

HANS WAGNER TO BE FIRST BASEMAN IN TWENTY-FIRST YEAR UNDER MAJOR CANVAS

Only Member of Pennant-Winning Pirate Machine, 43 Years Old, to Get "Try-out" on Initial Bag

JOHN (HONUS) WAGNER, having completed twenty seasons in the big show as a shortstop—having a year or so in the outfield—will next year start at first base and get a "try-out" on first base with the Pirates.

The fact that Honus is about to do this means and also that he is the sole remaining member of the pennant-winning Pirates makes it seem a ripe time for a review of his work in the past. The record is such as to indicate that the forty-three-year-old veteran first baseman should make good.

Wagner participated in 123 games last season, making 124 hits and forty-five runs. The Flying Dutchman had an average of .247, which is precisely ten points better than his batting mark of 1915. His safe walks for 1916 netted him thirty-nine extra bases, for he was credited with one home run, nine triples and fifteen doubles.

Remarkable Record

The famous shortstop's consistent performance for the entire twenty years is shown by a glance at his grand totals for this length of time. He has been at bat 10,128 times, and his safe walks foot up to 3245. There has been a grand total of 230, in spite of the fact that his last three campaigns have found him below the coveted 300 mark.

Another interesting fact is disclosed by the records. Hans still has the distinction of having registered a fraction more than one hit per game for his score of years in the National League. He has played in 1233 games. This means that he has played almost five drives in safe territory in each of his four games, on an average.

Thus it is seen that baseball's grand old patriarch continues to uphold his unique record for reliability. While he is naturally proud of this dazzling diamond achievement, Wagner plays ball for results and not for glory. He is content in the 300 class, the largest part of last season, but late in the race a series of injuries took the better of him and he fell into a slump which took him down below the triple-century mark, at which every bat-man aims.

Cobb Clos Second

To Cobb comes nearer to Wagner's record in this line than any other batter now in baseball. The famous singer of the Detroit Americans has rounded out his eleventh consecutive campaign as a 300 batsman, but he must travel six miles sea-ward at this clip before he can equate the Pittsburgher's wonderful mark of seventeen straight years. Dan Brouthers, the odd-timer, therefore, remains second to Wagner. Dan smokes 300 for fourteen seasons. Wagner played in sixty-one games during 1915, which was his first season as a major leaguer. He made eighty-three hits and thirty-eight runs out of 241 times at bat, giving him an average of .344 as a starter. He fell back to .305 in his second year, get-

EVENING LEDGER DECISIONS OF RING BOUTS DECIDED ON NEW YEAR'S DAY

OLYMPIA—Louisiana slayed Benny Kaufman. Johnny Slay defeated Eddie Morgan. Battling Hoek defeated Young Tommie. Tubor won from Little Bear. Gussie Lewis outpointed John Johnson. Benny McNeil defeated Willie Fitzgerald.

Basketball Scores of New Year's Day Games

STANDING OF EASTERN LEAGUE
W. L. P.C. W. L. P.C.
Jasper 17 0 602 Camden 11 9 529

JOHNNY COULON COMES BACK—ONLY FEW STEPS
NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Johnny Coulon has "come back"—just a few steps. Joe Wagner didn't "come back," and therein lies the tale of Coulon's easy ten-round victory over the local veteran, Wagner, scoring 116 points, outwitted Coulon by four points. Neither had looked for a long time.

INTERCOLLEGIATE TENNIS
College Men Are Eager to Broaden Game—Tourney May Be Held Here
NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—An intercollegiate indoor lawn tennis championship tournament, proposed by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association of its annual meeting last month, has been discussed by representatives of several of the colleges during the winter holidays at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria.

Hutchinson Wins at Court Tennis
TUCKER PARK, N. Y., Jan. 2.—A large and fashionable afternoon row in Tuckerpark, N. Y., was held yesterday afternoon. The score was 6-1, 1-0, 6-5, 6-3. The victory gave Mr. Hutchinson the first leg on the trophy.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FIRE BUREAU HIT BY LACK OF MEN

Baseball Magnates Gather for Big Meeting in Cincinnati Today
Deputy Chief Davis Deplores Resignations of Model Veterans

NO CHANGE IN OFFICERS
HINT TO THE COUNCILMEN

CINCINNATI, Jan. 2.—Baseball men from almost every part of the country were here this morning for the annual meeting of the National Baseball Commission today. While the commission meeting was called for 10 o'clock, it is likely probable that it will be hours later before the supreme court of baseball really begins its work.

Another regulation makes reinstatement possible within three months if an impediment exists. It is the hope of Chief Murphy and the bureau officials that some of the more recently resigning members may reconsider their step and "go back into harness" before the time limit expires.

ROPER COUNCILMEN WILL ACT
Boss B. Davis, deputy chief engineer, discussing the unusual number of resignations within the bureau, today said:

It is true that we have lost more men in the last year through resignations than in any year that I can recall. The number when the figures are compiled is likely to exceed 100, even if some of them do seek reinstatement or recall their resignation.

Not all of the men who have dropped out lately have been eligible for a pension. It is a good thing they were not, for our pension in its present condition never could stand such a sudden drain.

A majority of the resignations came from members of the Bureau whose connection was comparatively short, and who are still young men. They were trained firemen, though, and will be hard to replace.

It was understood here last night that matters concerning the prices charged for outdoor series games, as well as a rearrangement of the division of the proceeds of the series, will likely come before the commission at this meeting.

CARPENTIER AND WELLS IN MATCH FOR CHARITY

George Carpenter, the famous boxing champion of Europe, recently entered the ring for the first time since the beginning of the war at a charity show here for the benefit of the division of the proceeds of the series, will likely come before the commission at this meeting.

No Leniency Toward Francis Quimet

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—Every game in the main of the winter sports season is being held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, which has been the scene of the winter sports season.

Propose Indoor Tennis Tourney

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WINTER RESORTS ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

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MEDAL WINNERS DESIGN

Two gold medal winners have had in their resignations from the fire department to take effect at the same time. They are George W. Ford, tillerman of Truck 1, above, and John Kuriz, hostman of the same company, below.

and Honeman John Kuriz. Two better firemen do not exist, and each was the recipient of a gold medal for personal bravery.

Both are young men, comparatively speaking. Ford was born February 23, 1867, and was appointed a ladderman April 4, 1892.

WINTER RESORTS FLORIDA, EAST COAST

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PENNSYLVANIA TROOPS HOME IN FEW DAYS

Regaled Men Busy Breaking Camp—Will Start Their Northward Journey Tomorrow

St. PASO, Tex., Jan. 2.—Exciting preparations for the homeward movement of regiments of Pennsylvania troops, which begins tomorrow, and resumption of monotonous routine by those to remain, stirred the camp into new activity today.

Tents will be dropped and packed for shipment home with the troops early tomorrow morning, and if the railroads have the rolling stock on hand in time the first section should leave here by noon.

Months of every description, from the inevitable bears to mountain hawks, which the men are pleased to believe to be eagles, were assembled and created today.

The spirit of the troops mounts as the hours of the start home fly by and the "Va Home to My Home" chant of a fortnight ago has given way to popular songs and cheers for everybody from Clement to Rickards.

The Sixteenth, Fourth and Fifth Cavalry, signal corps, field hospital and field ambulances are included in the recall order. The Fourth leaves next.

G. H. Howison, Philosopher, Dies
BERKELEY, Cal., Jan. 2.—George Holmes Howison, professor of philosophy emeritus at the University of California, died at his home here last night, aged eighty-two.

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