SPEAKER'S WORK HERE PRESAGES FALL FROM BATTING LEADERSHIP OF AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTLE BETWEEN TY COBB AND SPEAKER FOR BATTING HONORS FEATURE OF BASEBALL RACES

Detroit's Wonderful Slugger Has Started Late Season Drive and Should Overhaul Cleveland's Slumping Star

NOR some reason the baseball fans, particularly those of this city, appear to be n no way interested in the American League pennant race, but are very much excited about the contest between Tris Speaker, Ty Cobb and Joe Jackson for the batting supremacy. It used to be that the first question of the fan concerned the results of the game, but now it is, "How many hits did Speaker and Cobb get?"

At the present time Speaker is leading Cobb by 27 points, while the latter is 11 points ahead of Jackson. As the season progresses it becomes more apparent that the American League batting leader will hit close to .400 this season, as Cobb is steadily climbing, and we believe that he will again top the hitters, breaking a world's record in doing so. The record likely to be broken is that of Wagner, who led the National League for nine seasons. Cobb has nine seasons of batting supremacy behind him and has his heart set on making it ten, and Speaker will have to go even faster that he has to date if he hopes to keep ahead of the "Georgia Peach."

When Cleveland made its first swing about the circuit, Speaker was going at a terrific clip. He was swinging long and cleanly and almost all of his hits were sizzling line drives. He was hitting everything. The pitchers were putting all they had on the ball; were working the corners and doing everything possible to atop the Texan, but he pounded out his hits regularly. On the other hand, Cobb was chopping the ball and swinging so late that he was hitting into left field almost exclusively. It was apparent that he was off his stride even though his average was well over .300.

At that time Cobb was beating out a lot of infield hits and scratching many safeties just beyond the reach of the infielders. On what the two sluggers had shown in this city at that time Speaker apparently was due to wrest the title from Cobb, but one month has brought about a great change. Now it is Speaker who is doing the worrying and his stickwork is suffering as a result.

Cobb Improving While Speaker Slumps

IN THE last series between the Athletics and Cleveland, Speaker did not look like the Speaker of early June. He appeared to be worrying and thinking too much about his average. The long, clean smashes which came in rapid succession In the first series here were missing and the Cleveland star was content to bunt and chop the ball to the infield. Speaker got several hits against the Mackmen which would not have been safeties with experienced infielders handling the ball. The scratch hits all count in the averages, however, and Speaker did not lose so much ground.

When Cobb appeared here two weeks ago he was swinging like the Cobb of old. The drives were shooting off his bat on the line and he made only one infield single during the series. Ty had the confidence which was lacking earlier in the year and it was evident that he had started his usual midseason drive.

Year after year Cobb trails the field until August is almost over and the fans are beginning to think that Collins, Speaker, Jackson or some other slugger is going to displace the marvelous Tiger, when the Georgian suddenly starts his slugging bee. Cobb is now on the rampage, and Speaker must hit just as well as he did earlier in the year or better to hold his lead. It is reasonably certain that Cobb will improve as the season wears on, as he has for nine years, while past performances indicate that Speaker is due for a slump. Cobb had his slump, while Speaker has his coming. It would not be wise to place any bets against the Georgian.

Alexander Now Has 18 Victories to His Credit

ALEXANDER THE GREAT won his eighteenth victory of the season when he beat Cincinnati yesterday. The Reds tallied in the first inning, but never had much of a chance to score thereafter. The lone run made by the Reds was the second scored off Alexander in five games pitched in the West, the Cubs having scored in the seventh inning of a recent game. Cincinnati's run yesterday was the only tally earned off Alexander on the trip, the Cubs' run being due to an error

The Phillies close their western trip today, returning to this city tomorrow to meet all of the western teams in order and then the Giants, after which the last western trip will be started. The champions have shown a gradual improvement in batting, and with Cravath back in the game, are in excellent shape to start a spurt. It was about this time last season that the Phillies started the drive which shook off the Cubs, and the Dodgers fell by the wayside a short time later, It looks very much as if Moran's men will repeat.

Alexander, Rixey and Demaree have been pitching consistent ball, while Bender's relief work has been a great help. The two backsliders of the staff. Chalmers and Mayer, have shown excellent form in recent games and are likely to come through just at a time when they are needed most. Chalmers lost two games on the trip, having a bad inning in each, but he pitched well enough to have won both if his support had been good.

Folwell Intends to Do Away With Secret Practice

BOB FOLWELL, the man who is to put Penn back on the football map, at least has excellent ideas. While at Franklin Field on Saturday, making arrangements for the early fall practice at Langhorne, Pa., Folwell said: "There will be no moonlight scrimmages on Franklin Field this season. More football teams are killed by overtraining than through the lack of it. Another thing I do not believe in is too much secret practice. The gates at Franklin Field will be open almost every day next fall and I hope the students take advantage of it and come

It was pointed out in these columns last fall that the coaches were working the men too hard and that moonlight practice was the one thing the Red and Blue did not need when it was in a badly disorganized condition. There also was so much secret practice that the students seldom bothered going in the vicinity of Franklin Field. This helped destroy the interest and college spirit.

Charles Courtney, Cornell's famous rowing coach, favors Jim Rice, Columbia's capable tutor, as his successor at Cornell, and if the latter can induce the New Yorkers to release him from his contract it is certain that he will be selected to handle the Ithacans. Rice's contract at Columbia does not expire until 1921 and contains an option on his services until 1925, but it is said that Columbia will not hold him to it if he desires to leave.

Charley Herzog was convicted by the board of directors of the Cincinnati club on figures, and unless figures lie the "firebrand" did not get as much out of the Reds as was possible. The averages show that the Reds lead the National League in team batting, are third in runs scored, lead in double plays and are fifth in fielding. As baseball men are unanimous in the opinion that the Cincinnati pitching staff is as strong as any in the league, there must have been some reason for the defeats. The above statistics would entitle the team to a position close to the top under ordinary conditions,

Another interesting point is brought out by the averages in the team batting record of the White Sox. Rowland's band of supposed sluggers have a team average of .238, leading only the Senators and the Mackmen, and the margin is not great. On the other hand, the Braves and Phillies are the weakest hitting teams in the National League, according to the team averages; but they are battling for the pennant. Defense apparently is the greatest asset of both teams, as they are the league leaders in fielding. The three leading teams of the National League are the last trio in total runs scored.

If you should happen to meet three certain major league managers, do not ntion the name of Rogers Hornsby. This young man was recommended to three clubs while he was playing with the Denison team, of the Western Asson, last season, but the acouts sent to look him over declared that he would Hornsby is batting well over the .300 mark at the present time, stands fourth in extra base hitting and has played third, short and first in brilliant fashion. He is the star recruit of the season.

Many of the fans who have been spectators at all recent games at Shibs Park expressed surprise at the release of Mitterling, the former Ursinus athlete. They contend that the youngster looked like a very good hitter, as he did hit well in streaks. However, Mack says that while Mitterling did well under the circumstances, he is convinced that the collegian would not develop enough to be worthy of a place on the new team.

FOUR-DAY GOLF TOURNEY READY FOR BALA LINKS

Quaker City Classic Has Been Arranged for August 9, 10, 11 and 12

WORTHINGTON IS ENTERED

By SANDY McNIBLICK

A LL is sunshine at Bala. The annual tourney there, which is the real blue ribbon classic of the whole Quaker City schedule, will be held as usual. The dates set are August 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Scores of golfers will heave a great sigh of relief and joy at this announcement. The tourney wobbled, stuttered and missed fire for several months, but John McAvoy, president of the Bala Golf Club, announced today that it had finally been decided not to omit the event.

Thus the whole bottom will not drop out of the season. For that is what the tour-ney has come to mean to most of the golfers ucky enough to get invitations.

The event has always had the "rep" of being one of the best managed and most enjoyable, and it was felt that it would be virtually a crime to abandon it this year.

It is a genuine good time and golf car rival for all hands with none of the bit terness of soul or coldness of heart that so often tends to give a stony flavor to some tourneys. The doors and the windows of the hospitable club are wide open from sunrise to sunrise all during the tourney

There is something doing every minute and the big prexy of the club says there will be added attractions this year. There are more golf shots packed in the nine holes than on most any short course in the city and the course has never been in better shape. Dr. Perce De Long has worked like a Trojan on the Greens Committee and it is no common thing for him to start his labors at 5 a. m., which is certainly working with a big W.

The tourney is all the more enjoyable from the fact that there is seldom any outstanding favorite and the going is "even Stephen" the whole field.

First to Enter

R. S. Worthington will be among the entries this year, being No. 1 to enter. The clubhouse has been made very at-

tractive with additions and the cuisine is as good as most any in the city. The mem-bership is up to the limit and there is a long waiting list. This is the most pros-perous era of the club, says President McAvoy.

ried many of the players.

J. F. Meehan, Sr., North Hills, got in a "communicating trench" between two snake holes. His mashle niblick with a strong follow through scooped his ball so close to the flag that he got a 3. His opponent, on another hole, drove into one, one and half feet deep. Two other players nearly had a fight over what to do about a ball in a fight over what to do about a ball in a

Mr. Buxton, Business Man

This story has come back to town through rarious sources. At a railroad conference in Chicago recently there was present a Mr. Buxton, of Philadelphia. One of the off cials was anxious to get away, while Bux-ton was "strong" for business. "Well, I'll tell you," said the western offi-

cial. "Two others and myself had planned a little golf for this afternoon. Have you ever played golf?" he asked, gazing doubtfully on the Quaker's unburned counte-

"Yes, I've played the game," answered Buxton, with the air of a man who had tried the game "once, some years ago."

"Won't you join us then?" asked the golfer. "That will be fine and just make up a four-ball match. We all play between 92 and 96, though. That wouldn't be too fast for you, would it?" "The gentleman from Philadelphia never

batted an eye," the Chicagoan told a friend later, "but we thought he would be an easy Instead of that we all just squeezed under 100, while Buxton had an \$1. He won nearly every hole."

Not the First Instance

One of our readers contributes this, picked up at Huntingdon Valley during the championships, at the lunch hour. Smith had walloped Jones unexpectedly, Jones

had walloped Jones unexpectedly. Jones was feeling low.
"Your driving was rotten, Jones," chirped Smith cheerfull. "I was outdriving you by 25 yards every crack. My new grip and stance worked wonders. Don't you think my driving was beautiful?"
"Yep," said Jones.
"You could be play your markle like I

"Yep," said Jones.
"You ought to play your mashle like I
," crowed Smith, and he gave a long
on his approach play. "Great, lecture on his approach play.

"Yep," glowered Jones.
"But the best thing I did was putt," continued Smith. "I tried a new system today, The way you putt is a crime. Did you no-tice my putting? Did I miss any?"
"Nope," snapped Jones.

"Nope," snapped Jones.

"Two never seen any one play his irons as rotten as you did today," said the unperturbed Smith. "That's where I had you yelling. I don't believe in all this talk about luck in golf. Everything broke against me and you had all the luck. But I beat you. I thought you were a better player than you are. I played like a machine, don't you think so?"

"Yep," barked Jones again.

Bmith then went over his own play for

Smith then went over his own play for months in detail. Finally he got to a nib-lic shot he holed from a bunker in his match with Jones.

"Wasn't that a wonder, though?" he cried enthusiastically.
"Good Lord," shouted Jones desperately,
"do you want me to kiss you?"

JOE WOOD, FORMER SOX STAR, IS IN SHAPE TO JOIN TEAM

Smoke Ball Twirler Again to Take

Turn With Boston Pitchers BOSTON, July 24.—Joe Wood, the former mainstay of the Red Sox, whose pitching arm has kept him out of the game all season, will join the team soon, according to a letter received by President Lannin.

Wood wrote from his summer home at Parkers Gien, Pa., that his arm was almost in prime condition, and that he would be ready for his regular turn in the box soon. No intimation was given at club head-quarters to whether Wood had accepted the terms which he is reported to have rejected when the season opened.

Connie Mack Buys Second Sacker BUTTE, Mont., July 24 -- Rey Grover, second baseman of the Butte Northwestern League club-





JACK JOHNSON BROKE IN SPAIN; UNABLE TO LEAVE COUNTRY

spilled at bull fights that the bout was not

ONLY the diamonds that his little white wife is wearing stand between Jack Johnson and poverty. This is the general impression of Americans who have observed the former world's champion in his des-perate efforts to make money in Spain. Some months ago Johnson turned up in Spain with his wife, an English boxing trainer and a colored boxer, and took a suite of rooms at a palatial hotel. He attempted to book passage for Brazil, but learned that he was not permitted to leave Spain without a passport. The American Embassy refused to issue him a passport under instructions from Washington because

he fled from Chicago during his prosecu-tion for white slavery. Making the best of his plight, Johnson went to Barcelona and staged a prize fight between himself and another negro. But Spaniards are so used to seeing blood

HONOLULU SWIMMERS MAKE THREE NEW WORLD'S MARKS

Kahanamoku Lowers Record for 100-Yard Dash in 20-Yard Tank

HONOLULU, July 24.—Honolulu swimmers have three new world's records to their credit, according to cfficials who timed an exhibition meet in the Young Men's Christian Association tank here Saturday.

Duke Kahanamoku made the 100-yard dash in a 20-yard tank in 63 3-5 seconds, breaking his old record of 54 2-5 seconds in the 500-yard relay svent a team composed of Kahanamoku, George Cunha, C. Lane, H. Kruzer and J. Kelii, covered the distance in 4:43 3-5. The first four named also hung up a new time when they made the 400-yard relay in 2:44 3-5.

Hoth the relay records broken were held by

Fly Ball Hits Player on Head; Bounces Over Fence for a Home Run

NEWARK, O., July 24. THE Athletics toyed with the Fitz-THE Athletics toyed simmons team of this city yesterday, winning, 12 to 0. Of the 23 players who came on the trip, Acting Manager Harry Davis used 15 in the

game, and they all hit the local pitching trio at will. Manager Mack was not here, he having gone to Dayton and Owensboro, Ky., on a scouting

trip.

During the game the grandstand caught fire and a small-sized panic ensued, but nobody was injured. Chief of Police Sheridan extinguish-

ed the flames with a bucket of water. Catcher Picnick, of the Athletics, hit a long high fly to left field that slipped through Fielder Nutter's hands, struck him on the head and bounced over the fence for a home



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WESTERN TEAMS MUST STOP RED SOX ON COMING INVASION OR CONSIDER PENNANT LOST

Boston Club Is Most Feared and Unless Collared and Halted in Next Three Weeks Will Be Hard to Overtake, Says Rice

By GRANTLAND RICE

CHICAGO, Cleveland and Detroit about on home soil for a healthy stay. be checked and rolled back, the hour is well night ripe for the checking process to get under way. The western club that doesn't make a good showing at home on this stand will be about out of it. The Yanks leave crippled, but with their remaining heads still up. The Red Eox are the people most feared, for unless they are collared and halted in the next three weeks they will not be any harder to overtake later on than a scared covote.

A Record Addition

ARTHUR SHAFER, the ex-Giant third baseman, who quit the game two years ago, is a record addition to golf.

Shafer never played any golf before 1914. We took him out one day for his first test, and then he was about as promising a beginner as any one ever saw. Since then he has quit baseball completely for the Scottlish frenzy. And in two years he has made more progress than any golfer we ever heard about.

Shafer today plays with an easy, natural style, as if he had been at the game for years. He handles a wooden club nicely and plays his irons with firmness. The proof is that he now is scoring with fair steadiness from 76 to 80. He had a good, healthy wallop in baseball, and he now gets fine distance from the tee. With two or three years' experience he should be up among the leaders if his game continues to improve as it should

Old Timers Speak .

Said Wagner to Matty, "Good-by, old top, I'm sorry to see you're through; But I may decide to quit myself Around 1932."

Freddie Welsh denies that he is looking for any easy matches. And Colonel Andy Carnegie always has said he abhorred the idea of being rich.

McGraw's Last Flag Stand

a success, though Johnson beat his oppo-nent to a pulp in an effort to satisfy the spectators' love for gore. THE Giants, bolstered by Buck Herzog The \$1000 Johnson earned at that fight and Slim Sallee, come back to the Polo soon ran out and he is having a hard time coaxing promoters to stage another affair. He told friends that unless he can start a Grounds tomorrow. This home stay can be considered as the last pennant stand of 1916. boxing school here he will have hard sled-The club has come near kidding itself out of a flag by a foolish idea that it couldn't The negro's white wife has an American win at home. The Yanks, with a crippled passport of her own and can return to the United States when she pleases, but she says she has elected to "stick to Jack." She appears in the dining room magnificentsquad, proved well enough that the lights and shadows on the field were no handicap.
If the Giants are to finish first, they must get started with a rush now and clean up against this western invasion. Unless they do they will never overtake the Robins, Phil-

John J. McGraw realises that if the leaders are to be overtaken his men must travel a swift pace to the finish. One or even two of the leaders may allp, but it is close to a certainty that all three are not going to break. Connie Mack's club may not be overly popular at home, but it is one of the most popular line-ups in the game for at least seven well-known American cities.

When Summer Days Were Long "He'd nothing but his violin-I'd nothing but my song—
Yet we were wed when skies were blue and summer days were long"-

In Life's Lost Gardens through the years The Dreamer still seeks vanished ways
That lead through heartache and through

Into the drift of Yesterdays;
To Yesterdays when dreams came true
And two, spart from all the throng,
Meet once again when skies are blue
And summer days are long.

Once more he walks the old-time lanes,

And in the dream that follows there

Puts "blood of roses in her veins," Spins yellow sunshine for her hairs While growing shadows blur the view He hears once more an old-time song-He only knows that skies are blue And summer days are long.

Once more he drifts out from the fight, And leaves his place amid the game; Beyond the purple haze of night He turns his burdened back on fame; In vain the future sings its due
Of glory with the brave and strong; He only cares that skies are blue And summer day are long.

In Life's dim Garden, one by one, We seek again some vanished day; That calls us, when our Yout' is done, Across the Fields of Far Away; Through gray lost years when dreams came

And each one followed some old song: When Life but knew that skies were blue And summer days were long.

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