

NO STARTLING EVENTS MARK MEETING OF NATIONAL LEAGUE MOGULS IN NEW YORK CITY

FRED MITCHELL SIGNS WITH CUBS WHEN CHANCE DEMANDS MERE \$25,000 ANNUAL SALARY

Weeghman Drops Coast Applicant and Does Business With Boston Man—Twenty-five-Cent Seats to Be Eliminated in National League

THE signing of Fred Mitchell to lead the Chicago Cubs next season, and the increasing probability that twenty-five-cent seats would be virtually extinct in National League ball parks next season, were the outstanding features of the day in and about the annual winter convalescence of the club owners of the Tenor organization in New York yesterday.

From the time Mitchell agreed to Weeghman's offer, George Stallings, manager of the Boston Braves, with which club Mitchell has been a power in the role of coach for several years, hounded the Chicago magnate and showered him with impossible demands. Outfielder Cy Williams, and a goodly sum, in addition, is what Stallings asked for the exact release of Mitchell. In his dickering with Weeghman, Stallings all but stated that Mitchell, and not Stallings was the "miracle man" of baseball in 1914, and that Mitchell, rather than Stallings, was the brain of the Hub club at all times.

Shortly before midnight Weeghman and Stallings went into conference in the former's room at the Waldorf. The prospects were for a prolonged session between the pair, and it was a 16-to-1 shot that Stallings would come down in his demands in the end to such an extent that the announcement of Mitchell's selection to lead the Cubs would not be forthcoming until today. Frank Chance insisted on a mere \$25,000 salary and generously declined in advance to accept any bonus for leaving his Pacific Coast League club flat on its back. Chance's chance went when he named the salary.

Baker Leads Anti-Twenty-Five-Cent Seat Movement

WILLIAM F. BAKER, Philly owner, is at the head of the movement for virtual elimination of twenty-five-cent admissions to National League games. Baker has 6000 of the sun seats at his handbox. Mrs. Britton has something like 10,000. The proposition was scheduled to be put to a vote today.

The two-bit boards will not be done away with entirely, but in all National League parks where they still are to be found—what means about half of the cities which constitute the league—the cheap bleacher accommodations will be reduced to a minimum—to a few hundred—in all probability.

New Baseball War Is a Possibility

THE likelihood of a new baseball war is demanding no mean consideration at this more or less rip-roaring convention of the National Leaguers. The International League, backed up by the American Association, and, it actually seems, the American League, has refused point blank to pay the \$9000 assessment against the Newark club, which, incidentally, Tom Needham, the veteran catcher, who got his start in St. Louis, will manage next year.

Sinclair, the oil magnate and Federal League backer, who still is holding the bag for a large part of that \$600,000 which organized baseball was to pay the Federal League for its part in the treaty of 1915, has been at the National League confab and has been paying particular attention to retaining his standing with the various managers in attendance.

New Major League Predicted

THERE are those who predict a new "outlaw" major league in 1918. We would not go so far. But there is plenty of reason to look for a secession of the class AA leagues and, possibly, the smaller allied circuits before that time. If not for a rupture of relations between the National and American bodies. To add to the middle there is the question of the third member of the national commission. Dreyfus is raising a large fuss over Hermann because of the Siskier matter and on other points, and he has some support in his own organization as well as in Ban Johnson's league. One thing is assured: if you take it from Ed Harrow, International League chief, that \$9000 will not be paid, even if the Eastern AA group has to go out of existence.

Miller Huggins Wants Doo in

ODDLY enough, Miller Huggins, while easily the most-sought-after man who has roamed Peacock Alley this winter, is not such a power in the Cardinal organization as it has been conceded. He had some offers of trades in New York yesterday, but instead of giving his own answer outright, as he usually did in the days when Schuyler Britton was the St. Louis National League Baseball Club's president, Huggins took the propositions to Mrs. Britton for consideration.

Huggins offered Charlie Doo in a job as catcher next year. That was the sixth offer Charley had received since he put in his appearance.

Tinker Destined for a Minor Berth

WITH Mitchell at the helm of the Chicago Cubs, the fans of the Illinois metropolis are wondering what will become of Joe Tinker. It is very likely that in the changes that have taken place in the American Association, there will be a number of vacancies in the managerial end of the game. Larry Lajole is said to be looking for a place in that organization and the chances are that Joe Tinker will soon be doing the same thing, if he has not already seen the handwriting on the wall and begun his search for a job at the helm of a minor league club.

Tinker in some ways is a valuable man for a baseball club. He was invaluable to the old Cub combination, but he probably would not have been as good-under any other manager as he was under Frank Chance. Chance was and is the type of leader that can handle the roughest customers in the game. He handled Tinker, Evers and Heinie Zimmerman, all at one fell swoop. That is a managerial feat in itself that has never been beaten and probably will never be equaled.

But to get back to Tinker, it is not likely that any major league club will want his services as a player, because he has almost passed the age limit of efficiency on the field. Tinker himself would not stand for being bossed by a minor league manager, consequently the only thing he can do is to get the managership of a minor league or quit baseball. It would not be bad for the game if he did the latter.

Weeghman Wants a Winning Club

CHARLES WEEGHMAN, owner of Chicago restaurants and the Cubs, is anxious for a winning baseball club. He thought when he entered into the peace agreement with organized baseball that he was going to have a club that would have no trouble in capturing the National League pennant. He based his hopes on the fact that he had the cream of the Federal League, which he had, and the Chicago National League club of 1915, out of which to construct a victorious team. He did have a great baseball nucleus, but Joe Tinker, whom he chose for his manager, was not equal to the occasion. In fact, he was not even close to being equal to the said occasion. The Cubs finished in sixth place although they were winners, on paper, in March.

These sad facts led Weeghman to seek a cause for his failure. He decided, and very properly, that the cause was the manager. Therefore when the time came to sign a man who he believed would fill the bill, the famous feeder looked upon Fred Mitchell, late of the Boston Braves, and declared that he was good.

According to the latest reports, Mitchell has not actually signed his contract, but he has agreed to everything that the contract will contain and the matter of signing now is merely a formality. Mitchell has a thorough working knowledge of the game, and if he proves to be the success as a manager that he was as a receiver, he will make good in the Windy City.

De Neri's Finish Unfortunate

IT IS extremely unfortunate that the owners of the De Neri Eastern Basketball League team could not have held on throughout the season. Naturally no one can blame a man or an organization for not continuing anything at a financial loss. Nevertheless, it is difficult to see how the De Neri club could have begun the season with the expectation of making a campaign of it if they really believed they could not accomplish the feat. In other words, quitting cold is just about the expression that fits the action of those at the head of the De Neri management.

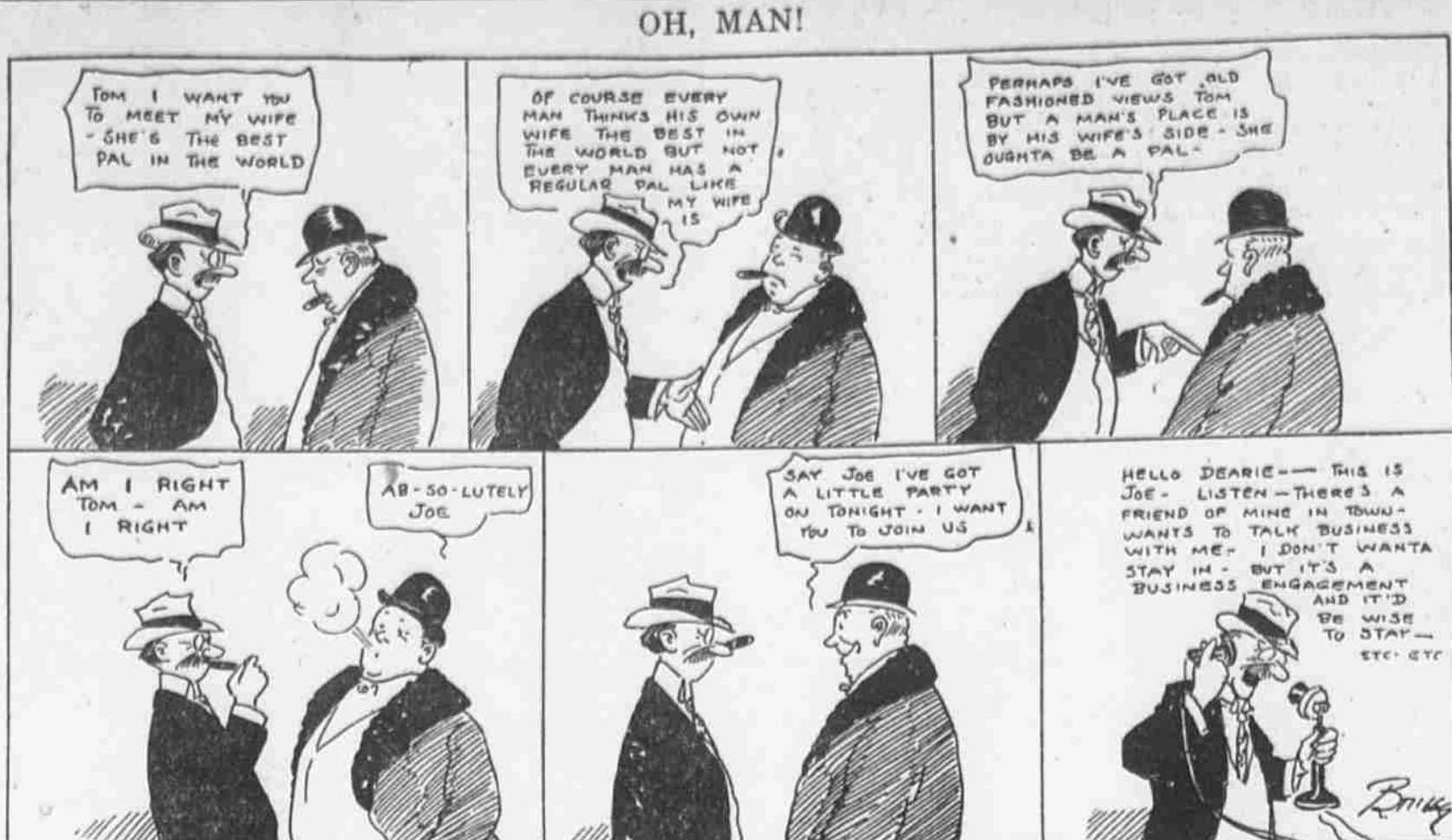
Philadelphia fans will never have the same confidence in the teams of the Eastern League now that De Neri has displayed the white feather in such bold and unabashed fashion. That Philadelphia could not support three clubs in the league is absurd. The Quaker City could have distributed the six Eastern League franchises throughout Philadelphia County and kept it running at high speed, provided the teams were high grade. But De Neri was not a first-class team and therefore went under.

If Allentown hopes to stay in the Eastern League, the team representing it must be greatly strengthened or the franchise will again be on the market at a nominal figure.

Ira Thomas Soon Will Take Up Coaching Duties

IT NOW is only a matter of a few weeks until Ira Thomas, one of Connie Mack's chief aids, will take up his duties as coach of the Williams College nine. Lawrence Perry, writing in the New York Evening Post, says:

"Ira F. Thomas, who has been chosen by the Athletic Council to coach the Williams baseball team during the coming season, has had experience in the baseball world which has given him a thorough knowledge of the game and particularly has fitted him to coach a college team. He has played on six championship nines, and during his term with the Athletics personally has helped in the schooling of many men who since have become star major league players. In his last two years with the Athletics, the manager, turned his young players, many of them college men, over to him for development. He has had rare success in taking these untried material and making finished players out of it. Thomas is a man of splendid character and approves highly of the college type of player. He undoubtedly will do well at Williams."



LEONARD MAY GET CHANCE FOR TITLE

New York Syndicate Willing to Meet Welsh's Demands for Bout in Havana

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

A battle for the lightweight championship of the world, with Benny Leonard as Freddy Welsh's opponent, is likely to be staged in Havana, Cuba, some time this winter, according to Billy Gibson, who was a visitor in our midst yesterday. The bout either will be twenty rounds, forty rounds or to a finish. A syndicate of New York merchants, who have extensive business holdings on the island, are seeking the match, and will pay real money for it. As yet, negotiations are in an embryonic stage, but before the first of the year the articles are expected to be signed.

"I have been trying to arrange a long-distance bout with Welsh for some time," said Gibson, "but this looks to be the best chance I have had. I cannot mention the names of the men behind the deal, but they are big people and have the money to put through an affair like this. Welsh can write his own ticket in regard to his end of the purse, for I am sure the promoters will go as high as \$25,000 or \$40,000. As for myself, I am not looking for a fortune. All I want is a chance to meet Welsh for the title, and if we are successful, the money will come later."

Pollock Dodges Offer

"I saw Harry Pollock last Saturday night and tried to get a definite price for Freddy's services. Harry thought it would be a great stunt, but would not commit himself until he broached the money question. But the price will be so attractive that he will have to accept."

Benny Leonard, with his hand bandaged, accompanied Gibson. Benny injured his left mauler on Chick Slimer's elbow a couple of weeks ago and will be on the sidelines until the first of the year. It was an expensive accident, and will cost the light weight flash at least \$10,000 in matches. He was to have met Gilbert Galant in Denver, Bobby Wagner in Memphis and either Joe Rivers or Ritchie Mitchell in New York, but all of these bouts have been canceled. Gibson will not start his man until the hand has healed completely.

Wants to Meet Dundee

Gibson took time to deny the stories published the last few days that Leonard had sidestepped a bout with Johnny Dundee in Kansas City after negotiating with the promoters out there. Billy says he had no dealings with the Kansas City people and the match never was arranged. He is willing to meet Dundee any place, preferably New Orleans, where they can battle for twenty rounds to a decision. He declares Leonard is one of the best long-distance boxers in the world today and is improving in each fight.

Made \$45,000 in Year

Benny has been among the topnotchers for only one year, but in that time has made \$45,000. On December 17, 1915, he was matched to meet Joe Mandot in New York. On the night of the battle Mandot's manager raised a terrible howl about the bandages Leonard was using and forced him to take them off. Despite this, however, Benny walloped Mandot on the chin and put him away for decision. He then charged and counter-charged by both sides the principal argument being whether or not Benny wore a horseshoe in his glove for good luck. This battle made Leonard a big drawing card, and he came over here last New Year's Day and stopped Joe Welsh. He afterward flattened Jimmy Murphy, and after that, under Gibson's skillful guidance, jumped to the foremost rank among the lightweights.

PITT BARS ATHLETES IN GRADUATE SCHOOLS

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 12.—Students in the schools of the University of Pittsburgh, with the exception of the College of Duquesne, will be excluded from participation in intercollegiate athletics beginning next year, according to a unanimous vote of the university athletic board. The decision was made in accordance with a resolution adopted recently by the Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Association.

SUIT OR OVERCOAT \$11.80

TO ORDER Reduced from \$20, \$25 and \$30 See Our 7 Big Windows PETER MORAN & CO. MERCHANT TAILORS 8 E. Cor. 9th and Arch Sts.

POLO PONIES AND HUNTERS

Libert Hinkle Wood will sell his polo ponies, hunter-killers and blood horses at Van Fleet's, 1000 Locust St., Philadelphia, on Wednesday afternoon, December 14.

MANY PLAYERS HAVE ENTERED .300 CLASS, BUT ONLY EIGHT MEMBERS IN 200-HIT CLASS

Cobb's 248 Safeties in One Season Still the Record, and in Six of His Eleven Years Has Made More Than 200 Bingles

By GRANTLAND RICE

WHEN it comes to dissecting or dissolving the Batting Eye or the Whaling Lamp there are other ways to establish greatness rather than over the familiar route of a batting average. There is, for one illustration, the ratings of those who have gathered unto themselves 200 or more base hits in a single year.

The 200 Club

Batting 300 is one thing. Driving out 200 or more hits in a season is something else, plus. The 200-hit club has more than a short stride on the 300 array.

We may have slipped a cog in the enumeration, but of the 400 ball players now listed on various payrolls or connected with the present status of play we can find the names of only eight earnest athletes who have got their 200 hits between April and October. And of these eight only five have turned the trick offener than once.

The Honor Roll of Swat

This makes up an Honor-Roll of Swats that leads to further words. Here they are in order, showing the number of occasions each player has passed the mark:

Cobb—six times—eleven years.
Lajole—five times—nineteen years.
Jackson—three times—six years.
Speaker—two times—nine years.
Wagner—two times—nineteen years.
Zimmerman—one time—seven years.
Baker—one time—eight years.
Crawford—one time—seventeen years.

Now, when a slasher of the Crawford type can pound out 200 or more hits but one time in seventeen years or when a batting eye of the Wagnerian persuasion can turn the trick but twice in nineteen years the difficulties ahead can be well appreciated. It isn't what you might call an easy assignment.

The Two Leaders

The two most remarkable entries in this list are Cobb and Jackson. Cobb, in eleven campaigns, has passed the 200-hit mark no fewer than six times, while Jackson has slipped by this gay and giddy total three years out of six.

Cobb has got his 200 hits as often as Wagner, Speaker, Baker and Crawford put together, and even the year where he was forced into second place behind him with 201 safe blows to his credit.

Not Yet for Collins

Eddie Collins has knocked at the 200-

A. L. PLANS CUT IN BASEBALL PRICES

Magnates in Johnson's Circuit May Reduce Salaries at Chicago Session

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—Cutting down the high price of baseball will be the principal problem confronting the American League magnates at their meeting here tomorrow according to President B. B. Johnson.

"There must be a curtailment," he said today. "Baseball has been conducted on an extravagant basis and it's got to come down."

Overhead cost of maintenance and a sizable cut in players' salaries are the two big items on which it is figured dollars can be saved. The new form of bomb-proof contract recently formulated by members of the National Commission also must be ratified.

Ban Johnson also announced today that he would support the decision of the other two members of the National Commission. "I can in no manner approve of the action of the International League taken at its meeting," Johnson said. "The American League head also denied he had sponsored the idea of a third major league."

Heydler Issues National Report

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—John H. Heydler, secretary of the National League, in his annual report showed that in the 1916 season there were ninety-two postponed games, of which twenty-two were in April and twenty-seven in June. Boston, Brooklyn and Pittsburgh suffered most, each having sixteen postponed. The Phillies played fourteen double headers.

American League Sluggers

Of the eight ball players who have gathered in their harvest of 200 hits, six are from the American League and only two from the National. The trick has been turned twenty times by members of the fiscal group—seventeen times in the American League and only three times in the National.

Fair proof that the A. L. has the better batting or the N. L. has the better pitching, slipping the ultimate choice to you.

PENN. VS. TIGERS SATURDAY

Penn's soccer team will oppose Princeton at Princeton on Saturday, to play off the tie between these two teams in the Intercollegiate Soccer League. Both teams are in for first place, and in case Haverford College defeats Harvard next Saturday afternoon all three teams will be in a triple tie for first honors.

Conway Out for Midland Five

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 13.—Jimmy Conway, the local well-known, has taken up his residence at Midland, Pa., in addition to his home at Scranton. Conway is trying to land a place on the town's representative basketball team. Tommy Burke, a former Technical High School star, is one of the stellar performers of the quintet.

DREYFUSS TO TRY FOR OPEN MEETING

Pirate President Again Endeavors to Upheave N. L. Magnates in Session

WORKS TO OUST HERRMAN

By a Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Balked in his first effort to upheave the National League magnates in session at the Waldorf, Barney Dreyfus, Pirate president, will make an effort today to break all precedent and throw the meeting open, at the same time unleashing his heaviest artillery on Garry Hermann. The club owners were too busy yesterday to listen to Barney's troubles, so he has been held off a few hours.

Barney wants a change in the National Commission and he wants the thing settled right at this meeting. He believes he was crossed just a wee bit in the deal whereby George Miller became a Brownie, and he has taken an oath not to rest until he has ousted Hermann into the presidency of the Cincinnati Reds, and that alone.

Commission changes and suggestions are almost submerged in the National League. J. Cole Wing, of the Pacific Coast League, and two other members of a committee from the minor leagues dumbofounded the Tenor family with a demand that minor league affairs be taken out of the hands of the National Commission and placed before another board of appeals.

Presidents Baum, of the Pacific Coast League; Hickey, of the American Association, and Harrow, of the International League, asked that the draft be eliminated from their circuits.

When the National League recovered from these shocks it again went into session this afternoon. In the meantime John McGraw will reconcile himself to a player limit of twenty-two, which was decided upon.

CHARLES H. WEEGHAM is expected to announce officially the name of his Cub manager today.

JIMMY CALLAHAN, manager of the Phillies, and two bench warmers at the National League meeting, but they consistently say, "There is nothing to report along the entire front."

JOHN GANZEL, Kansas City's manager, is keeping busy talking, but so far he has failed to snare any new ball players for the Blues.

JACK HENDRICKS was looking for some new Indians, but he gave it up and left last night for Chicago.

THE PICKERS had John McGraw and George Stallings shunted to the Cub side one time. Then a big trade was pulled off in Peacock Alley which involved sending Stallings to the Giants and McGraw to the Cubs, while Fred Mitchell was expected to run the Braves.

CHRISTY MATHEWSON and Barney Dreyfus are attracting interest. Matty is a new white heater bat and Barney left his mustache at home.

Comment No. 3—Billy Moran

Speaking to the public over the radio through the Evening Ledger, Billy Moran, of the Philadelphia Athletics, said that he knew of five fellows who had made a fortune in the past few months by straight talk to the men. He said that he had made a fortune of \$16,500 in the past few months by straight talk to the men. He said that he had made a fortune of \$16,500 in the past few months by straight talk to the men. He said that he had made a fortune of \$16,500 in the past few months by straight talk to the men.

Billy Moran, 1103 Arch St. THE TAILOR Open Monday

Reach Your Friends' Heart Through His Motor

Your friends have been mighty nice to you with their motor cars all the long year long. Now it's up to you! Select from the Gadesh gifts something dear to the motorist's heart.

- Spot Lights
- Gloves
- Goggles
- Mirrors
- Auto "Blue Book"
- "Steer-Warms"
- Klaxons
- Shock Absorbers
- Electric Cigar
- Lighters
- Automobile Locks
- Tool Kits
- Folding Chairs
- Radiator Covers
- Weed Chains

Acceptable Gifts \$1.00 and Up

Gaul, Derr & Shearer Co. 217 N. Broad St.

Make it A Gadesh Christmas

GADESH GOODS

Vele 19 DAYS LEFT IN WHICH TO SAVE \$50

On January First a Vele Six purchased before that date enhances in value \$50.00. This actual cash saving will pay your gasoline bills for approximately 3475 miles of driving.

Alert buyers are taxing the demand to the limit.

Present Price \$1085

La Roche Bros., Inc. 508-S N. Broad St.

Master Spark Plugs

give you a full healthy spark that puts the real power into your motor. They are concocted by engineers and experts to be among the best plugs made. A trial is the real test.

We are also distributors of Champion and A. C. Titan Spark Plugs.

Get Our Prices First

Standard Supply & Equipment Co.

Auto, Railroad, Mine, Mill and Contracting Supplies

Cherry and 13th Streets

Write or Phone—WALNUT 3242