

NATIONAL LEAGUE MANAGERS GREATLY HANDICAPPED IN DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG STARS

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 right 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-running fell off.

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.

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.

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

FRED MITCHELL'S appointment as manager of the Cubs appears to be about the only pleasing feature to an otherwise dull season. 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 LEDGER announced exclusively on October 1 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 Phils, insists that he has not closed the deal that will send Al Demaree 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 Demaree, 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

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.

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.

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.

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 out 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.

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.

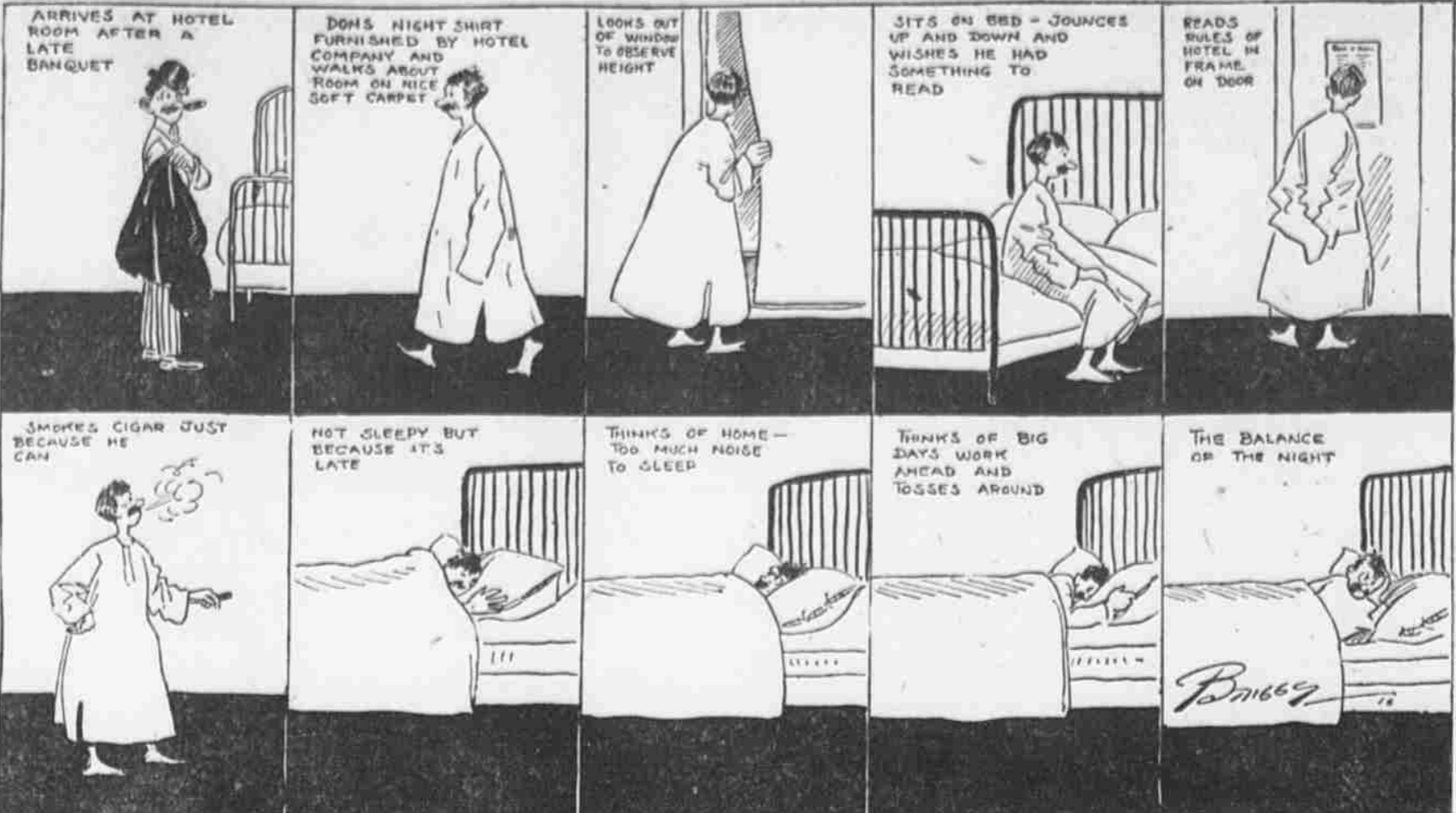
Writing Question Is Up Once More

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 1913, when the Athletics met the New York Giants.

THE 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.

FRANK McKEOWN, who hails from Passaic, N. J., is one of the modern athletic wonders. His arms have been amputated just above the elbow, yet he is able to ride a bicycle, play baseball, pool and basketball.

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

CHICAGO, 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 here.

Prices for games of the championship series in the American League parks cannot 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 successful sessions on record. The new scale of admission tax to games will be fifty cents for bleacher seats, \$1 for seats in the pavilion and \$1.50 and \$2 for grandstands, box seats, however, will sell for \$5. Heretofore \$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 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.

The evidence in the case showed that, after he once had rounded out his machine and started the same in motion, the Giants 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 celebrated 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, Philadelphia or Boston to improve about sixty-seven per cent before the April barrier is lifted.

You can't even say for one of these baseball 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 start.

Walter Johnson is going back every year until the official records are given out for the season's work. Whereupon Walter is rarely 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 leaves 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 Brad, the great golfer, recalls the fine sportsmanship which surrounded his life rivalry with J. H. Taylor, the English star.

Brad and Taylor were fighting rivals for more than twenty years. One represented Scotland and the other England. Each had won five championships, and with Vardon they were nearly always one-two-three. But when Brad wasn't winning he was always pulling hard for Taylor to lead, and

McDowell, of Terminal, knocked down 225 in his second game. The Quaker City series on Keystone Alloys and the Curtis League games on Terminal Alloys will occupy the fans' attention tonight.

Kneeler finished with 234 pins. J. Grant, of Roxella, after getting scores of 214 and 229, wound up with 140, a total of 493.

Barrt again showed his ability with Billings with totals of 148, 221 and 211. Wells secured scores of 205, 203 and 176.

Stock, of Edouard, rolled a 213 score in his last game.

McDowell, of Terminal, knocked down 225 in his second game.

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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 a knock-out. You've seen him around, with the half-covered stroke. You're a great little guy—if it wasn't for this.

And then he comes through with a terrible snarl. 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 sucker like that?

If he'd cut out the sales 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 bump.

Is something else, Maurice, that isn't so good? If he calls you a murderer, right off the bat. That's well in his province, like throwing a brick. But to say, "Though I like him, the guy is a rat."

Is piling it on just a trifle too thick. Nothing Like It. Though the winter wind sweeps down on the town; Though the air is much too keen. Out the green; Though you swing 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 lost it does not.

Judging from the first reports sent over, Australia is as proud of Lea Darcy as America used to be of Benedict Arnold. The Antipodians hold Lea in as high esteem as Georgia once held Sherman.

The Willard syndicate denies the broad rumor that "less is too fat to fight." Not for a purse of \$50,000, though he tip the grooming beam at 120. They never get too fat or too old or too anything to give battle as long as the luscious kale is dangled in fairly close reach.

Northeast High Soccer CHAMPION EIGHTH YEAR. Northeast High School again is the Inter-scholastic League soccer champion. For the eighth consecutive season the Archives won the title by closing its schedule yesterday by defeating Central High, 1-0, the highest score ever made in a league contest.

Hickman Again to Coach West Virginia. MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Dec. 15.—Charles T. Hickman, a major league player for a number of years and for the last two years baseball coach at West Virginia University, has signed 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 dresses. Blues, Browns, Greys, in Worsteds and Unfinished Worsted. I'm offering \$16.50 (They're just simply beauties!)

Billy Moran, 1103 Arch THE TAILOR Open Evenings. NONPAREIL A. C. TONIGHT. SIX BOUTS - SIX Law Baller, Mead. Tommy Coleman vs. Ralph Earn

Ryan Athletic Club 26th & Dauphin Sts. JOE DALEY vs. YOUNG MORPHIE HENRY HATHOR vs. CARL TOLAND FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 15, 1916

Advertisement for Arrow Collar. Features a portrait of a man in a top hat and the text: "Argenta" an ARROW COLLAR. Very suitable for formal or informal dress—Has inserted tips which makes it strong where other wing collars are weak. 15c each 6 for 90c. CLARIT, PEABODY & CO., Inc. Makers

KERR'S FIELD GOAL WINS FOR JASPER

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

FRIEDMAN'S PASS COUNTS

Rah! Rah! Rah! Kerr

Table showing baseball statistics for Jasper and Reading. Columns include Name, Position, and various stats like Runs, Hits, Errors, etc.

Table showing the standing of various clubs. Columns include Club Name, Wins, Losses, and other performance metrics.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS. Jasper, 10; Reading, 11; etc.

Friedman's pass to Kerr last night in the final moment of play enabled the latter to shoot the field goal which decided the contest.

Had the Jasper quintet suffered defeat, Camden, though idle, would have gone to first place. The game was staged at Woodmere Hall and those who attended were given a rare treat.

At the end of the first session the contest was 14 to 13 in Reading's favor and the two teams were going nip and tuck.

Dana to Play Hackett for Title. NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Anderson Dana had a squawish tennis championship here yesterday at the Harvard Club courts.

Advertisement for Salco Clothes. Text: "Open Saturday Evenings SALCO CLOTHES Sold Direct To You From Factory Floor At Actual Wholesale Value Overcoats \$10 Suits". Includes an illustration of a man in a suit.

Advertisement for Newark Shoes. Text: "The Newark Shoe Maker Says Keep your feet dry and warm. NEWARK SHOES. COLD, wet weather has no terrors for the man who wears the Newark Work and Storm shoes at \$2.95. The Newark Shoe at \$2.50 and \$2.95". Includes an illustration of a shoe.

Advertisement for Peter Moran & Co. Text: "SUITS OR OVERCOATS \$11.80 TO ORDER. Reduced from \$20, \$25 and \$30. See Our 7 Big Windows. PETER MORAN & CO. MERCHANT TAILORS, 8 E. Cor. 5th and Arch Sts."