MACKMEN'S PLAY IN PRESENT HOME CAMPAIGN WILL MEAN MUCH TO TEAM'S STANDING

ATHLETICS' VETERANS MUST KEEP UP SPIRIT TO IMPROVE WORK OF YOUNGER PLAYERS

Confidence of New Pitchers and Witt Would Return If Older Men Continue Showing Fight-Giants' Poor Average Is Surprise

TIME first long home stand of the Athletics, which began on Saturday, is of vital importance to Manager Mack and his plans, mainly because the team has lost so many games through inexperience and because all the breaks have been going to the opposing teams. The team has reached a point where the veterans who had shown a new lease of life and unusual fighting spirit may become disheartened because game after game has been lost in the closing innings. This may put the team into the old groove.

The youngsters, whose inexperience and costly misplays have been largely responsible for the defeats, will suffer greatly if the regulars fall to continue the fight. Naturally, the young hurlers will be lacking in confidence for a few weeks, while Witt, for whom things have been breaking badly for several days, also will be playing under difficulties until the team starts running smoothly again.

Losing games such as the Mackmen have dropped within the last week is ough to shatter the confidence of any team in the land. Manager Mack has a hard job on his hands to keep the ginger and fighting spirit of his men at the proper pitch until the team starts winning. The break is bound to come if the veterans keep right on fighting.

Much Depends on Veteran Players

If the veterans go along as if nothing had happened, the confidence of the youngsters will return, but if they lose interest and fail to offer the proper encouragement several mighty promising lade will be thrown back several months in their work. It will make Mack's rebuilding task much harder.

Few of the fans expected the Mackmen to play as well as they have to date and they are not disappointed at the low standing of the team. They expected the Mackmen to prove easy in the early stages of the race, as did the players of the Boston, New York and Washington teams. The splendid work has been deserving of at least a .500 percentage if the breaks had been evenly divided.

The eighth and ninth inning blow-ups were not unexpected. It is only natural for a green team with inexperienced pitchers to lose games which would ordinarily be easy victories. Manager Mack said before the season opened that the patience of the fans would be strained to a breaking point more than once, and that the youngsters had a great battle on their hands to come through with flying colors after tossing away game after game.

Losing games such as have been lost recently is really a good thing for the young pitchers. If a youngster has the right stuff in him he will learn something in every game he loses through inexperience in a pinch, and they must be sent to the mound as often as possible. Mack believes that a pitcher must gain his experience in the centre of the diamond and not on the bench, and he un-

Southpaws Hamper Batting of Young Witt

Mack does not think the same policy should be followed with youngsters breaking in at other positions. He did not want to send young Witt into the game regularly, but this was necessitated by the failure of Sam Crane to show the form expected. Witt got off to an excellent start. He made an instant hit with the fans and players of opposing teams, and apparently had escaped the trouble green youngsters generally experience when things started breaking bad for him last week.

Batting against too many left-handed pitchers hurt Witt's batting, and he began to worry about his failure to hit. Mack is certain that Witt is a wonderful natural hitter and pays no attention to his weak hitting against southpaws, but the youngster worries so much that it has affected his fielding a great deal. The last week counterbalances the excellent start Witt made and he will have a hard road to travel for the next two weeks until he strikes his stride again.

Manager Mack is seriously considering pulling the youngster from the game for a few weeks until he gets his bearings. He is not quite sure whether this will help or harm Witt and hesitates before making the move. There is no question about Witt's ability. He is a natural born ball player and is certain to develop into a star, but a few more breaks like Witt had last week may hold him back a great deal.

Inexperience of Young Pitchers Loses for Macks

Three of the four games lost by the Athletics last week were reall, handed to Washington and New York. The Mackmen led the greater part of bott games, only to lose in the final ninth of each through the inexperience of the pitchers and fielding misplays. All of the games were stubbornly contested, with the Mackmen nghting continually. Washington scribes admit that the Senators were extremely lucky to win two games.

While the failure of the Mackmen to improve their position during the last week is rather disappointing, the fans can get plenty of satisfaction by glancing over the National League standing. Their satisfaction will not be due entirely to the fact that the Phils again have a clear hold upon first place, but because they can find a highly touted team with a much lower percentage than the

Everybody expected the Athletics to be down in the race, as Mack is rebuilding, but no one expected to find the reconstructed Glants on the bottom rung of the ladder with one game won and eight lost. The addition of Kauff, Roush, Rariden and Anderson, of the Feds, and the report that the famous Mathewson would be in his old-time form led fans to believe the Glants would be in the pennant fight from start to finish, but to date McGraw's team has not shown as well as the Mackmen

Giants Are Completely Outclassed by Opponents

In most of the games the Giants were beaten in clean-cut fashion and they had but little chance for victory, being completely outclassed by their opponents. On the other hand, seven of the ten defeats of the Mackmen were games which could have been won with a base hit. Six of the defeats have been by one run, and poor pitching has been responsible for only two of the losses.

The Giants have lost seven games in a row, and, judging by the way the pitching staff is performing, they are likely to lose as many more before they break the losing streak. If the New York team finally cracks under the handicap of weak pitching it will not come back, as it is a team composed of high-salaried veterans. However, the Mackmen are doing only what was expected, and, having plenty of young blood, it is certain to strike its stride sooner or later,

Before the season opened Manager Mack promised that the fans would get a run for their money this season and that his team would at least make the visiting teams battle all the way. He has surely fulfilled the promise, and as the team is going to improve steadily the fans can rest assured that there will be some interesting baseball at Shibe Park this summer.

Braves Prove Easy Game for Phillies

The Braves are generally considered the most dangerous pennant rival of the Phillies, despite the splendid work of Brooklyn and Chicago, but if Stallings' team had to meet the Phillies every day it probably would finish in last place. For some strange reason the Braves are helpless before the Phils, and instead of losing some ground or searg held to an even break when they meet their strongest opponent, the champions always increase their lead at the expense of the sensations of 1914.

Alexander the Great continued on his long string of victories over the Braves Saturday and pitched a masterly game. Manager Moran has decided that Alexander must be worked hard to keep him in good trim, and in the future he will not be allowed a week's rest, such as was the case when he went to the mound against Brooklyn. Last season Alexander appeared to thrive on hard work until the closing days of the campaign, and it is barely possible that his slight let-down

may have been due to other causes than overwork, The injury to Cravath is a great handicap to the Phillies, and unless he returns to the game before the Western trip starts the champions are due to have a tough journey. Wilbur Good is a fairly good player, but he is not a Cravath. The latter is clumsy and slow, but his terrific hitting not only wins games, but

also has psychological effect on the opposing pitchers. It is said that Crayath's legs are in poorer shape than at the close of the 1915 season. If such is the case Moran had better start schooling his successor, as the famous fence breaker will not be able to play a long stretch of games.

Prior to the first game of the series with the Athletics in Washington, scribes of the latter city were lamenting the fact that the Mackmen were not strong enough to give the Senators a good battle. They also were figuring out just where the Senators would be in the pennant race after taking four straight sames from the Mackmen. When the first same was postponed the scribes said that it was one victory thrown away, but after seeing the Mackinen in action just once the critics changed their tune.

If President Wilson's good wishes can help any there will be at least three American League champions. It is a custom of major league teams to visit the Whits House on their first trip to Washington each year to meet the President. This season he has wished the members of the Washington, New York and ligaton the greatest success possible in the pennant race.

PENN IMPROVES STICKWORK AND LEAVES CELLAR

Quakers' Average Now .153, Leaving Williams and Cornell Behind

LEHIGH ASSUMES LEAD

The Penn ball team has one consolation. It is not in the cellar, as it was last week. Since Thursday a week ago the Quaker batters have improved their per-centage from 111 to .153, and surpassed Cornell and Williams. Just now the Quakers are but one point behind Am-herst, which is in 14th place in the col-lege batting standing. Penn's team po-sition is 13th on the list with a .444 aver-

In eight games Penn has collected 36 hits out of 230 times at bat, tallied 15 runs and stolen eight bases. Aside from the startling advance of the Penn co-horts. Lehigh furnished the big surprise by passing the hard-hitting Columbia team and assuming the lead with the grand average of .374, due to the consist-ent hitting of Chenowath, Lee, Rawle and Yap. Columbia holds second place with

With the first third of the college seaon completed it is apparent that the lead-Ing teams of a year ago—the Army, the Navy and Harvard—have failen away down in their batting, although Harvard has a nine which, through last Thursday,

has a nine which, through last Thursday, had suffered only one defeat.

Chenoweth, of Lehigh, displaced Buoneguro, of Columbia, for the lead in individual hitting, beasting of a percentage of .667. Buoneguro follows with .608, and Robertson, of Brown, has .600. Beck, of Columbia, and Winters, of Lafayette, are in the .500 section, while an even deven are found in the .400 division Nine. dozen are found in the .400 division. Nine teen have made their way into the .300 class, but not a Penn man is located in any of these divisions.

Last week Penn had one man in the hitting column; this week three have done enough work to claim recognition, Berry and Sullivan are tied at .250, and Smith is credited with .222. Dick Harte, Harvard catcher, moved into the .300 di-vision and now has a mark of .312. The averages through games played

last Thursday follow:

Javidson, Brown,
Lee, Lehigh, c.
Lee, Princeton If.
Vaughan, Yale, cf.
Smith, Columbia, p.
Yap, Lehigh, rf.
Osborne, Dartmouth, cf.
Winterhalter, Lehigh, lf.
Shosa, Columbia, p. Columbia, c., d. Lafayette, p. Amherst, rf. Williams,

TEAM BATTING AVERAGES. STANDING OF THE TEAMS.

Played.

Dorsey Holes Out in One Stroke

Smith-Weinert Bout Postponed NEW YORK, May 1.—The ten-round boxing ntest between Gunboat Smith and Charley Veinert, scheduled for Wednesday evening at ie Marhattan Opera House, has been post-med for one week owing to an injury to mith's hand.

Sing Sing Nine Is Beaten OSSINING, N. Y., May I.—Sing Sing on's baseball team lost another game yesten the home grounds, when it was heaten a score of 17 to 2, by a scrub nine from Hr. Iyn. This is the third game the Mutual fare League has lost this season.

Statistics of the Major Leagues for Last Week WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



DODE PASKERT AND NIEHOFF LEAD PHILLIES WITH STICK

Pat's Centrefielder and Second Baseman Tied With .333—Demaree Leads League in Pitching Department

PITCHERS' RECORDS.

ERT NIEHOFF and Dode Paskert are , Hoblitzel, D leading the Philly hitters with averages of 333 each. At that the Pifladelphians are topped by seven sluggers in the National League, including the games the nominal leader of Tener's circuit with the nominal leader of .545, but he has been a swatting figure of .545, but he has been four games. Moliwitz of the Pratt. St. L. Milan, Wash. Felisch, Col. Milan, Wash. a swatting figure of .545, but he has been in only four games. Mollwitz(of the Cincinnati Reds, has taken part in seven games and is hitting at a .462 clip.

In the American League the Athletics Crawford, Det. States .550 mark. Tris do not show above the 250 mark. Tris Speaker is the real leader with an aver-age of .400 for the 13 games in which he

has played.

Ruth, of the Red Sox, and Faber, of the White Sox, lead the American League pitchers with a perfect average. Each has won four games and lost none.

Following are the figures of the major leaguers who are hitting 250 or better.

along with the American League pitchers who are going at the same rate and National League hurlers who have a percentage of .333 or better:

NATIONAL LEAGUE BATTING AVERAGES. Daubert, I Mowrey, I Burns, New Hinchman, B. Magne, Konetchy,

PITCHERS' RECORDS

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BASEBALL TODAY SHIBE PARK Athletics vs. New York Tickets on Sale at Gimbels' and Spaldings'

NEW YORK GIANTS HAVE GOTTEN BAD START IN A LEAGUE THAT IS STRONG

National Circuit Faster Than Last Year and This Fact Bodes Ill for John McGraw et al.

By GRANTLAND RICE

Ballade of the Always There Where within the spotlight's glow Where within the sporting year.
Comets come and comets go;
Big flights flash and fade away;
In the centre of the show
Every canine has his day:
That the Mundane ever may
Draw its daily thrill and throb,
Only one thing sticks for dye— Teddy's always on the fob.

In the current's ebb and flo, In the current's ebb and fo,
One by one they make their play;
Then the curtain falls—and to
There is nothing left to say;
Soon to vanish from the fray
Wagner, Matty, Baker, Cobb;
Only one holds Fate at bay—
Teddy's always on the job.

In the giddy game we know Jeff and Johnson—where are they! Teddy's always on the job. Flash the stars of Yesterday; Kings at dawn—and then, belay— Dubs amid the Common Mob; One glone shall never stray-Teddy's always on the job.

"I know how the Glants feel about leaving the cellar," writes Pickwick, Jr. 'didn't like my apartment either, but have decided to stay for another year."

John McGraw has bumped into one of the oldest laws of the game—that when you're up things come your way in a rush; and when you're down the same things point in another direction. Just as there is "nothing that succeeds like success," so is there nothing that falls like fallure. Not that the Giants are yet to be written as 1916 failures. There is still good material working under one of the game's greatest leaders. But 1916 is a poor year for a bad start with so many strong clubs to overhaul and few weak spots to use for a stampede. John McGraw has bumped into one of pots to use for a stampede. The Cub Return

Sir Joseph Tinker is to be congratulated upon the way he has at last revived his once gasping Cubs and wheeled them around in the right direction. For a few weeks there were strong signs

of an utter Cub collapse, but in place of of an utter Cuo comapse, out in place of growing discouraged Tinker only battled on, and now, with McConnell, Vaughn, Hendrix, Seaton and Lavender in shape, he has a staff at last that will more than hold its own. And no ball club is going to finish very far away from the top that has five first-class pitchers taking a pot has five first-class pitchers taking a poshot at opposing forces day by day. Tinker at the start had the toughest job in the circuit, but the great white light of hope is beginning to break for him at

The return of Fred Herreshoff to tour-nament play is one of the cheering signs of the young season. There are a few better golfers than Herreshoff, but no better sportsmen. Which is also something.

Here comes the Wanderer over the plain The vagabond Spring;

The vagabond Spring;
With a song in the sunlight—a smile
through the rain,
Where the dim echoes ring;
Where the red of the rose on the green of

With a necklace of violets crowning his throat.

And the fields leap to light at the first

thrilling note
Which his soft breezes bring.

Music and the Game

D. K. H.—So far as we know, there are no star musicians playing ball. The two pastimes don't mix. Barking at the Umpire hurts the throat and toying with the fast grounder doesn't help the fingers. The best all-around musician we ever

knew in the game was Harry Bay, the old Cleveland outfielder. Harry was equally gentle and well breken on the cornet, the plane and the fife. He was good enough to play a winter circuit because on his feet good enough to play a winter circuit be-tween seasons, being as fast on his feet with the cornet as he was with the spiked shoes.

The Shock

The duffer stood upon the tee,

I saw his bright eyes shine;
And then he turned and said to me,
"Gee whis—but I feel fine."
"I never slept so well before;
I'm ready for my part";
Whereat we gave a louder snore

And woke up with a start And woke up with a start

With Dick Rudolph and George Tyler
back in 1914 form, aided and abetted by
considerable talent on the side, the possibility is developing right along that
Owner Haughton will not be able to devote much time to football until after the
world's series is over.

One Reason

One Reason

Sir—Why is it that Eddie Plank, who is four years older than Christy Mathewson, is still pitching good ball, with Matty about through?

We don't know unless it is that in the same period of servitude Matty, has pitched something like 150 more games than Plank, having been called upon oftener for relief duty. Matty, most of the time, was the Giants' only star pitcher, where Plank was fairly well surrounded most of the way, first by Bender and Waddell and then by Bender and Coomba.

Plank and Waddell together were the strongest set of left-handers that any ball club ever owned. The two best right-handers on one club were probably Mathewson and McGinnity. The greatest pitching staff that ever worked on one pitching staff that ever worked on one club was the Pittsburgh delegation of 1901—Chesbro, Leever, Phillipe, Tannehill and Waddell.

Here is something for some of these young ballplayers who work about 90 or 100 games a season to think about—Hans Wagner, 41 years old last season, played in 156 games. As the pastime develops the bric-a-brac seems to grow more fragile each year.

PENN-NAVY TIME WRONG

Blunder Made by Authorities in Junior Crew Race

ANNAPOLIS, Md., May 1.—The time of the Pennsylvania junior and Naval Academy second crews Saturday was announced by the officials as 6:21 and 6:23 3-5 respectively, but it should have been one minute slower. The best time over the course was made

by the Naval Academy first cres which covered it in 7:10, winning from t Penn varsity by two lengths.



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