# NATIONAL LEAGUE MANAGERS GREATLY HANDICAPPED IN DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG STAR

# CHANGE IN BASEBALL LAWS AIDING BATTERS CONSIDERED BY THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

Magnates Suggest That Base Be Given on Three Balls or That Foul Strike Rule Be Modified-Young Stars Scarce

WHEN the National League magnates agreed yesterday that something should be done to improve the batting and base-running, they took a step in the fight direction, as the fans throughout the country have felt for several years that much of baseball's greatest charm had been lost when the batting and base-

'It's hard to see, however, how the magnates can rectify present conditions. One magnate suggests that a batsman be given a base on three balls instead of four, while another asks a recall of the present foul-strike rule. He contends that if a rule were made whereby a batter was penalized only for his first foul his chances for hitting safely would be greatly increased.

This seems to be the only plausible solution to the problem, but if the National League continues to wait to see where Ban Johnson stands before acting, it is likely that the magnates' motion will be defeated because the American League will not favor a change. For several years the American League has been producing almost twice as many .300 hitters as the senior league, and therefore they are perfectly satisfied to go along under present conditions.

Magnates and managers are unanimous in the opinion that the only way to improve the base-running is the strict enforcement of the balk rule; but as few major league umpires appear to interpret this rule properly, there appears to be little chance of rectifying this deficiency.

#### Cubs' Prospects Bright Under Mitchell

THED MITCHELL'S appointment as manager of the Cubs appears to be about the only pleasing feature to an otherwise dull session. Baseball men in general believe that Mitchell is destined to be one of the game's greatest leaders, and great things are being presaged for the Cubs of 1917.

It will be recalled that the Evening Lenger announced exclusively on October I that Mitchell would be the next pilot of the Cubs and that at the time many denials were issued by all the parties concerned.

Manager Moran, of the Phila, insists that he has not closed the deal that will send Al Demarce to the Cubs for Jimmy Lavender, despite the fact that all the New York and Philadelphia papers have been carrying the yarn as official. Moran admits that he is willing to make the deal at the request of Demarce, who desires to play in his home town, but that Owner Weeghman and the new pilot Mitchell have not agreed to the deal as yet.

#### Depression In Young Star Market

IF THE twenty-two-player limit recently adopted by the National League is retained for a period of years a depression is sure to be felt in the young star market. With a few exceptions, the great players of today have learned the game from a major league bench, where they constantly have been under the care of the manager and the veteran members of the team. Now that only twenty two players are allowed to be on the roster of any one club in Tener's circuit, there will be no room for the youth who has been signed and whom the owners and managers wish to tutor before he is allowed to take his place in the line-up. Many great baseball clubs have been built because the managers were able to have a sufficiently large number of men on the bench to play out the senson's schedule and at the same time to allow him to have other younger men who were learning the rudiments of the national pastime. Take for example the case of Connie Mack. Where would Mack have been today if he had not been able to keep Eddie Collins, Stuffy McInnis and Jack Barry on the bench long enough to instruct them in his baseball methods? Where would that famous machine of 1910-11-12-13-14 have been? Obviously it

#### Many Other Players Developed on Bench

OTHER managers, too, have made star players of youngsters who never would have learned enough of the game in the minors to become what they ultimately did develop into through the medium of bench instruction. Every man versed in baseball will admit that a youngster can learn more from a major league bench in one season than he can playing on the average minor league club for three or four years. According to the present new ruling in the National League. a player who has signed must be counted in the twenty-two, regardless of whether he reports to the club or whether he does not. As long as he is considered by the management as the property of that club he must be one of the limited twenty two. If there is no rupture between the major and minors in the future, and there is little likelihood that there will be any, the twenty-two-player limit in the National League will enhance the quality of baseball in the minors in the same proportion. that it will be causing a deterioration in the National League.

### Teams Must Have Full Playing Quota

EVERY club in the National League must have a full playing quota of players. That is, there must be enough men who can go into the fray at a moment's notice and put up a brand of baseball that will be on a par with the other members \* of the club. That, in turn, means that there will be only two seats at the most for the young player whom the manager wishes to develop. There are seven regulars on a ball club, with three catchers, usually eight pitchers and a utility infielder and That is about the minimum benting strength of any club that hopes to be in the running for a pennant, and most managers prefer to have more men on their roster than the number who are available. This slicing of players in the National League is merely one of the retrenchment policies which was predicted freely by the majority of baseball writers when organized baseball absorbed the Federal League.

### National League Meeting Tamest Ever

THE most noticeable feature of the meeting of the National League in New York was that there wasn't any feature. Everything that was done appeared cut and well dried before the magnates went into session. The big clash that was scheduled between Garry Herrmann and Barney Dreyfus did not materialize, in spite of the fact that Barney is supposed to have had with him a volume containing data that would curdle the blood of the Cincinnati magnate. No one got excited over the meeting, not even the most rabid fan. There was nothing to get excited about. The meeting this time proved that such gatherings are just an excuse for the moguls to take a trip to New York, do a lot of talking and call it a session. Fans are not interested to any great extent in the actions of a National League meeting, particularly if it is as colorless as the one just held. A few changes in the player's contract, the player limit and other matters that magnates consider more or less important do not thrill the bleacherite. He wants to hear the ring of the old base hit, and unless he reads something that bears directly and immediately on his favorite club he refuses to get all excited.

## American Leaguers Are Retrenching

BEFORE adjourning the annual meeting yesterday afternoon in Chicago the American League magnates announced that they were determined to enact some retrenchment policies. This was expected. Every one has known for a long time that when the magnates have the power they will get the best of the player if the thing can be accomplished. This is exactly what the American League planned to do. The players now are almost completely at the mercy of the moguls. No one knows this better than the mogula. Therefore, they are going to start to retrieve some of the fortunes lost when the player had the Federal League for his haven. Salaries are likely to be cut wherever the player has not signed a contract that will tide him over another season. Not only will the player begin to see that he is not going to make as much out of baseball as formerly, but he is going to find that the league will tie him up in such a way that he will have no redress if things do not appear to be fair. In other words, organized baseball in two more years will have the player as completely under its thumb as it did before the birth of the Feds.

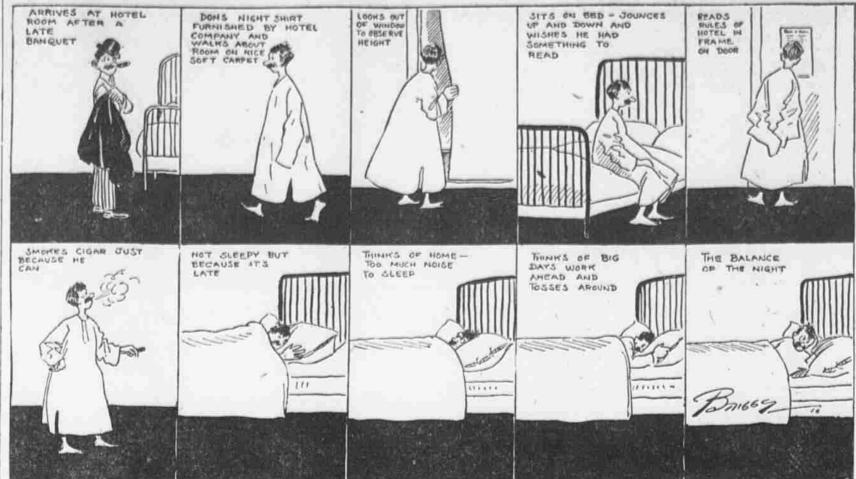
## Writing Question Is Up Once More

ONCE again Ban Johnson declares that he is determined to prevent the players in the American League from writing newspaper articles and from allowing the use of their names to articles written by newspaper men. Whether Johnson is going to be able to do this is another question. He first tried it just before the world's series of 1918, when the Athletics met the New York Giants. At that time Johnson stated that if any player in the series allowed his name to be used as the author of a baseball article pertaining to the series, that player immediately would be disqualified from playing in the games of the series and from participating in the ple-slicing. But this did not deter the players. Later on Johnson stated that the reason for his not enforcing the mandate was the fact that several of the men in the series had signed contracts to write and to allow the use of their names before he issued the order. There is no reason why the baseball player should not be allowed to write. If he causes other players to become "sore" at what he writes, that is his own personal lookout and not the business of Ban Johnson. Baseball players have a short span of years in which to make their money. They are as a rule not qualified to do snything else when they quit the game, consequently they should be allowed to capitalize their baseball ability to the fullest extent. \* \* \*

fifthe election of West, Colgate's star tackle, to the captaincy of the 1917 football team is a great tribute to his remarkable ability. West is only eighteen years old. Nevertheless, he proved himself this season to be one of the best men who ever wore a Colgate uniform. In the Brown game he was a tower of atrength both offensively and defensively. He opened holes through which the Colguta backs poured to their murch to victory.

\* ---BANK McKEOWN, who halls from Passale, N. J., is one of the modern athletic conders. His arms have been amputated just above the albow, yet he is able s side a bloycle, play hazehall, pool and hasketball. Last night at Nonparell Hall, on Justice met Bending, McKerwn gave an exhibition of foul-shooting between Last wash in the Wilkes-Barrs, cago he throw sleven goals out, of has from the course of the cage. The distance from which he shot

# MOVIE OF A COMMUTER STAYING IN THE CITY OVER NIGHT



# A. L. MEETING IS SHORT AND SWEET

Reduction in World's Series Prices Passed by American League Magnates

#### BLEACHER SCALE 50 CENTS

CIHCAGO, Dec. 15.—The high cost of the world's series, so far as the American League is concerned, was handed a knock-out by magnates of that league on their way home today from the annual meeting

Prices for games of the championship eries in the American League parks canseries in the American League parks can-not be more than double the regular scale excepting box seats, which will be \$5, the club owners ruled. Regular prices are often quadrupled for the big series.

Two big minor league questions, the abolition of the draft for class AA leagues and the establishment of an arbitration board for the minor leagues were left in

the hands of President Johnson.

The annual session was one of the shortest and most peaceful sessions on record. The new scale of admission tax to games will be fifty cents for bleacher seats, \$1 for seat) in the pavilion and \$1.50 and \$2 for grand-stand seats. Box seats, however, will sell for \$5. Herstofore \$1 was usually

the lowest price of admission.

The club owners decided to enforce strictly the rule prohibiting players from writing newspaper stories or permitting heir names to be used in connection with their names to be used in connection with them. Under a former rule the players, if given the consent of the club owners, could do newspaper writing on world's series games and other events, but it was decided to abolish the practice entirely.

H. H. Frazee and Hugh J. Ward, of New

York, the new owners of the hoston cuo, and James F. Dunn, of Chicago, purchaser of the Cleveland franchise, were unanimously voted into the league.
The magnates had planned to hold a two-day meeting to settle problems confronting

### Bowling Notes .

In the Philadelphia League series last night Accounting second team defeated Accounting first team in all three games. The latter is the pressist champion. Meter, the leader, won two games from Commercial. Supply won the old game from installation, and District Offices captured all three from Underground.

Krebs knocked down 204 in his second game ith Accounting second quintet.

Guest rolled his best game in his second patch with Commercial, getting 214.

Schimpf's best game with Meter was the econd, when he registered 214,

The Iron and Steel League series consists f three-man team games.

Philadelphia Trust won two games from Girard in Bank Clerks Lessue on Costa Al-leys. Frankin made a clean ween of its three games with Federal Reserve, and the Fourth Street squad won two games from Corn Ex-

The Franklin team score was 836, 901 and 884. Mann intuled 578, concluding with 204. Kec-ports got 213 in his second game.

The Bollevus vs. Rexalls contests were excit-ing, the latter winning two. The respective team scores were Resalls 964, 922 and 836, wills Helevus totaled 896, 896 and 954.

Encedier finished with 234 pins.

J. Guest, of Rexalls, after getting scores of 218 and 220, wound up with 166, a total of 604.

Storck, of Edouard, relied a 213 score in his last game. McDowell of Terminal, knocked down 225 in

OVERCOAT \$1 Reduced from \$30, \$25 and \$20 See Our 7 Big Windows PETER MORAN & CO.

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Bainbridge
MONDAY EVE. DEC. IS
Lew Hunter vs. Wally Nelson
Indian Russeli vs. Battline Surray
Harry (Rid) Curfur vs. Lew Silvery
Harry (Rid) Curfur vs. Lew Silvery
Johnny Dundee vs. Barry Candan
Johnny Dundee vs. Buck Fleming
Adm. Esc. Stat. Sec. 50c & Tac. Arens Res. El.

S. E. Cor. Sth and Arch Sts.

NATIONAL A. C. Jank Meritolean He Steve Latzo vs. Marty Cross

# PHILS, DODGERS AND BRAVES MUST IMPROVE BEFORE APRIL IF THEY HOPE TO BEAT GIANTS

Apparent Preponderance of Giant Power for 1917 Kept Magnates Busy at Meeting to Strengthen Other Clubs to Prevent Runaway Race

#### By GRANTLAND RICE

He starts with a boost-but he ends with t

a knock-.
You've seen him around, with the halfconcred stroke; m're a great little guy-"If it wasn't for

And then he comes through with a terrible soak. He starts you off right, but he qualifies Before he has finished you're worse than

a rat;
As if he were trying to edge in a boost-Now what do you think of a nucker like

If he'd cut out the valve that he used on the jump, You could stand it a bit, for you'd know

where he stood. But to pass a pal while he slipped you the

Is something else, Mauruss, that (sn't so If he calls you a murderer, right off the

That's well in his province, like throwing a brick; But to suy, "Though I like him, the guy is Is piling it on just a trifle too thick.

### Beating the Giants

THE apparent preponderance of Giant power for 1917 proved to be one of the main topics at the N. L. conclave. It genmain topics at the N. L. conclave. It generally was agreed that, so far as the present status of the dope was concerned. Mctiraw had much the best line-up in his circuit.

The evidence in the case showed that, after he once had rounded our his machine and started the same in motion, the Glants blew themselves to about eight victories out of ten starts. They went for a month at one stretch before they were beaten. Granting the well-known and justly cele-brated uncertainty of the game, a ball club that looked to have the power put on display by the Giants last fall is sure to be a prime favorite next spring. The one chance for an upset is for Brooklyn, Phila-delphia or Boston to Improve about sixtyseven per cent before the April barrier is lifted.

You can't even say for one of these base-ball meetings that "they keep you out in the open air." Not that there is any lack of air, but most of it is too thick to be inhaled at one mtart.

Walter Johnson is going back every year water Johnson is going and every year intil the official records are given out for the season's work. Whereupon Walter is arely any better than first or second in his league. He has lost so much of his steam lately that you can now see the ball until it caves his right hand.

"Carlisle Indians to come back on the Harvard schedule." They may come back on the Harvard schedule, but how long will it be before they come back to the days of Thorpe, Guyon, Mount Pleasant and the red-tinted galaxy of last years?

### Blue Ribbon Rivalry

The passing of James Braid, the great golfer, recalls the fine sportsmanship which surrounded his keen rivalry with J. H. Taylor, the English star. Braid and Taylor were fighting rivals fo

more than twenty years. One represented Scotland and the other England. Each had won five championship, and with Vardor they were nearly always one—two—three. But when Braid wasn't winning he was always pulling hard for Taylor to lead, and

when Taylor saw his chances slipping he in ulled for Braid's success.

So here there was a rivalry without the slightest jealousy or envy, the finest, high-est type of rivalry the game could know. Both liked Vardon, but with nothing apreaching the same affection.

"What is the longest putt on record?" ueries a pallid bystander. It was made by ohny Anderson over a Boston course, there he holed out from the tee at a dissince approaching 340 yards. This mu-save been the original of "Now for beinva putt."

#### Nothing Like It Though the winter wind sweeps down

On the town; Though the air is much too keen Out the green; Though you kwing upon the ball Not at all,

You might think all golfers balk At their talk, Since the seasons reached the bend At the end; Does their chatter fade a lot?

It does not. Judging from the first reports sent over. Australia is as proud of Les Darcy as America used to be of Benedict Arnold. The Autipodeans hold Les in as high esteem as Georgia once held Sherman.

The Willard syndicate denies the broad rumor that "Jess is too fat to fight." Not for a purse of \$50,000, though he tip the groaning beam at 430. They never set too fat or too old or too anything to give bat-tle as long as the luscious kale is dangled in fairly close reach. n fairly close reach.

#### NORTHEAST HIGH SOCCER CHAMPION EIGHTH YEAR

Northeast High School again is the Inter-scholastic League soccer champion. For the eight consecutive season the Archives won the title by closing its schedule yesterday by defeating Central High, 12-0, the highest score ever made in a league contest.

Hickman Again to Coach West Virginia MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Dec. 15.—Charles Hickman, a major league player for a num, er of years and for the last two years base-il couch at West Virginia University, bas sued a contract to coach the 1917 team.

Say, Did Billy Moran Make Your Suit, He Fits the Hard to Fit

You can rest assured that your clothes will be made perfectly if tailored by me. See the dressy litues. Browns. Grays, in Worstells and Unfinished Warstells I'm offering \$16.50 Comb ) (They're just simply beaution) Billy Moran, 1103 Arch THE TAILOR Open Evenings

NONPAREIL A. C. TONIGHT LOW Haller, Mgr. Tommy Coleman vs. Ralph Earn

Ryan Athletic Club 26th 4 Damphia Sts.
JOE DALEY vs. YOUNG MORPHEW
HENRY HACHER vs. JACK TOLAND
FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 15, 1918



# KERR'S FIELD GOAL WINS FOR JASPE

Jewels Capture Exciting Contest From Reading by One Point, 24 to 23

FRIEDMAN'S PASS COUNTY Rah! Rah! Rah! Kerr

READING

Friedman's pass to Kerr last night final moment of play enabled the last shoot the field goal which decided the exciting Eastern League contest of the son in the favor of Jasper, when the J retained the league lead by trimming ng. 24 to 23

Had the Jasper quintet suffered de Camden, though idle, would have goes a first place. The game was staged at Ne parell Hall and those who attended as given a rare treat. At no time through the entire contest was there a difference more than three points in the score, at the the last half the lead wettered. n the last half the lead switched five the from one five to the other.

At the end of the first session the communes 14 to 12 in Reading's favor and the two teams were going nip and tuck. Settle and Haggerty each tallied three field suffor their respective teams, while House and Sears each made nine of their expectations.

Dana to Play Hackett for Title NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Anderson Dana H. Hackett will play for the national has p squash tennis championship here ton

ponents' fouls go for points, shot one free toss for Jasper,



WILLARD-CARPENTIER IN

Jack Curley to Leave for Paris for

Purpose of Clinching Match

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 .- Jack Curley, box-

ig impresario, is going to sait for Paris

Monday. Curley is going to see Georges

Carpentler, and he plans to suggest a forty

ound battle between Carpentier and Wil-

lard in Paris. Curiey said today that such

40-ROUND BOUT, IS PLAN



Being one of the largest clothing manufacturers we offer to you the finest clothes at absolute wholesale prices—We invite comparisons—judge for yourself. The finest fabrics—superior workmanship-linings-finish, etc. Then you will agree with us that our values cannot be matched elsewhere under \$15 to \$18.

Our custom department offers you superiorquality woolens and garments made \$15 to your individual order...... We Accept Purchasing Agents' Orders

J. Salsburg Sons & Co.

Second S. E. Cor. 9th & Sansom Sts. Hair Block From Chestnut
Open Saturday Evenings



Shoe Stores Company PHILADELPHIA STOKES

morrow, and "Save A Dollar".

1526 Market 56., bet. 124s and 13th Sta.
425 Market 56., bet. 4th and 5th Sta.
425 No. 2nd Scanson York and
425 Market 525 Market 525 Market 525 Market State 5th Sta.
427 North Nighth 5th, bear Cherry 8t.
412 North Nighth 5th, bear Cherry 8t.
412 North Nighth 5th, bear Cherry 8t.
412 North Nighth 5th, bear Cherry 8t.
413 North Nighth 5th, bear 6th St.
414 North Nighth 5th, bear 6th St.
415 North Nighth 5th, bear 6th St.
415 North Nighth 5th, bear 6th St. THE STORES IN DECISION