

PHILLIES AND ATHLETICS COMPLETE AN EXCELLENT TRAINING CAMPAIGN IN FLORIDA

LOCAL MAJOR LEAGUE CLUBS COME UP TO EXPECTATION IN TRAINING WORK IN THE SOUTH

Athletics Had to Do Little to Measure Up to Popular Idea of Their Strength, But Phillies' Case Was Just Reverse.

The work of the two Philadelphia major league baseball clubs in their spring training camps this year has come up to expectations. Never before have the Phillies and Athletics enjoyed such consistently good weather as they struck in St. Petersburg and Jacksonville. This has greatly aided Pat Moran in getting his club on edge, and Connie Mack in sizing up the candidates that he expects to compose the cogs of his new machine, which he declares will some day be as great as those of 1902, 1905, 1910, 1911, 1913 and 1914.

Mack's athletes have come up to the expectations of the fans largely because they did not expect anything, but the Phillies have reached the approved standard because they have clearly demonstrated that they are stronger in plucking than they were last season; their team play is improved and the individual work of the players is as good at least as it was in 1915.

Phillies Will Open Among Favorites

Since the woeful falling down of the Chicago Cubs, who were rated on paper in winter as prospective pennant-winners, the Phillies' stock has constantly advanced. The view generally taken is that if the Cubs with the best players of the Chicago National and Federals of 1915 cannot put a team in the field that is as good as the Phillies, the chances are that the other Feds, no matter how good they may be, will not add enough strength to the various clubs to overcome the improvement in Pat Moran's team.

While no one outside of Philadelphia is actually picking the Phils to repeat, few have yet placed them out of the running. A number of out-of-town writers have stated emphatically that the Phillies have just as good a chance to win as any other club, which means they are held in very high esteem. This time last year Moran's club was unanimously awarded the cellar position, but they won the pennant. This year, with a better team on the field, Moran's ability as manager a certain quantity and the added confidence of the players themselves, no one can fall to see that only a streak of the worst luck can put the team out of the running until late in the year, if then.

Mackmen Rated as Tail-enders Again

Although Connie Mack has stated that he is going to foot some of the wise ones who donate him last place for the approaching season, even the most optimistic Athletic rooters cannot see anything better than seventh place for the new and untried machine.

It will be necessary for Piek at third base, Witt at short and a number of pitchers, including Meehan and Myers, to develop more rapidly than is usual for youngsters for the Athletics to put a team in the field which will approach in strength either Washington or Cleveland, the two clubs admittedly the worst in the American League, excluding the Athletics.

With Fielder Jones leading the Browns, Rowland presenting a remarkable array of individual talent in Chicago, Donovan putting out an apparently well-rounded bunch of players, Jennings in the field with a team as good as last season and Bill Carrigan standing pat with his pennant-winners, it is hard to see where the Athletics can break into a position anywhere near the first division with a bunch of untried and inexperienced men.

Ed Konetchy Has Strengthened the Braves

Ed Konetchy played the first sack for the Braves in the training camp as it hasn't been played in years. He has convinced the skeptics that not only has he not gone back, but that he has come forward, both as a fielder and hitter. Allen and Knetzer, pitchers for the 1915 Pittsburgh Feds, will be among Stallings' hurling mainstays this summer.

The ratio of "flivers" among the "bushers" this year, however, has been on a par with that of other years. Only about one out of every ten youngsters that trekked the Southern trail will come back with a major league job. The major league clubs expended something like \$250,000 during 1915 for promising-looking rookies. But most of the money has been wasted. The "second Ty Cobbs," the "new Christy Mathewson" and the "better than Eddie Collins" have gone back whence they came. They were wonders in the minors, but when subjected to the big league test they failed.

Conspicuous among the failures is Dan Tiptoe. Pitching for Indianapolis last season, he set the American Association afire with his brilliant work. His hurling feats were heralded far and wide. An army of scouts looked him over and pronounced him a star of the first water. And then the clubs began bidding for him. Higher and higher shot the bid price. "Nine thousand," yelled the owners of the New York Yankees. The other bidders became silent and Tiptoe was turned over to the Ruppert-Houston combination. Great things were expected of Tiptoe. But he failed.

Basketball Moguls Overlook the Cage

The meeting of the Intercollegiate Basketball League in New York city did not bring out one of the most necessary points regarding the future success of the indoor game. Any one who has witnessed the games played by the colleges and those played by the Eastern and other leagues in this vicinity can plainly see how much college play would be improved by having the games staged in a cage.

On a court such as the one at Weightman Hall the game is slowed up to a disgusting extent at times by the ball constantly going out of bounds. Furthermore, in scrimmages it is difficult for the officials to tell which side is responsible for the ball having gone out, and this is likely at times to work an injustice to a team which may be fighting hard to come from behind.

Cage play in basketball is so far superior to the game as played on an open court that there is no comparison, but the officers of the I. B. B. L. apparently cannot be made to see this.

However, the association took one excellent step toward increasing the popularity of basketball in colleges even if it did overlook the matter of playing in cages. It advanced the proposition of forming an intercollegiate freshman league. This is an excellent idea, and the originator deserves a great deal of credit for putting it before the governing body. A freshman league will put the varsity game on a higher standard, because the first-year men will take far more interest in their personal development as players if they have a title for which they are playing than by simply playing a haphazard schedule.

Mike Sweeney Has the Correct Idea

Mike Sweeney, the advisory coach at Yale, has looked over the field of athletics at New Haven and has come to the conclusion that co-operation is essential to future success in all branches of sports. That the Yale students, alumni and coaches have all been pulling in different directions for the past few years is an acknowledged fact. This Sweeney realizes. Recently he made the appended remarks, which show his sane ideas on the subject of athletic improvement at Yale:

"What we must do is to put our shoulders to the wheel and help wherever it is possible. If we wish to quickly win back our former standing and confidence in the eyes of the college athletic world our efforts must not be confined to the athletics alone, nor to the management direct, but must come from every corner of university life.

"Yale has had some severe shocks within the last six or eight years, and it is only by the most intelligent united effort that she can restore herself.

"Permit me to say that the two main weaknesses which I see in Yale athletics are the lack of sound mature organization and the attitude of the student body. Unless these weaknesses are considerably improved Yale's troubles will continue indefinitely.

"At present Yale is about the only university in the East encouraging athletics that does not fully appreciate the direct value to athletics of the intelligent co-operation of the student body. From the standpoint of athletics, I know that a team loses at least 20 per cent. through the loss of this co-operation."

Golf in Philadelphia will receive its great impetus this season with the opening of the municipal links in the vicinity of Cobb's Creek, West Philadelphia. Already there have been hundreds of applications to the Park Commission for lockers. Indications are that when the course is officially opened it will be constantly occupied from early spring until bad wintry weather prevents further play.

Cosch Joe Wright, of the Penn crews, seems to have the rowing situation well in hand. He is being praised far and wide by the Red and Blue candidates for positions in the shells, by the lay student body and the alumni. Nevertheless, his work can only be judged correctly in one way—the result of the regattas and dual meets.

Tyrus Cobb, better known as the Georgia peach and Detroit outfielder, has reported to Hugh Jennings in 499 shape, so he declares. Which is "some" shape.

GERMANN TOPS LIST IN CURTIS BOWLING PLAY

Journal Press Wins Championship After Close and Interesting Race

STATISTICS OF LEAGUE

After a close and most interesting race throughout the season, the Curtis League finished its schedule last Friday night in a run-up-making series of games between the four leaders. Journal and Color Press broke even on the first two games and bowled each other to a tie in the third game. That Color Press knocked Journal out of the lead in this game, it would have resulted in a three-team tie for the championship between Journal, Color and Engraving, the latter team having won the first two games from the Book Engraving. The eleventh frame roll-off victory gave Journal Press undisputed claim to the championship. Engraving captured second place prize, one game behind, while Color Press and Book Engraving tied for third. They divided the prizes.

Ray Germann, of the Engraving team, won high individual average prize, leading the league with an average of 181 for 53 games. Avil, of Color Press, got second high prize, with 177 for 53 games. Cunningham, of the Evening Leader team, won the high three games individual score, with a total of 225. Otto, of the Engravers, got high single score of 266.

The high three games handicap included, for team finishing in the second division, was won by the Country Gentleman with 205. Captain Marshall, of the professional team, won the high three individual scoring team, with a score of 617. The high single individual game score in second division was won by O. Hale, of the Composition team, who rolled 239.

Following are the net pin records and averages of both teams and individuals:

Table with columns: TEAM RECORDS, INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES, ENGRAVING, BECK ENGRAVING, COLOR PRESS, COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, EVENING LEDGER, COMPOSITION, POST PRESS, FINAL STANDING OF THE TEAMS.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



"WATCH YOUR RACQUET," IS GOOD SLOGAN FOR TENNIS

The tennis season is upon us, and many door-unfortunates, like myself, always begin the season with fear and misgivings on the one hand and the joy of the game paramount on the other. Unfortunately, often the fear and misgivings is in the hand with the racquet, while the joy is in the other.

Many mistakes are made in the early season. Most of these can be avoided if one's attention is drawn to them in time. It is this which we will try to do. First, let us start with the question of the racquet. To play good tennis one must play with a good racquet, in good condition, with good gut in it and take good care of it. Before the season really opens—we tennis bugs are saying it will open April 8—get your present racquet out and take stock of its many points. If the frame is cracked or warped, buy a new bat, since any defect in the frame results in mis-hit shots. If there are any strings broken, have the whole racquet restringed. Do not get in the habit of having strings replaced.

Your whole bat is loosened once a string breaks, and the only way to ever get it tight again is by re-stringing. If the stringing is still intact, but loose, have the racquet re-stringed before starting the season, since hitting with a loose racquet gets one into the habit of hitting too hard. The ball will not carry pace off a loosely strung bat.

Having decided that our bat must be in excellent condition, then comes the question of what style shall we use. Use the racquet which suits your game, even if R. N. Williams, St. or Maurice McLaughlin do not endorse it. Remember you have to play with it; they do not. As a general rule, the best type racquet is the one you like best.

TOLL CIGAR advertisement featuring a graphic of a toll booth and the text 'TOLL CIGAR AT ALL GOOD DEALERS 5¢ JATOLL 2nd & GREEN STS.'

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Bainbridge TONIGHT, 8:30 SHARP... Spring Garden A. C. TUES. EVE. Big Joe Butler, 195 lbs. Young Jack O'Brien, 154 lbs.

RICE PRAISES WORK OF YOUNG MAMAUX AND SLIM CALDWELL

Former May Be Flash, He Declares, But Chances Are He Will Be an "Alex" or a "Matty."

By GRANTLAND RICE. "There's a cry from out the loneliness—oh, listen, honey, listen— Do you hear it? Do you hear it? You're a-holding of me so; You're a-sobbing in your sleep, dear, and your lashes how they glisten— Do you hear the Little Voices all a-begging me to go!" —Robert W. Service.

Yes, they're whispering and pleading all across the April heather— The brassie and the niblick and each highly bunkered spot; And though we've spent a winter very pleasantly together, What is a wifey O Dearie, to a sell played music shot? There's a cry from out the fairway and my bolly soul is yearning To the white pill-flying scuttles on a dead line to the green; And my heart is all a-flutter and my April dreams are perching On the neck of Colonel Bogie, where I play like a machine.

"Do you hear it? Do you hear it?"—Where the iron blades are flashing as I lean against the pill; As I wrap the shaft around me and I send the missile crashing And I amble on behind it over valley-land and hill! "You're a-sobbing in your sleep, dear"—but remember, please remember, That though I've got to leave you now to seek a "string of fours" I'll try and make a point of it to drop in by November, Regaling you, O Dearie, with my alibis and scores.

The Case of Mamaux. There is also, in looking to 1916, the case of Mr. Albert L. Mamaux, of Pittsburgh. He is another Mathewson or another Alexander, or one of those who flash and fade, as so many have done before? Mamaux is the youngest star in the major leagues. He is only 21, and yet last season, with a club out of the hunt, he won 21 games and lost but eight, for a percentage of 73.4.

He looked then to be a great pitcher; 1915 will add a valuable chapter in the outline of his future place. Ray B. Caldwell. No less interesting will be a study of the campaign to be waged by Ray Caldwell, better known to his intimate friends as "Slim." Just how great a star is the tall telegrapher? In 1914, working with a club that couldn't get him enough runs to fill a thimble, he won 17 games and lost eight. Last season, with another weak

Ask for HAVANA RIBBON advertisement with a graphic of a ribbon box and the text 'sold from the Sapatary Humidor by all dealers'.

Cadillac advertisement featuring a large graphic of a Cadillac car and the text 'NEITHER a man nor a motor car can live on a name alone. The world demands deeds from the one and performance from the other. In the working-out of that process, the world has bestowed greater and greater distinction upon the Cadillac. Order Now—there is real risk in delay. CADILLAC—AUTOMOBILE SALES CORPORATION.'

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—YOU HAVE TO WATCH 'EM, URIPATNUS, SEAMS ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM

Comic strip featuring a character named '2ND SPSALM' and various humorous panels with dialogue like 'GONNA WOBBLE A HORSE OR TWO' and 'O, MY UNIFORM WAS TIGHT'.