

FIVE BALL TEAMS REST HOPES ON STAR PITCHERS—"THE CRAB," BY C. E. VAN LOAN

ONE BRILLIANT PITCHER EACH KEEPS FIVE CLUBS UP IN RACE

Alexander, of Phils; Mamaux, of Pirates; Faber, of White Sox; Foster, of Red Sox, and Fisher, of Yanks, Teams' Mainstays—Reds Becoming Really 'Uppish'

One week ago Pittsburgh was picked as a likely pennant winner in the National League, but today the club is back in the second division, and probably will stay there.

At Mamaux, unheralded and a "dark horse," is responsible for the Pittsburgh club making thousands of dollars just when it seemed, after the miserable 1914 showing, that the team had no hope for anything better than seventh or last place and a poor financial year.

Several other major league clubs have been up with the leaders through the brilliancy of one pitcher and fairly consistent twirling by the rest of the staff. While the rest of the Philly staff has pitched great ball throughout the season, there is no denying the fact that Alexander the Great has been the main cog in the Phillies' machine.

Detroit and Brooklyn Lack Brilliant Twirler

Detroit and Brooklyn are in quite a different situation. Either team probably would go out in front with a rush if it had one twirler who could perform similar feats to those accomplished by Alexander, Mamaux, Foster, Faber and Fisher.

Pittsburgh is hovering about the .500 percentage mark; but Mamaux has won 15 games and lost only six. Faber has 18 victories to his credit and eight defeats; Foster has 17 victories, out of 22 games; Fisher has turned in 16 victories and lost eight games, with a team that is just a few points above the .500 mark.

These figures prove the value of one star twirler to a team. Early in the season Mayer was keeping step with Alexander, and the Phillies gained a big lead. Since Mayer let up, Demaree and Rixey have come along, and either is likely to prove the needed man to clinch the pennant for the Phillies.

Mamaux Handled Just Like Alexander

Pittsburgh has worked Mamaux much in the same manner Moran has used Alexander, although the Pittsburgh youngster has not been in so many games. Mamaux has been sent to the mound in the opening game of almost every series, and he has invariably started off with a victory, giving the Pirates a big edge on their opponents.

National League players marveled at the ability of the Pirates to stay up in the race as long as they did; but after looking over the figures the only answer is Mamaux. This youngster has been particularly effective against the Phillies.

Cincinnati Reds Get Hilarious Over Victory

Cincinnati's mad dash in the National League race has excited comment throughout the country, and the fans have been wondering how that club is doing it. One visit to the Cincinnati dressing room after the Reds have won will convince anybody that there is a reason for this sudden spurt.

After beating the Phillies yesterday the Reds celebrated in collegians' style. There was much singing, hand-shaking and congratulations passed around, and everybody seemed to be thinking of only one thing, and that was a better position in the race.

Manager Herzog declares that the Reds will finish third. This looks like an almost impossible task; but if the Reds continue at their present clip, they will make a few teams in the first division hustle.

Reds Have Won Eight Out of Last Nine

Eight of the last nine games played have resulted in victories, despite the fact that Herzog has not a single pitcher on his staff, barring young Lear and Schneider, who was with the team at the close of last season.

The pitching burden is being carried by Schneider, Dale, Toney and McKenry, with Lear, the ex-Princeton star, as relief pitcher. Incidentally, the Reds are carrying only 17 men; but all of them are hustling, and the team looks good.

Toney Probably Made Record on Number of Balls Pitched

It is a pity that no count was taken of the balls pitched by Fred Toney in beating the Phillies yesterday. The game was half over before the spectators awoke to the fact that the big Southerner was not pitching many balls in retiring the leaders.

Toney pitched four balls to Bancroft in the eighth and only one each to Byrne and Paskert. In the ninth Cravath singled on the first ball pitched, and Luderus hit into a double play on the next pitch. Whitted then singled on the first ball and Niehoff popped up on his first try. It is likely that Toney surpassed all previous marks in this respect, and it is unfortunate that the count was overlooked entirely.

Bad Fielding Loses Another Game for Alexander

The Phillies never had much of a chance to score, and ball games cannot be won without runs. Four hits were all that Moran's men could get, and only few hard chances were offered Toney's support. While Toney pitched grand ball, he did no better than Alexander the Great. Alexander pitched well enough to have shut out his opponents in nine games out of ten; but an unfortunate misjudgment of a fly ball by Whitted started the Reds off to a victory.

Cincinnati never threatened to score in any other inning, and it was another hard-luck defeat for Alexander. The Philly star pitched his most effective game of the season against the Reds, as Herzog's hangers have battled the king of pitchers harder than any team in the league to date. It was the third defeat for Alexander at the hands of the tailenders and, like his recent defeat in Cincinnati, was due to lack of hitting by his teammates and a slip in the field.

To a certain extent Alexander has no one to blame but himself for the defeat, as he might have pulled out of the hole in the fifth inning had he not wasted too many pitches on Wagner. He had the Reds' second baseman two and nothing and then gave him four straight balls, trying to work him in. In both appearances at the plate Wagner looked bad, and fanned each time. Chances favored his doing likewise, with two strikes and no balls in the fifth, and this would have changed the whole game.

Jack Coombs and Christy Mathewson, two of the most famous twirlers the grand old game has turned out, had a little pitching duel in New York yesterday, with Coombs the winner. It was Coombs' third victory over the Giants this season and New York scribes declare that Coombs appeared to be stronger and faster than at any time this season. If true, this is bad news for the Phillies.

Donovan Digs Up a Gem in Philadelphia

"Wild Bill" Donovan took a run over to his home in this city last week, and when he returned to New York he had with him a 17-year-old Philadelphia who has caused considerable comment among the Yanks and visiting teams at the Polo Grounds because of his great pitching ability.

The lad's name is Havlin, according to Donovan; but a careful search of back files of newspapers reveals no pitcher of that name in local independent circles. Donovan says he picked him up off the lots, and intends to school him right in New York. Who is this lad? Is he one of the local or nearby scholastic stars under an assumed name?

C. Johnson, of the Upland team, leads the fielders in the Delaware County League with a clean slate—100 per cent. In 18 games the Upland star has not made a bobble. He averaged 25 chances and is credited with five assists. Johnson is batting at a fair clip—250—having faced the pitcher 88 times, registering 17 hits and six runs.



THE CRAB The Crab Saves Trouble for the Manager—A New Man on Third Coached by the Old One. The Pennant Race

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

Henry Gilman, third baseman of the Phils, is called "The Crab" by his fellow-players by the baseball writers and by the fans. He is a slight, slow-moving person, hitting a little better than the average, fielding well, but not unusually, not a steady sort of the field, married, and so steady that it is generally believed that he is an old man.

At the beginning of his 10th season he reports, as usual, but it is noted that his throwing arm is going away from him. He tries to snap the ball across the diamond instead of arcing it over, as he used to. At the beginning of the regular season he is greeted with a dorsal horseshoe for luck. At the end of the 5th month every player in the league knows that the Crab is going back.

Copyright, 1910, by Street & Smith. "You notice, Joe," said Carsey, "that he tries to take an extra step before he throws the ball. He throws the ball. Take it from me, the old boy knows, and he's trying to help the peg all he can. I don't want to say anything to him, but—"

The Crab saved him the trouble. One night when the team was playing in Chicago there was a rap at Holmes' door. "Hello!" said the manager. "You must be celebratin' tonight, Henry. It's neatly eleven!"

"You notice, Joe, that he tries to take an extra step before he throws the ball." "I've been waitin' for you to come in," said Gilman, sitting down on the edge of the bed. "Joe, I'm afraid I'm—about through. My arm has been awful bad all season. That game today—ought to have won that field. If I'd got Dougherty at first that time—we would have. He beat me a stride—and I ought to have had him by two feet."

It was a long speech for the Crab, and he paused, turning his hat over and over in his big, knotted hands. "Dougherty's a fast man, Henry," said the manager kindly. "He beats out many a one down that field."

"I know, Joe," said the Crab stubbornly, "but I ought to have had him today—and that run scored." "How about a little lay-off?" asked Holmes. "The manager was really very fond of his quiet third baseman. "If your arm is sore—"

"It ain't sore. It's played out." "Aw, rats!" said Holmes. "I wish I had a carload of played-out fellows like you! You take a rest. We're going to be up there in the first division this year sure—first time we've really had a chance. I'll let that kid Johnson cover third for a few weeks, and you take it easy. I'm going to need you bad, later on in the season."

"Well," said the Crab, rising slowly, "I'll take the rest. But I tell you now, Joe—it's all off. I don't want to draw money when I ain't in shape to play." "I guess if I can stand it, you can,"

NATIONAL LEAGUE PARK PHILLIES vs. PITTSBURGH Game at 3:30 P. M. Admission 25, 50 and 75c. Box Seats \$1, on sale at Gimble's & Spalding's

ADDITIONAL INJUNCTION GRANTED IN BURK CASE

Pittsburgh Feds Cannot Sell, Trade or Dispose of His Services

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 18.—An additional order, preventing the Pittsburgh Federal League club from disposing in any way of Pitcher Sanford Burk, who jumped from the Indianapolis American Association club, was granted by Judge Ambrose B. Reid, in Common Pleas Court. The order restrains the club from selling, trading, hiring out, farming or otherwise disposing of Burk's services.

It was intimated in court that this action was taken to forestall an attempt to send Burk to the Colonial League or to some independent team during the remainder of the season.

An injunction restraining the local club from either employing or playing Burk was granted on August 3 by Judge Reid.

WILLIE BEECHER WINS FROM ED M'ANDREWS

Local Fighter Owes Defeat to His Own Poor Judgment

Willie Beecher, one of New York's tough fighters, appeared in this city for a six-round battle with Eddie McAndrews, the local favorite, at the Douglas A. C. and Beecher carried a victory back to Gotham with him when he left the city this morning. The fight went the regular six rounds with lots of hard fighting and also plenty of clinching and wrestling mixed up.

In the semifinal Joe Tubor by a continual lightning attack to the head and body defeated Frankie McCarty in six hard rounds. This was a sensational fight all the way, with both lads giving and receiving numerous hard knocks.

Yanks Sign Pelican Outfielder NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—The New York Americans have purchased the release of Outfielder J. G. Hendryx from the New Orleans club, of the Southern Association.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—IF THAT FELLOW TONEY HAD BEEN THAT KIND, OH, BOY!

