EXCHANGE OF WILLIAMS FOR GROH WOULD HAVE STRENGTHENED CUBS, SAYS JOE TINKER

TINKER EXPLAINS REASON FOR PLACING SENSATIONAL "CY" WILLIAMS ON MARKET

New Cub Leader Declares Trade Which Would Have Strengthened Team Was Arranged, but Negotiations Fell Flat

JOE TINKER has at last explained his action in placing Cy Williams, the sensational young outfielder, on the market a few weeks ago. At the recent meeting of the National League in New York, Tinker told the EVENING LEDGER representative that a trade which would have benefited the Cubs greatly had virtually been closed until the agitation raised convinced all parties concerned that it was best to call negotiations off.

The new Cub leader says he believes that the trade, had it not been blocked, would probably have made his team a heavy favorite in the National League race. Charley Herzog, with whom the trade was being put over, admitted also that Tinker was not trying to alibi himself in making his explanation, and that it would have been a great des! for both parties, but that he would not consider it now.

The trade was an even exchange of Williams for Heinle Groh, of the Reds. At the time Groh had threatened to quit the Reds because certain parties had misrepresented remarks made by Herzog concerning the brilliant little infielder. As can be easily seen by Tinker's explanation at the time the deal was almost closed, it would have been an excellent thing for both teams.

Tinker Knew Williams Was a Star

"I have been panned all over the country and in your columns, too, be cause I have had clippings sent to me; but I was perfectly justified in putting Williams on the market," said Tinker, "I did not exercise snap judgment on Williams, because I know he is a wonderful ball player, but I had a trade virtually arranged with the Reds which would have given me Heinle Groh,

"Perhaps some people may think I would have gotten the worst of the trade, but I'll show why I was right, despite the protests of the fans. You fellows who have not seen much of the Federal Leaguers underestimate the ability of many of the best players we had. With the consolidation of the Cubs and Whales, I was left with six high-class outfielders, but my infield material was not as strong as I knew it must be if I was to figure in the National League race.

"Just at that time, it was believed that Heinie Groh would be placed or the market by the Cincinnati Club, and I made up my mind that he we the infielder I needed. I knew it was useless to offer one of my Federal League outfielders for Groh, because it would be turned down. I also realized that it would be just as foolish to expect the Reds to give up Groh for a veteran like Schulte, Good or Murray.

Infield Strength Needed More Than Outfield Material

"Now here is the way I reasoned. I had a wealth of outfield material, because I know that Zwilling, Flack and Mann, of the Feds, are capable of holding their own in any league and that old reliable Schulte is also a great ball player. Therefore I needed an infielder more than an outfielder and made up my mind I could spare even Williams to strengthen the inner works, which I consider more essential to a ball team.

"Groh would have fitted in wonderfully in our infield, and that is why I was willing to sacrifice Williams to get him. I placed Williams' name on the market as a feeler, because if some other team could offer something better I was willing to listen to a proposition for the time being at least, but Groh was

"There was quite a lot of agitation raised at the time, but that did not prevent me from carrying out my original plan. Herzog talked with Groh and vard baseball season will start Wednessoon convinced Heinie that he had no grievance, so it was only natural that the Reds did not want to go through with a trade. The great weakness of the Mitchell will call the battery candidates Reds last season, judging by the information I received, also was in the infield. Naturally Herzog did not want to weaken his team as long as it was not necessary to part with Groh for the sake of harmony.

Coming of Yerkes Made Deal Unnecessary

"I had my lines out for several infielders and when I landed Steve Yerkes, decided that I did not want to go through with any trade. Yerkes is a better ball player than he has ever r.ceived credit for being and I am convinced he will fill the bill. If he can't come through and my arm is in good shape, I can easily switch Doolan over to second and cover short myself.

"Perhaps I could have dodged a panning by using a different method in making the trade, but I still think I was absolutely right and would do the same thing again. I am out to develop a winner and must rise or fall on my record. Therefore I fell justified in doing anything which I think is going to strengthen my team. It might have looked like a 'boner,' but it would have been quite a good one for my team if I had gotten away with it."

International League May Make Serious Mistake

If reports from New York are correct, the International League has made a secret ruling that a salary limit of \$250 a month will be observed by all owners in the future. It is hard to believe that a Class AA minor league would take such a drastic step, even in these days of salary cuts and retrenchment

Before enforcing such a rule the International League magnates should consider conditions. The league was hit harder by the Federal League than all other minor organizations, one of the main reasons why Barrow's circuit was hit hard being that it had more good ball players who were being underpaid than any other league of its size.

It is impossible for a Class AA league to operate under such a small salary limit. The towns of that circuit have been educated to an excellent brand of baseball, and such cannot be provided at that salary limit, when the Pacific Coast League and American Association are paying twice that amount.

Becker's Release Was Rather Expected

The release of Beals Becker proved conclusively that Manager Moran, of the Phillies, has great confidence that either Wilbur Good or Josh Devore will prove a valuable addition to the champions. It is certain that Moran will carry a left-handed hitting outfielder, and with Becker gone there is room for Good or Devore.

Becker's release may create surprise in some quarters, as a hard hitter is generally missed, particularly by fans who love to see a clubber who is likely to whale the ball out of the lot at any time. But Moran made no mistake, Becker always was an overrated player. Aside from his clubbing ability, he was a poor fielder, because he failed to play batsmen properly, and a misgrable base runner for a fast man.

"Strangler" Lewis a Great Believer in Psychology

"Strangler" Lewis, who is slated to meet Joe Stecher, the Nebraska wrestling marvel, is a great believer in psychology. He attributes much of his success in the wrestling game to the fact that he has successfully introduced mind control into the sport. Lewis is an odd individual. One would never suspect by the wrestling monicker he has adopted that Lewis is a college graduate and a great student. Lewis graduated from the Kentucky State University a few years ago and was one of the greatest and most popular athletes ever graduated from that institution. If Lewis really attributes a large percentage of his success to psychology, we are afraid the "Strangler" is likely to learn that he needs more than that against Stecher.

Mahan Still Thinks He Will Coach California

A dispatch from Cambridge yeste day stated that Eddie Mahan, the brilliant captain of the Crimson eleven, had accepted terms to act as head coach of the University of California team for next fall, but that Mahan refused to announce his appointment until after he graduates from Harvard in June. Evidently, Mahan has not heard that Andy Smith was finally selected for the position and is in San Francisco at the present time. Smith was given a great reception on the coast, and will have absolute charge of the eleven, with no asstatants to hamper him.

Two of the great surprises of the collegiate basketball season occurred Saturday night, when Swarthmore and West Point were outclassed by Princeton and Pittaburgh. The defeat of the Army was rather expected, but few critics looked for such an easy victory for Pitt. After its splendid work throughout the season, Swarthmore's defeat was surely unexpected, even though the game was played on the Tigers' floor.

The veteran Billy Berger, always a willing and hustling middleweight, tried to come back last night in Pittsburgh, but was badly beaten by Leo Houck.

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



HARVARD BALL **SQUAD STARTS** DRILL THIS WEEK

Fred Mitchell, of Braves, Will Coach Crimson 1916 Candidates

NED MAHAN IN OUTFIELD

day, when Captain Nash and Coach to the Soldiers' Field cage. Two weeks later the remainder of the squad will report, together with the freshmen candiuates. Tonight the players will gather in the Harvard Union, where the Baseball Committee and the coaches will outline the plan of campaign.

Harvard came through nicely last spring after the resignation of its professional coach and when Percy Haugh-ton, the new owner of the Boston Braves, Jumped into the breach and pulled the team through its championship games against both Yale and the Tigers. It was thought at the time that Haughton would continue both as baseball and football conch, but it was decided by the Baseball Committee to adhere to the policy of having a real professional. Accordingly, the services of Fred Mitchell, who for several years was constant. who for several years was coach and handy man of the Boston Braves, were

Mitchell never has done any college coaching, but was successful in bringing through the Boston batteries two years responsible for the fighting spirit shown by the team.

Good Battery Man

Good Battery Man

Mitchell starts out with a good array
of battery material at Harvard. Harte, to
be sure, is the only high-grade catcher,
but Enwright, the football player, is expected to make good, and there is also
Waterman, a very fair backstop, who
caught regularly for Harvard in 1914, and
who was the first substitute last year.
As far as pitchers go, Harvard never has
been so well off as this year.

been so well off as this year.

Ned Mahan, the standby of the staff last season, will be out again, as will Wilcox, Whitney and Garritt, all of whom did a lot of twirling last spring. Mahan finally pitched the championship games, but it is a question whether he will not play regularly in the outfield this year. He was in the Tame every day last year, either as pitcher or outfielder. Wilcox showed much skill at the middle of the season, and Whitney should be better

than last year.

Harvard's most prominent pitching candidate, however, is Billy Boles, who was Ineligible last season. Boles is rangy and strong, as was shown by his work with the football team last fall. He pitched all last season to the Harvard batters, and constantly had to be told by the coach to allow the boys to hit the ball. He is a right-hander, and is so good an all-round ball player that he is likely to be used in the outfield when not pitiching in his

Gilman Star Pitcher

Captain Gilman, of the football team for next fall, pitched about half of the season in 1915 and then had to stop. He season in 1915 and then had to stop. He will come out with the others and will make a fight to get a place on the regular staff. He was effective at Exeter several years ago and later as the freshman pitcher at Harvard. Last season's freshman pitcher was Hitchcock, whose older brother. Rex Hitchcock, pitched for the nine and played on the football team at Harvard. He also is regarded as exceptionally good material.

Captain Nash has three yeteran in-

Captain Nash has three veteran in-Captain Nash has three veteran infielders, including himself at first base, the others being Abbot at second base and Reed at shortstop. Last year Harvard had no good third baseman, Hardwick, who has been graduated, coming into the infield at the last moment. Coolidge, who filled in as outfield substitute and who hit for more than .300, will be out with the squad later.

Harvard Crew Starts Work

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. IA.—Robert P. Herrick. '96, Harvard's new graduate rowing coach, and William Haines who succeeds Jim Wray as the rowing professional at Cambridge, have called out the variety cardidates to the Newell boathouse. In soite of the fact that the varsity crew is virtually picked before any rowing is done, the squad is unusually large.

GOOD ARTICLE OF PITCHING

Big Chief Lost Heart With Feds, but Redskin Probably Will Come Back This Season Is Opinion of Grant Rice

By GRANTLAND RICE

The Song of the Seventh Sea

Where dim mast stands against the gale Or sunlight gleams upon white sail: Where strange ships ride thecrested foam, That know no harbor lights of home; By rise and fall
Of gray sea wall
Of swirling tide there booms afar

The music of the wind through spar And rigging to the storm thrown free— The wild song of the Seventh Sea.

Beneath the sweep of endless skies As once of old the Black Flag flies; And here the Great Adventure scates For those who dare the Guarding Fates, And through pale mist

The hidden tryst
Of Dawn and Twilloht lies from view
By vaic of silver, hill of blue,
That rim the curving coast which creeps To where the last dead Silence sleeps

'Tis here, in touch of wind and wave, Rock hidden, lies the Fabled Cave Where red-bandanneed Pirate Bold

Keeps guard above the Pot of Gold Till break of day, When from the bay A low, black craft glides out the trail Where deep scarred faces line the rail, As gull and curlew rise in fright And wing their way in hurried flight."

"Here where the dust of starlight streams There waits the Harbor of Lost Dreams; Of fancies childhood knew about, Of sinking wreck The King's Men swarm across the side

That ripples with a crimson tide And fight, as in the days of ol The battle of the brave and bold. Where dim most stands against the gale

Or sunlight gleams upon white sail; Where waits the Mate of Evil Eye Or Cabin Boy that lingers by: Or Caoid hay that ingers by;
By rise and fall
Of gray sea wall,
Of swirling tide there booms afar
The music of the wind through spar
And rigging, to the storm thrown free—

The wild song of the Seventh Sea. The Case of Bender

Charles Albert Bender, the Eminent

BENDER SHOULD GIVE PHILS

1903 with the Athletics, which gives him a career of 12 years in the box. Bender is three years younger than Matty, seven years younger than Brown and eight years younger than Plank. There is no evident reason why he should not give Pat Moran some first class pitching, now that he is back with the right

Bender, as we understand it, lost heart and interest last year with the Feds, and was far from his standard form. He had no incentive to get out and hustle, and so dropped back. But his arm is reported to be intact, and a month's hard training should have him ready to help, especially as a member of the Wrecking Crew. As a rescuer the Chief has had few equals.

"Nothing to it. We are taking no chance of any sort in this fight."—Tom Jones. Which is the typical method of the modern champion and the modern fight

t Chief began his major league career in

"Jones won't stand for Rickard charg-ing over \$75 a scat." Our memory is sadly at fault. Who is putting up the \$70,000 purse-Rickard or Jones?

Dope gathered from the diamond has always been thick with uncertainty when used to help outline the future.

In 1914 no one picked the Braves to finish better than fifth, yet they won the world's charming the second to the proposition of the second to the proposition of the pro

world's championship.
In 1915 no one picked the Phillies to fin-ish better than fourth, yet they won the But 1914 and 1915 were simple compared

to the varied complexities which confront this next season. The blend of O. B. and Ped talent has outscrambled the possi-bilities of an egg. The dope is more topsy-turvy than it ever was before in all history.

There may be circumstances wherein we would be willing enough to pay \$50 a seat, but we can't think of any today. Perhaps we might when the days get longer.

They have always said John D. was a smart business man—a financial genius, Yet he went into the olt trade when he might have taken up pugilism.

Tom Jones has slipped the tip-off on the modern fight game. "Willard," he says, "will make \$200,00 this year \$50,00 out of Chippewa Chief, is only 32 years old. The | boxing and \$150,000 from the circus."

NEWS OF THE BOWLING ALLEYS

The White Elephants fought hard to the last man, but their 1022 didn't seem enough against Maneto's 1091. Al Lake, Jim Guest and Fred Fick were the heavy artillery in the deciding game. Wyndham blasted Algonquin's hopes of

The second season of the Quaker City League should be even more sensational and closes than the first, with the cripples and invalids of the Wyndham and Tizers back in the line

The U. G. I. Company League has been or ganised with 13 teams representing different branches, seven teams in section A and six teams in section B. They will real each other a series of three games, which will be played on Reystone and Terminal Alleys.

Captain Hindle made a great start with an

Fourth street made a game effort to down the crack Franklin quintet, but could only get the last game. Philadelphia National, the nemcomer, is rapidly improving. It took a couple of games from Corn Exchange.

Accounting covered themselves with glory Three straight from Meter, and with Billy Knox is the latter's line-up, was some feat.

INTRODUCTION DCIGAR "EXCEEDINGLY BETTER"

The greatest race in the Curtis League history is on this season. Only three games separate the first five teams.

All teams look alike to Joe Avil's Under-lown No. 1 equad. Jack Linesy's strengthened Adelphi quinter now look like contenders. Eleven May Play in Sweden



BETHLEHEM IS FAVORED TO WIN DEWAR TROPHY

Experience With Disston Eleven Should Prove Lesson to Steel Champs

TO PLAY WEST HUDSONS

Locally the present soccar season has been rather uneventful to date, for the only unusual occurences since the sales on got under way last October was the defeat of Bethlehem by Disston in an American League game, and the many close and exciting contests played here in the national cup competition.

close and exciting contests played here in the national cup competition.

Although two local clubs, Viscose and Disston, made a remarkably good impression in this event, no club from this city was expected to fluure in it very seriously, at least not boyond the second or third round. Every prediction made relative to the ultimate winner of the Dewar Trophy was begun by asking "Which club is most likely to beat Bethis, hem, the present holders of the trophyr Although Disston had to its credit a victory over the Steelworkers in a league match, the Taconyites were not expected to prove troublesome in the cup series. Every local soccer follower received a pleasant surprise when Disston held Bethiehem to a draw in their cup match at Bethlehem, and not a few enthusiastically believed that Disston would win the replay on Christmas Day. Bethlehem was no: to be caught napping again, however, and completely outplayed the local eleves when the tie was played off at Tacony Ball Park. when the tie was played off at Tacony Ball Park.

Ball Park.

Bethlehem faced the same situation last year, before it reached the final round fet the Dewar Trophy. In the semifinal round for the American Cup the trophy of the A. F. A.—the Steelworkers were drawn with Brooklyn Celife, at Brooklyn. Bethlehem expected an easy victory, and went into the game chockfull of overconfidence, and, as ofttimes is the case, they were beaten. By coincidence, Bethlehem was drawn to play Brooklyn Celife in the semifinal round for the Pewar Trophy—the trophy of the U. S. F. A.—and thoroughly frightened, and as thoroughly aroused, the Steelworkers played as only Bethlehem can play, and proved to be easy winners.

Bethlehem's experience against Dissign

Federal League Funeral

The Federal League is dead. It

has been dead for some weeks. But it hasn't been buried yet. It re-mains for the National Commission

this week to perform the obsequies.

Gilmore and his late associates in

outlawry will hold a belated wake

in Chicago Saturday. Chairman August Herrmann, of

the triumvirate, ably assisted by

Ban Johnson and John K. Tener, will conduct the services at the

Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, in New York, at high noon Friday. Herrmann decided this a most

fitting time for the rites when he learned that John E. Bruce, the

secretary of the commission, pro-posed to attend the annual spring meeting of the American League at the Waldorf Thursday after-

Graylock Five Wins

Graylock lloys' Club defeated Media by the core of 28-22 in one of the roughest games layed this season. All of Graylock's young-ters took a hand in the scoring.

EVERY HOUR

ON THE HOUR

a steel vestibule flyer

Scheduled for Friday

proved to be easy winners.

Bethlehem's experience against Dissess should be the lesson that Bethlehem seems to need at this critical stage of the cup competition. The present holders of the trophy are drawn in the fourth round with the West Hudsons, of Harrison, N. J., where the game will be played. On form Bethlehem should wind despite the fact that it will be playing away from home. This victory will place Bethlehem in the penultimate round with the survivor of the New England District from the West, which will be either the Fall River Rovers or New Bedford, Local soccerists may obtain first hand informasoccerists may obtain first hand informs

soccerists may obtain first hand information about this match after Fall River
plays its American Cup game with
Disston, which will be either next Saturday or a week from next Saturday.

It is generally agreed, however, that
Bethlehem will represent the East in the
final for this classic against the final
from the West, which will be either Cleve
Cleveland Thistles, MacDuffs, Hyde Park
Blues or the Pullman Cempany eleven,
probably the latter. The Pullman appear
to be the best of the Western eleven, and
should they reach the final they are sure should they reach the final they are sur-although all hands believe that Bethlebem although all ands believe that Bethlebem will retain the trophy.



EVENING LEDGER MOVIES-BLOW OUT? YES, FISTICUFF, BUT IT'S HOT AIR LIKE THE OTHER PUGILISTIC STUFF

