

BASEBALL MANAGERS FIND IT DIFFICULT MATTER TO SIGN COLLEGE PLAYERS FOR CLUBS

COST OF BUILDING TEAM FROM COLLEGIATE MATERIAL COMES HIGH, AS CONNIE WELLS KNOWS

Tioga Citizen May Be Accused of Getting Players at a Minimum, but A's Leader Is Taking More Chances Than Other Managers

THE task of building up the Athletics' baseball club was begun by Connie Mack at Shibe Park yesterday afternoon when four of the future grunts forgot about their college diplomas and donned uniforms to play the great national game with the other gentlemen on Mr. Mack's payroll. Only one recruit broke into the box score, but others were on hand to lend their assistance if called upon. Joanne, a former student at Wesleyan College, at Middletown, Conn., batted for Joe Bush in the eighth, and although he failed to hit anything but a high foul to Henry, he stood up to the plate like a veteran. Jim Johnson, the noted twirler from Urbans; Williams, a sharpshooter from the University of North Carolina, and Rows, the third baseman from Maine, will be given a chance to show what they can do in the near future.

Another flock of collegiate stars is expected almost any day, but Connie is not giving out any information. Lowry and Whitaker are sure to be on hand, and the others, wherever they are, will be with them.

Each year, when Mack gathers together a bunch of new talent, the same old cry goes up, that he is getting players at a minimum cost and the team is not so expensive as Benjie Knuff's salary. It is said that all Connie has to do is to slip an aspiring collegian a railroad ticket, and that constitutes his purchase price. These credits point to the enormous price paid for that famous disaster, O'Toole, for Frank Baker, Eddie Collins and scores of others. It is necessary, they say, to spend large wads of money if a championship team is put on the field. They further point out that this can not be done through the reckless distribution of railroad tickets.

No Easy Task to Sign Collegian

ALL of which goes to show that the Dear Old Public is deceived again. In these modern times it is as easy to sign a college baseball star as it is to cash a bum check in a bank where they know the exact state of your finances. The present day collegian reads the newspapers and knows that regular money is paid to the gentlemen who follow baseball for a livelihood. When a big league scout approaches him, he remembers what he has read and signs the contract with a pen in one hand and holds out the other, with upturned palm, waiting to have it crossed with a half ton of silver.

And that's not all. Every big college baseball team has a coach, who usually is an ex-big leaguer. The coach also knows the value of good players, and as he is the chief adviser of the men playing under him, the scout must unload lots of coin of the realm at his feet. As an example, take the case of Eppa Rixey, now with the Phillies. Eppa was unsolicited by Charley Rielor, the National League umpire, when he (Charles) was coaching the baseball team at the University of Virginia. All Rixey asked was \$2500 for Rielor's signature to a contract, and although the case was fought out before the National Commission, he was awarded more than half of the money.

Learn Game From the Bench

SO IT easily is seen that it isn't a cinch to grab off these high brow athletes. They also insist on getting regular salaries, and the expense piles up from the first day the papers are signed, regardless of the fact that they might not be available for duty for a year or more.

Eddie Collins was on the bench a year before he became a regular; Plank was useless for almost one season; Bender had to be put through a thorough schooling before he took his place on the mound; Stuffy McInnis was warming the bench for two years, and Barry and many others were allowed to ripen before they earned their salaries.

These salaries, when traveling expenses are included, amount to quite a pile in one year and more than equal the usual drafting price in the minor leagues. Then, again, it is more risky. If a minor leaguer is purchased for \$1500, he can be sent back if he fails to make good; on the other hand, if a college player blows up, it is hard to place him anywhere because little or nothing is known of him, and as a result he is a total loss.

And they say that Connie is not spending the money for a new team! The truth of the matter is that the leader of the Athletics is taking more of a chance than the other managers, and is grabbing them green from the bush in the hopes of teaching them big league baseball in the same manner that they studied in college from freshmen up.

A's Play Good But Unfortunate Baseball

YESTERDAY'S defeat was the eleventh suffered by the Athletics this month, but the team did not look so bad as was expected. The team plays good but unfortunate baseball, and is in a slump that usually hits a club a couple of times a season. The Giants hit the toboggan at the start, recovered in the West and started to slide again when they started to play at home. Washington, too, struck the skids not so very long ago and went from May 27 to June 3 without winning a game. Then they beat Cleveland, won three from St. Louis and dropped four out of five in Chicago.

No matter how good a team appears to be, it is likely to crack at any minute and it looks as if Cleveland was on the rocks right now. That club looked like world's champions against the Athletics, but that walloping handed them by New York last Sunday started them on the down grade. Detroit followed with another slam yesterday and is due to further cut down their lead today.

Dodgers Now Badly Worried, Demoralized Team

FOR three years the Phillies encountered ill luck or were decisively outplayed on the Brooklyn field. Even at home the Dodgers seemed to be able to beat the Phils no matter how poorly the Brooklyn team might happen to be playing prior to clashing with the Phils. Last season the Dodgers took the season's series from Moran's men, though the Phillies succeeded in winning the majority of the games played with the other six National League teams.

Prior to the first game of the present series Brooklyn had won eight out of the nine games played with the Phillies. The ability of Robinson's team to defeat the Phils decisively every time the two teams clashed accounted for the comfortable lead the Dodgers enjoyed Monday morning. Today only four points separate the two teams; the "fizz" has been smashed, and the Dodgers look like a different ball team.

Three Victories Over Robins Encourage Champs

THE Phillies were at the turning point of the season when the series began. Three or four defeats out of the five games would have been a blow from which the Phils probably would not have been able to recover. The loss of the games would have placed them so far from the leaders, but the moral effect of another disastrous series with Brooklyn would have been great. The Dodgers would have been convinced that they outclassed the rest of the league and confidence, when not carried too far, is a wonderful asset in baseball.

The main feature of the series from a Phillies standpoint has been the sudden departure of the batting slump. Last season the Phils had the "punch" in the form of extra base hits, inserted at critical times, but this year Moran's men have been winning their games through Alexander's brilliant pitching and the ability of Manager Moran to switch his attack in such a manner that a large number of runs have resulted from a few hits.

Applications are pouring into the Evening Ledger office from boys who wish to compete in the weekly track and field meets to be conducted every Saturday morning by this paper. The Evening Ledger's idea is to increase interest in every branch of athletics, and in order to accomplish this the matter has been put into the competent hands of Ernest Crowhurst, who already has shown that these meets will be a great success.

Billy Crowell's 1917 baseball team at Lafayette will be strengthened by the addition of Sam Miller, of Tomo. Miller is more than six feet tall, weighs 170 pounds and is regarded as a wonderful young pitcher. On April 15 Miller pitched a no-hit, no-run game against the Gilman County School team. Miller averaged 12 strikeouts per game during the last season.

Thus far the scores of the games played by the Ledger baseball team have not been printed. No doubt this is due to the fact that Manager Harry Shaner does not wish it to become known that his nine plays on Sunday.

Many of the Philadelphia Boy Scouts were scouting at Shibe Park yesterday. Evidently their mission was not scouting for baseball players.

KELLY—THE SUMMER WIDOWER ARRIVES



DODGE ALWAYS FEARED HE WAS GOING TO 'GET IT'

Former Phillie, Victim of Pitched Ball, Had Premonition of Death on Ball Field

Johnny Dodge, third baseman of the Middle Southern Association team, who died Monday from injuries received when struck by a pitched ball on Sunday last, appeared to have a premonition of his fate. When Dodge was with the Phillies, in the late season of 1912 and the early part of the 1913 season, he frequently spoke to the writer of the danger facing a batter when a speed ball is pitched at him. Dodge seemed to brood on the matter, and his teammates generally attributed his morose showing with the sick to the horror he had of being struck on the head with a fast one.

Often when Johnny would come to the bench after a time at bat he laughingly would remark: "Say, if that fast one hit me inside it would have got me good—and then good night" or "That guy certainly is using the old bean ball out there today!"

Dodge did not express his fears freely to his teammates, for ball players are prone to condemn the man who flinches from a pitched ball. If there forlorn in the breasts of those who flinch, they bury it as deep as possible, realizing that the man who lets himself get the batter of him is through as a major leaguer, and even will have trouble making good in the benches. Dodge, however, talked at length with the writer on the subject. On one occasion, when the Phils were playing in New York, Tuba Marshall, former Dodge, three straight times, and Johnny was taxed with pulling away from the plate.

Lack of Imagination

"It isn't that I am afraid exactly," Johnny explained. "I don't believe I am a coward, but somehow I can't forget what it means to be hit on the head by one of those speed balls. I never have forgotten the knock of getting out of the way when a pitcher comes one at me. I know that some day I am going to get it, and the idea is with me every time I go to the plate. It's all right for those fellows to laugh—they haven't any imagination."

Johnny was anything but a nervous man when on the field. He always played close in and when a bunt was expected almost was on top of the batter. When the team was barnstorming through the South in the spring Dodge played the same way, although frequently the diamonds were so rough that other infielders played safe and made no real attempt to field hard bouncers. Eppa frequently warned him to lay back and protect himself at all times, but Dodge only laughed and went after everything.

And as Dodge won a chance in the big leagues and went back to the minors simply because he had imagination and could not forget the consequences of being hit with a pitched ball, Dodge's fate in Cincinnati for Boals Becker and later he was sent to the Memphis team. There he stayed until his fate overtook him on the baseball field at Mobile.

Amby McConnell Releases Kroy

PHILA., N. Y., June 21.—Manager Amby McConnell, of the local New York State League team, today announced that he had released outfielder Homer Kroy.

Evening Ledger Decisions of Ring Bouts Last Night

RYAN A. C.—Jack Blackburn stopped Willie Baker in the fourth; Jimmy McKeloe stopped Charley Rees; Young Lawrence won from Frankie Conner; Billy Hines defeated Young Frankie Conner; Morris Wolf stopped Karp West in the third.

MODEL A. C.—Tommy O'Keefe outpointed Joe Welch; Jack Rantow outpointed Frank Kink in the fifth; Jack Kelly held Matt McNamee to a draw; Marty Leonard won with Jack Gorman; Harry Blue and Willie Conlan also drew.

NEW YORK—Harry Pierce defeated Arthur Taylor; Jack Tracy defeated Scotty Welsh.

RICHMOND.—Tom McEahan won from Terry Kellar.

RICHMOND, Ind.—Stewart Donnelly won from Al Wolkeist on a foul in the third.

Scraps About Scrappers

The fight arena at Colorado Springs, Colo., where Tommy Buck and Leonny Chavez were scheduled to meet last night, was a scene of a peaceful assembly of spectators were shy of the match. Tommy returned to Kansas City with a broken arm, in whose playing last preparatory to several bouts his brother Louie took his view.

Promoters Burns and Friday are anxious to give the Cambria open-air club spectators their best show under good weather conditions. Last season's program, with Johnny Nelson and Jack Fleming on the card, has been held over until this Friday night.

Owney McGovern is planning a special boxing card in conjunction with an athletic meet at the Point Breeze Midway on July 4. He will put together a number of bouts between local boxes.

A recent entry in the local boxing field who remains to develop into a star performer is Al Wagner, dubbed "Knockout." While the kid has won a few bouts, he has an abundance of skill. With some good coaching he should be boxing against the best of the territory.

DECISIVE VICTORY IN DILLON BATTLE MORAN PREDICTS

Hoosier a Great Fighter, Believes Frank, but Confident of Own Ability

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, N. Y., June 21.—Here, where the pines are fragrant and the air stimulates like wine, Frank Moran is going through the final steps in preparation for his fight with Jack Dillon, a 16-round affair, scheduled to take place in the open air in Brooklyn on June 29.

Moran is living the life of a rustic. Fishing, canoeing and swimming constitute a large part of his conditioning program. As often as he can, he borrows over to neighboring farms and lends the folks a bit of his strength in plowing or doing other chores.

Moran each evening boxes from four to six rounds with his sparring partners, Frank Kondall and Zulu Kid, in addition to working the pulleys, punching the bag and similar muscle-producing triceps.

"Dillon is being quoted as saying that he's going to knock you out," the Pittsburgher was informed.

Moran grinned.

"That's what Willard said—and Johnson, too," he replied. "I don't doubt that Dillon is going to try to knock me out. But he isn't going to do it, if I know anything about it. He's a tough bird. Some folks believe him. I don't. I respect his fighting skill. He's a great battler, but I think that I am a bit better."

"I'm going out to win—and win decisively."

SYRACUSE DEPRIVES CORNELL OF CHANCE TO MAKE CLEAN SWEEP ON LAND AND WATER

Ithacans Supreme on Gridiron and Track This Season, But Ten Eyck's Oarsmen Invaded Cornellian Glory at Its Strongest Point

By GRANTLAND RICE

Somewhere in the Game
Beyond the grip of battle and the dream
Of greater conquests and of richer fame
There comes the chance to lay aside the gleam.
The man that we call glory—or renown—
But which is mostly myth—to lend a hand
To some fagged, reeling hero who is down,
And give him one more scrimmage with the band.

Somewhere in the Game
You'll find a god but more than winning
strife,
The flash cheering or the mad acclaim
That you once thought to be the sum of life,
You'll find the value of all this is small,
A drifting phantom through a shadowed goal.

Where you might lift some pal who had to fall,
And give him one more chance to start again.

Brother Stars
Baseball has known one or two instances where brothers were enlisted as major league pitchers.

But the Coveleske family carries more pitching talent than any other now charted upon the dope. Harry Coveleske so far has won nine games and dropped two. Stanley Coveleske, the Cleveland member, has won 9 and lost four. Between them the record is 13 victories against six defeats, with a percentage yield only one shade below .800, undoubtedly the best pitching record that any two brothers ever achieved.

The Syracuse Stymie
Glory is a shifting institution. There were seasons in long array where Cornell triumphed on the water and the track, only to buckle up upon the gridiron. Through this last year the Ithacan detachment ruled the gridiron and maintained its supremacy on the track. But with a rise in one direction came a drop from the old rulership of the water. The Syracuse stymie now has come twice between Cornell and a clean sweep on both land and water. Syracuse has invaded Ithacan glory at its strongest point. Cornell's glory, taking in her season's work at all sports, is greater than ever. Syracuse merely has prevented an overwhelming triumph.

The Double Barrier
As a big average at this season of the jubilee, Cobb either has been well in the lead or has had but one man to beat out.

Today he is not only well behind, but he has at least two stars to overhaul. Speaker has found his way on beyond .350, while Jack Jackson has moved up around .340. With T. still below .330, the job he now faces is the toughest one of his career.

There is the chance that Speaker and Jackson might slump, but no great chance that both will slump. One of the two is fairly certain of maintaining a swift spring most of the way. It has taken 370 or better to lead the American League for several years. From now out T. must bat only a notch or two below .400 to be sure of extending his reign to a ten-year stretch.

The Pennant Belief
Your Uncle Wilbert Robinson, of the Brooklyn ball club, has been charged with having two assets to work with—the pitching and the punch.

He has something more—the belief instilled into his cast that Brooklyn can win a pennant—that tradition is a myth.

Year after year Brooklyn has swept out into a tidy start, only to remember late in June or early in July, Brooklyn was Brooklyn. Brooklyn players went to work with their collars cut low, so as to be prepared for the worst. They knew that sooner or later the most astute would descend upon a highly vulnerable spot.

Today Brooklyn is no such frame. The ball club believed it was good enough to win a pennant back in April. That idea still remains, with a number of additions. Brooklyn not only has the pitchers and the punch—but the confidence. The fact is no longer true for a June or July explosion. If the high-flying Robins can control their present titts against the Phillies, Glavin and Braves in satisfactory fashion they would be as known as pretty fair 25 or 30 others who are known as pretty fair accumulators of the bascule.

Revised for the Golfer
New to the line, let the chip shots fall where they may. It's the early bird that gets the worm's catch.

He'll bath no fury like a bunkered buffer. He who puts and looks away will have another putt to play.

Never look down on an opponent; nor look up for a shot.

An honest man is the noblest work of God. And a good nibble is the noblest work of man.

Revised by J. J. McGraw
It is great to have a Giant's strength. But it is even more wonderful still to be able to use it as a Giant should.

What has become of the old-fashioned fan who used to yell "Sign him!" every time a spectator in the stand caught a foul?

"The evil that men do lives after them!"—Shakespeare. Or, he might have penned it in this fashion:
"The Bug who out in the bleachers sits, Remembers the errors—but not the hits; He forgets the wall-top that brought foulness; In the smear of the fumble that lost the game."

ADAMS WINS NET TITLE Penn Man Captures Singles Tennis Laurels at Atlantic City

ATLANTIC CITY, June 21.—Forrest E. Adams, of the University of Pennsylvania, won the singles tennis title yesterday in the 11th tournament of the Atlantic City Yacht Club. He defeated John Inard in round 14, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

In the first round of doubles Adams and Inard were eliminated by Dr. Howard G. Weston and William H. Smathers, 6-4, 6-3. The outcome proves the surprise of the tournament, the two winners appearing at the top of their game in defeating the terrific race out by their opponents, and it resulted in the best match of the tournament.

Forming Stock Company at Pottsville
POTTSVILLE, Pa., June 21.—Capetan White, of the Pottsville Athletic League club, is organizing the business men of the city in a stock company which will take over the organization. Nearly 100 of subscribers have joined the organization.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—WHICH AMOUNTS, CHAN, TO ONE HIT, ONE ERROR AND ONE OUT

