday it mean that they will be able to row the next higher class on Saturday.

The eight-oared crew of Undine is prically made up of Red and Blue as

tically made up of Red and Blue as men, and is nearly the same may as that which rowed in the People's gatta on July 5. Harry Marcy, stroked the crew to victory on that will again set the pace. Two mem of the crew are fighting it out for how seat, which will be decided on arrival in Canada. The men are Rus Breitinger and Harry Gosewick, other members of the crew seat as lows: Yates Hickey, 2; William Chering, 3; Richard Ferris, 4; Louis S. 5; Adolph Woll, 6; Louis Borie, 7; Ha Marcy, stroke, and P. J. Foster, swain.

Club; Larry Dibble, of the Don Row Club, of Toronto, Canada, a brother Robert Dibble, the national sculling ch pion; A. F. Moran, of the Don Row Club, of Toronto, Canada; F. P. Ha of the Hamilton Rowing Club, of Ha ton, Ont.; Bruce Dodds, of the Det Rowing Club, of Detroit, Mich., and ward Hinkle, of the Detroit Rowing C Edward Shmidheiser, who rowed in Undine second sculor four-cared when

won the American Henley, and who his first single sculling race on N Day, will measure sculls with three s

men in the intermediate single race. T will be Greenwood, of the St. Cathe Rowing Club; Harcourt, of the Argon Rowing Club, and Edward Hinkle, of Detroit Rowing Club.

IN CANADIAN HEND



Greater South Philadelphia Day. Annual picule and carnival Greater Passyunk Avenue Business Men's Association. Amusements free is children from 1 to 2. Buby show, buschall and other games. Fireworks 9 P. 3

Special Tomorrow Night, 8.30 P. M.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 20-MILE MOTOR PACED MATCH RACE CLARENCE CARMAN, Jamaica, L. I.

vs. GEORGE WILEY, Syracuse Also 30-Mile Motor Paced Race-4 Sensational Motorcycle Events NEXT SATURDAY-56th ANNUAL SCOTTISH GAMES OF World's greatest professional runners competing. Come spend CALEDONIAN CLUB

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES-FAIR OR FOUL, CLARENCE, JOHNNY EVERS CERTAINLY RUNS THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FISTIC ORDER TO SUIT HIMSELF

"Put her there," he said.

charming in its deference, and he fairly took "Scrappy" Kernohan's breath away with his intimate knowledge of that great mans' batting record.

mans batting record.
"Whateyer he is as a baliplayer," said
Scrappy, on his first evening at the camp,
"you got to hand it to him for knowing
things. Why, he had my record down
pat for five years back! Some of the
time you can't understand him, of course,
but I will say for him that he's well.

but I will say for him that he's a well-

read guy!"

After all, ability to play the game is















