

PHILLIES-BROOKLYN SERIES AT END OF WEEK WILL DECIDE NATIONAL LEAGUE RACE

IF PHILLIES CAN CONTINUE AT .800 CLIP NOTHING CAN DEPRIVE THEM OF PENNANT

Despite Erratic Work, Champions Have Won Eight Out of Last Ten Games and Continuation of Streak Will Land Flag

AFTER looking back at results only of the games played by the Phillies since last Saturday a week ago, one comes to the conclusion that local scribes and fans are calamity howlers. Every one is talking about the Philly slump, and it is true that the champions have played erratic ball, but the fact remains that the Phillies have won eight out of the last ten games played, which is considerably above the percentage made by Moran's team at any time during the season.

Eleven more games are scheduled for the Phillies, and if they can repeat the record made since the arrival of the Cubs the National League pennant will be won with ease and another world's series will be played in this city. Winning eight out of ten from Cincinnati, Brooklyn and Boston will be much more difficult than trouncing the indifferent Cubs and young Pittsburgh team, however, and the Phillies must play the same brand of ball for the rest of the season that they showed behind Alexander's wonderful pitching on Saturday.

While the final series of the season with the Braves is likely to be a hard one, we are inclined to believe that the pennant will be won or lost this week. If the Phillies are on even terms or ahead one week from today there is little doubt that they will win out; but if the Reds and Dodgers, or both, trip the champions and the Cubs fail to stop the leaders, the Phillies' chances will be slim. If the Phillies run true to form and arise to the emergency as they have throughout the season, there is no cause for worry, and fandom has faith in Moran's fighting band.

Another sweep of the series from Brooklyn would clinch the flag, but one can hardly expect the Phillies to repeat the remarkable coup of earlier in the month. If Eppa Rixey had not slipped a trifle in his recent starts, Moran's team would have an excellent chance to win all three games, the breaks being even, as the lanky southpaw is invincible when in form. As it stands now, Rixey must be figured as an uncertainty.

Alexander in Wonderful Shape for the Finish

IT ALSO must be remembered that Brooklyn's two star hurlers, Ed Pfeffer and Larry Cheney, are in better shape than they were a month ago. It is likely that Pfeffer will oppose the Phils on Thursday and will come back on Saturday, with Cheney hurling against either Rixey or Demaree on Friday. If Cheney can be beaten by Rixey or Demaree it is virtually certain that the Phils will get better than an even break, as we cannot imagine Pfeffer or any other pitcher beating Alexander the Great twice in one series.

Since Alexander has been in the National League he never has been beaten twice in a series, and invariably he has gone back on the mound for the final game of a series. Judging by the wonderful work of the Nebraskan on Saturday, no team is going to turn this trick unless the Phils insist on handing the Dodgers the game, just as they presented the Cubs with a victory over Alexander.

On Saturday the marvels "Alex" proved beyond the shadow of doubt that he is in better shape than at any time in his career, and also that there is no occasion for the fans to worry about his being overworked. The Nebraskan always has claimed that he could pitch double-headers and go to the mound every other day if necessary, and he proved it conclusively by his wonderful work in both games against the Reds. It might be well to mention that both Alexander and Demaree performed their remarkable pitching feats at a time when the pennant race was at stake, which is more than can be said for the other hurlers who have pitched and won double-headers.

When Cravath Hits the Phils Win

HOW many times have the fans heard the remark that "the Phillies lack the 1915 punch?" Throughout the National League circuit the "loss of the Philly punch" is given as the reason for the belief that Brooklyn would win the pennant. A glance at the hitting averages shows that the Phillies rank high in team batting and also that several men are well above .270, which is splendid hitting, but still the punch really was missing.

The answer is that the real "punch" is Gavy Cravath. Until a few weeks ago the fence-breaker and clean-up man, who made a new record for runs driven across the plate in 1915, was woefully weak in the pinches. Day after day Cravath was leaving runners stranded on the bases, whereas a year ago he seldom failed in a pinch.

But Cravath has found his "punch" at the critical stage of the race. This is one of the main reasons why the Phils feel certain that nothing can stop them now. For the last two weeks Cravath has been smashing out home runs just when they were needed most, and a large percentage of his singles have gone against the short fences like a rifle shot. If Cravath can continue to slug the ball the Phillies' chances are fully twenty-five per cent better.

In connection with the coming series with the Dodgers it might be well to remind President Tener, of the National League, that because of a New York State law no police officers are allowed inside the Brooklyn ball park, which means that the visiting team is not given any protection. Bottles and stones thrown by the hoodlums who patronize the twenty-five-cent bleachers have sailed dangerously close to George Whitted on several occasions, and it is up to Tener to see that enough special officers are on hand to handle this crowd.

Mack Switched Seibold From Infield to Pitching

WHILE all this fuss is being made over the "miracle men" of baseball, it might be well to mention the name of Connie Mack. Every one knows by this time that Mack is going to come back, but it was not expected that he would pull anything out of the ordinary in constructing his new team, but yesterday the wizard manager surprised the Browns by sending young Harry Seibold to the mound.

The last time Seibold played against the Browns was on the last home stand of the Athletics last season, but he was a shortstop then. Yesterday Seibold held the Browns to three hits, and shut them out, Jones's team never having a chance to score. The development of Seibold into a pitcher is the greatest surprise Mack has pulled (aside from breaking up the famous machine) since he switched Danny Murphy to the outfield and placed Eddie Collins at second base back in 1909.

Seibold is a Philadelphian, having been born and raised in the vicinity of Thirtieth street and Girard avenue, and first attracted attention while playing with a brewery team. Manager Mack was asked to place the youngster, and he sent him to Cedar Rapids in the spring of 1915. As a minor league shortstop Seibold was a star. When Mack "drafted" him last fall he saw that the youngster was not up to the major league standard as an infielder, but was impressed with his wonderful arm.

Seibold's speed caused Mack to make one of the oddest moves he ever has made. As a rule, Mack will not waste time on a pitcher, unless he is at least six feet tall and will tip the scales around 175 pounds, and it is odd that he conceived the idea of developing Seibold into a pitcher, as he stands less than five feet nine inches in height and does not weigh more than 155 pounds.

Rube Farham Also Looks Good

PROBABLY Mack had no idea that the Brewsrytown lad would develop so fast, but he was sent to Harry Smith, a former Athletic catcher, at Wheeling, where he proved a sensation. Among other things Seibold did with a poor team behind him was to hurl two no-hit, two one-hit and three two-hit games.

When Mack heard of Seibold's progress he sent Ira Thomas down to Wheeling to look him over. Ira immediately exercised Mack's option and made arrangements for the youngster to pitch against the Athletics in a barnstorming game just before the Mackmen left for the West. Seibold blanked the Athletics for eight innings, retiring to pack up his belongings in order to leave with the Mackmen for the West. Manager Mack having been convinced early in the game that the local boy would do.

If yesterday's game is a sample of Seibold's usual form, Mack's 1917 pitching staff will compare favorably with any in the league, barring the wonderful Red Sox hurlers. Rube Farham, the lanky youngster who was at Jacksonville this spring, made his major league debut yesterday, and he also pitched grand ball, holding the Browns to six hits, but he was beaten.

TILLMAN IS IN GOOD FORM FOR LEONARD BOUT

New York Knockout in Windup at Olympia Club Tonight

SMITH DEFEATED COFFEY

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

All the way from Minneapolis, Johnny Tillman starts his second invasion in Philadelphia's hectic field tonight, when he enters the ring at the Olympia A. A. along about 10 o'clock, and for eighteen minutes he will endeavor to disprove Benny Leonard's knockout reputation. The selection of an out-of-town opponent for the Gotham gloverman here makes it apparent that the Quaker City is without a lightweight with sufficient class to compete with top-notch talent in Fred Welsh's division.

Tillman finished training for tonight's tilt in Philadelphia. While a number of dopsters figure another key victory for Leonard, several experts who have been conditioning Tillman believe the New Yorker will find himself in a six-session scrap stalling with slams. "Professor" Stroudie not only predicts that the westerner will win on his feet on the scheduled time, but that Tillman also will distribute as many wallops as he will receive.

Two other visitors are on the program. Charley Leonard is paired off with Eddie Hart in the first prelin, while Billy De Foe, of St. Paul, shows in the semi, opposed to Leo Vincent. Both De Foe and Benny's brother have appeared here in previous matches.

Coffey Not There

The name of Jim Coffey can be eliminated without a mistake from the deluge of aspiring heavyweights. The Dublin Giant's "glass jaw" was the topic of much comment last year, following his knockout defeat by Frank Moran, and it is this defect in James's make-up that puts Coffey out of the running.

Coffey is not the same hard-punching heavyweight who proved a sensation in Philadelphia two years ago. Saturday night at the National Club Gunboat Smith, despite a handicap in weight, staggered the burly Irishman every time he connected with Jim's chin, whether it was a left hook or right-hand punch, and no matter how light the wallop was.

What saved Coffey from a knockout or a plunge to the mat was the Gunner's apparent fear of his opponent. Smith backed away continually, which caused his punches to find lodgment without their full force. After staggering the elongated Irisher, Gunboat fell into a clinch instead of keeping right on punching. Probably Smith still remembers the five-round knockout he suffered from the Giant in New York almost a year ago.

McGovern Wins Again

Terry McGovern won another bout, this time evening up for the recent bout he lost to Frankie White. For two rounds White looked like an easy winner, but in the remainder of the set-to Frankie did more holding than fighting and McGovern breezed through a winner with plenty to spare. He gave White a terrific laceration and landed several right-handed punches on the jaw that would have felled an ordinary boxer. Nevertheless, the contest was an interesting one—the best bout of the night.

It proved again that a boxer in good shape always can beat a boxer who THINKS he is in good shape.

Scraps About Scrappers

Locally promoters insure themselves against disappointment by making no compensation for their trouble in preparing several weeks for a fight. Because members controlling one of Gotham's many clubs had a dispute, the pit-up between Charley Weiner and Bob Mohr tonight was canceled, and new their back rolls are smaller than when they began work.

The assertion made by a local trainer that local boxers are not being developed is not so ridiculous as it may seem. Since Jimmy Murphy, Eddie McAndrew, Joe O'Donnell and three or two others were "put up" and each in turn dropped back, no longer being considered as a prospect, it is not surprising that a worthy opponent for top-notch heavies is scarce. This wasn't the case, why did matchmakers of

Olympia's Bouts on Program for Tonight

Wally Nelson vs. Frankie Clark, Eddie Kelly vs. Jimmy McCabe, Charley Leonard vs. Eddie Hart, Billy De Foe vs. Leo Vincent, Benny Leonard vs. Johnny Tillman. NATIONAL FIGHT RESULTS: Gunboat Smith defeated Jim Coffey, Terry McGovern beat Frankie White, Jimmy Martin won from Jack Waldron, Eddie Hart lost to Frankie Clark, Charley Walters bested Frankie Howell.

FREDDIE WELSH WILL MEET WHITE IN LONG BATTLE

Fight to Be Staged Over Mexican Line in Lower California

SCHEDULED 99 ROUNDS

NEW YORK, Sept. 25.—Freddie Welsh and Charlie White are virtually matched for a ninety-nine-round fight, to take place at the Tia Juana racetrack on Thanksgiving Day.

Nate Lewis has accepted for Charlie White, and Harry Pollok, manager of Welsh, is quoted as saying that Freddie will be ready for the long-distance wait, provided Promoter Jim Coffroth, of California, will come through with the necessary guarantee.

The Tia Juana racetrack, where it is proposed to hold the bout, is across the Mexican line in Lower California. There is no rule against British fights in that section of the world, and Coffroth claims that he has the sanction of the authorities to hold bouts of a week's duration if he sees fit.

Select Referee Staff

American League of Soccer Clubs referee staff this season will be Walter E. Hines, Pat Dixon, Pat Hoolley and George Allen. George Young, who will again coach the champions, Harvard College team, of the Intercollegiate League, will not be available until after the close of the season.

The league will consist of Dighton, A. A., Hibernian, Filtonville, Putnam, Vincennes, Shabrook, Rangers, A. C. and Victor. Talking Machine Company team, of Camden. The next meeting of the managers will be October 3. The season will start October 14.

Soccer Football Meeting

A special meeting of the Football Association of Eastern Pennsylvania and district will be held tonight when business of importance to all the leagues will be transacted.

The two big clubs here sign up out-of-town boxers for both ends of their respective brackets. Watch of the fourteen "formidable" boxers, picked by the veteran trainers, expert coaches and a fair amount of himself with an opinion of any reputation. Fifteen of the list are big names who just about hold their own in prelin bouts.

Johnny Moloney is keeping himself in shape and he will do as much boxing as possible so that he can gradually gain experience. In the youngster at the smaller clubs, and Adam Ryan has arranged to show Johnny in a return go with Tommy Allen at the Ryan A. C. in two weeks.

Tomorrow night at the Ryan Club Ate Kahanoff will pit his knock-out punches against the champion of Charley Hart. Kahanoff is a good stiff puncher and unless Hart is up on his toes and stepping he may experience a short visit to drumhead.

Barney Ford's second show of the season at the Model Club tomorrow night will show K. O. Joe Phelan, boss of Rochester, N. Y., October 2; Joe Azevoldo, Youngstown, O., October 9, and Harry Egan, Brooklyn.

Joe Lewis is back from New York, where he clinched three matches for Willie Beecher. The rugged Gotham lightweight will pair off with another New York fighter, Mike Miller, on October 9, and Harry Egan, Brooklyn.

Too heavy for bantam competition, Mike Daley, of the Sergeant's Ward, now is out for matches with featherweights. His handler, Jimmy Coffey, of New York, at the National A. C. Wednesday night, the featherweight has parent fear of his opponent. The featherweight has parent fear of his opponent. The featherweight has parent fear of his opponent.

Joe Cravath is keeping time for George Decker at the Lincoln Club this year. Joe is a good time kid, and no one has ever found fault with his three-minute and one-minute periods.

Tomorrow night in Reading Terry McGovern will box his second bout in three days when he will meet the former champion, now in shape for a fight with Frankie White Miller in due for a third-round test.

Charley McCarthy, the Canadian, has been in strict training for several weeks. He is ready for action in the light-weight class.

Al Nelson is suffering with a sprained hand and he will be on the sidelines probably for a fortnight.

Irish Patey Clinch is matched with Buck Fleming and Charley Thomas in this city.

Jack O'Brien at Providence

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 25.—Young Jack O'Brien and his brother, Philadelphia Jack, are here for the forthcoming fight with Jimmy Coffey, of New York, at the National A. C. Wednesday night. The featherweight has parent fear of his opponent. The featherweight has parent fear of his opponent. The featherweight has parent fear of his opponent.

The articles of agreement call for the boxers to weigh in at 140 pounds at 8 o'clock on the night of the contest. This weight will be easy for O'Brien, who tipped the scales at 146 recently. Forcible has been posted at the sporting department by Philadelphia Jack and by John Belcher, who holds the ribbons over Coffey.

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RED SOX NO GREAT CLUB ON PAPER, BUT ON THE DIAMOND HAVE PROVED TO BE SUPREME

By GRANTLAND RICE FOR two years in succession the Red Sox have beaten the Tigers and White Sox every important series played, both in the East and in the West.

Last season it was easy enough to understand this margin, with Tim Lincecum leading both attack and defense. But this season, even without Speaker, the Boston delegation kept up the merry job of crushing their two main rivals whenever they cared to.

On this last trip Carrigan not only had no Speaker, but Jack Barry was missing from second base. Yet the Red Sox, even with Speaker and Barry, never did more effective execution against their two main rivals. They proved that with a patched-up machine they still could invade the enemy's country and whale the eternal padding out of the two clubs with a chance left to win.

A ball club that can rise to these heights isn't very likely to be beaten in a world's series by any team the older league has to offer. On copy paper the Red Sox are no great combination. But on the ball field, where most games are played, they are stars.

Red Sox Strength The Red Sox have been given credit for having great pitchers and nothing else. No critic ever made a greater mistake. Good pitching alone doesn't account for the game, rugged attack they hurled against both White Sox and Tigers, where, in six im-

portant contests, Carrigan's club averaged at least four runs to the game.

In addition to great pitching the chances also have this—a good, consistent catching staff.

At least three good infielders in Doherty, Barry and Gardner.

Two fine outfielders in Lewis and Hooper, and a good man in Clarence Walker.

Duffy Lewis, in a pinch or at a big moment, is one of the most dangerous batsmen in the game. Taken up and around, rated ball club, for they have shown the stuff that belongs only at the top.

The Old Salve Again When Brooklyn blew those five games to the Phillies early in September her pennant chance looked about as pink and rosy as the mouth of a railroad tunnel.

Only rare leadership, with the old salve applied in extensive doses, kept the Boston up. Robby, with Jack Coombs for an all-fatal hold, and his reward now is beginning to drift into easy range. It is no use to kick away a big lead and then obtain another one held. The test of Robinson's leadership never was better shown than in the last three weeks.

Mount Holly Fair OCTOBER 3-4-5-6 Fourteen Races Liberal Conditions Entries Close Wednesday, Sept. 27 Mail Entries to R. W. WILLS Mount Holly, N. J.

PETLEY A Silk Hat With the Palm Beach Is Real Tasty. PETEY DEAR, ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP ON WEARING THAT STRAW HAT AND PALM BEACH SUIT? YOU SAID IT! OH DEAR! —YES, AND ALL YOUR TALKING WON'T BUDGE ME EITHER—IF YOU HAD AS MUCH PERSONALITY AS I HAVE YOU'D BE ALL RIGHT! I'LL WEAR WHAT I DARE PLEASE—I AIN'T NO FASHION SLAVE. —I DON'T CARE WHAT ALL THESE AVERAGE BOOBS DO—I'M GONNER WEAR THIS STRAW HAT AND PALM BEACH SUIT JUST FOR SPITE.