# THE SEASON OF 1917 NEARLY AT HAND BASEBALL NEEDS BOOSTERS, NOT KNOCKERS

## EAR WATER AHEAD AS BASEBALL EMBARKS ON ITS SEASON'S VOYAGE WITH "REASON" AS THE HELMSMAN

National Sport Has Been Tried by Fire Since Federal League Entered the Field and Has Survived in Fine Style

IIS is the last day of the Stove League season. Tomorrow the real stuff is when the Chicago Cubs entrain for the Pacific coast, there to take up business of getting into condition for the coming season. The Bruins are the at to swing into action, but within three weeks all of the major leaguers will er be at their training camps or on their way thither. Henceforth Dave Fultz ad his comedy strike will no longer be mentioned, the retrenchment policy of the nates will only be spoken of on rainy afternoons when the elements make guer baseball out of the question. Secret meetings, non-the voice of the auers will be smothered beneath an avalanche of base hits and the voice of the baseball out of the question. Secret meetings, hold-outs, contracts and an will be raised in acclaim. Tomorrow the fan comes into his own. The national atime is given into his hands and for the next seven months the magnate is aply an incident. The ball player is no longer a man commercializing his blysical talents, but a living, breathing machine, grinding out more or less peret baseball for the plaudits or condemnation of his Majesty, King Pan. Doubtthe magnates themselves are heaving a sigh of relief that the long winter of discontent is over, unquestionably the players are singing a pean of joy as they start for the Southland, and certainly the patient fans are glad that their sore

#### Baseball Is in More Rational Condition

T HAS been a tough winter for all concerned, but probably baseball is in a better and more rational condition than it has been for a number of years as a result of the unpleasant but necessary bickerings. It has been hard for the iagnates, for to do what they were forced to do they laid themselves open to a storm of criticism. It has been hard for the players to see their fat salaries whittled down, and it has been doubly hard for the fame, who had to hear the tale of woe from both sides. The magnates have "magnated" on all extunders for onths and their act is over. No curtain call is required and there are loud mands for the next act-the big act of the show. On with the ball players, and It is to be hoped that they will go out there and "baseball" so hard every day that the nauseating and sordid events of this winter will be forgotten.

But as trying as it all has been, much has been accomplished, and the game in a healthler condition than it has been since the Pederal Learne opened its battle against organized baseball. The war with the third league was exhausting and the damage that it did to baseball was not repaired when peace was made more than a year ago. One of the most disastrous phases of the struggle was the effect it had on the players, and it required a year to rectify their condition of mind. 'Countless thousands of dollars were thrown around in a reckless manner and the players got the biggest part of them. As a result, they naturally grew to place a somewhat inflated value on their services, and the magnates were helpless when the end came for the reason that most of the players had them tied up to pontracts with a year or two to run.

DRESIDENT EBBETS, of the Brooklyn Dodgers, again is to the fore with an original idea, and it will inject a lot of patriotic spirit into baseball. All players wearing Brooklyn uniforms this year will have a small American flag placed on the left sleeve.

#### How Dave Fultz Figured

THIS winter a large number of the contracts expired and the time was at hand to cut into these fat yearly stipends. It was an unpleasant task, but it had to be done. It was to be expected that the players would make an issue of the salary slashing, and then it was that Dave Fultz out in with his strike talk.

As a matter of fact, Fultz laid his plans carefully. He fully understood conlitions and realized that there would be a lot of dissatisfied ball players around the country when the contracts were sent out. He struck when the iron was hot; it is history, that, but the magnates held the whiphand and won out,

Thus baseball has been through fire since 1914. First came the battle with the Federal League and then the fight with the players, which was a natural development of the original war. The fact that the game has survived is striking evidence of the hold which it has on the American public. The storm is over and there appears to be clear sailing ahead for the greatest of all sports. It is to the interests of all, magnates, players and fans, to put a shoulder to the wheel and push. Away with the knock-let us have boosts, boosts and then more boosts.

### Sunday Big Trapshooting Day in the West

DROBABLY the greatest revision in the rules of the Interstate Association for the Encouragement of Trapshooting made at the recent annual meeting was the one to permit the sanctioning of trapshooting tournaments on Sunday. This change was made at the urgent solicitation of the trapshooters of those sections where the "blue laws" do not exist. In many of the States west of the Ohio River Sunday is the big day for sporting events, and with the Interstate Association for many years refusing to register a tournament on the Sabbath, hundreds of the western trapshooters failed to appear in the official averages of the Interstate Association-said averages carrying only the names of the shooters who shoot at 2000 or more registered targets during the season. Now this is all changed. The trapshots on the Pacific coast seldom ever broke into the averages under the old rules of the Interstate Association, but under the new ruling they expect to break in in a very forceful manner. At many places where the gun clubs held club shoots registered tournaments will now be held, as trapshooters will come out for registered tournaments in the western States on Sunday as thickly as their fellow-shooters East do on Saturday. The revision of this rule should go a great way in couraging trapshooting in the cities and States where sports are not affected by the ancient "blue laws."

RUGBY football is being taken up by Japanese and Chinese students on the coast, and the Oriental athletes are making unusual progress. A Chinese team, representing the University of California, played a Japanese aggregation from Leland Standford recently, and the former won.

## Cincinnati Is Baseball's Hoodoo Town

MANY baseball stars have been in the line-up of the Cincinnati Reds since 1900, yet at no time has a team from that city been up in the running for a National League championship. Christy Mathewson, from present indications, has a fine roster of national pastimers for the 1917 campaign, but the once great Giants' hurler has the old hoodoo to overcome in his endeavor to bring a title to Cincinnati. Star players who have worn Cincinnati suits in the last sixteen years are Beckley, Steinfeldt, Crawford, Amos Rusie, Moy, Cy Seymour, Donlin, Huggins, Sabring, Overall, Phelps, Bridwell, Lobert, Paskert, Mitchell, Weimer, Dubne, Hoblitsell, Bescher, Fromme, Covaleskie, Burns, Benton and Doak, yet with this dly assortment of baseball material the Reds never were within striking

## Rowing Beneficial, Not Harmful, Says Ten Eyck

RGUMENTS pro and con are numerous relative to the injury or benefit by competitive rowing. Some critics say that carsmen suffer an enlargement of The heart, but James A. Ten Eyck, one of the best judges of crews in the country, doesn't think so. In fact, Ten Eyck declares that any one who has a normal constitution and takes reasonable care in training is benefited by rowing, rather than harmed. The idea that sports, especially rowing, impairs the heart is now tested by the great crew coach, and Mr. Ten Eyek has a mighty fine alibi, for hasn't he rowed in many a strenuous contest, yet boasts that his heart is just sound as anybody's, and considerably more sound than some.

## Les Darcy to Appear in Court Bouts

WHEN Leslie Darcy tied the can to E. T. O'Sullivan, the man who kidnapped him from Australia and safely brought the boxer to this country, the middleweight didn't figure that he would get himself into a bushel of trouble. Since the split between the two Australians, it has been announced that O'Sullivan will fight Darcy in the courts for a quarter share of all Lee's earnings. O'Sullivan has re-tained counsel in New York, and after his bouts it is probable Darcy will have to to court to collect his purses. In Australia boxers usually do their own business and do not have a middleman collecting from twenty-five to fifty per cent of their ernings. Probably Darcy doesn't like to separate himself from any of his ring money, and this caused the split between him and O'Sullivan.

## Competition in Local Soccer League Is Close

OCCER, fast becoming one of the most interesting sports in Philadelphia, is holding forth in this vicinity more than ever. Close races in league play at the present time are in evidence, with only few points separating the teams. first division of the Allied League, Wanderers and Veterans are running ck-and-neck race, as are Providence and St. Carthage in the United League. Tacony Hibs are being given a hard scrimmage for the Allied League secondpennant, Wilson Social being on the Hibs' heels with only two points Textile B. C. is another eleven making a close fight for a leadership, lling Disston Rovers with but a difference of three points.

"Big Nine" door is partly open to the University of Michigan, and it is only a short time before the Wolverine athletes will get back into the Western Michigan withdrew from the Conference in 1905 because of certain The acceptance of Michigan entries at the relay carnival of Illinois means that the Ann Arbor college will get back into the fold.

## Graduate Race in College Meet Holds Interest

18 freely predicted that the graduate race on the program of the indoor iate meet here March 3 will be the feature number on the program. use a lot of interest is placed in the event owing to the fact that four ry's greatest runners, when at college, are expected to compete. Ted' course, will be Pann's entry; Riley, second to Ted in the intercollegiate ar, will run for Dartmouth; Cornell will have Caldwell as its speed-tive, and there is a probability of John Paul Jones getting back on legach. If Jones decides to enter the race it will be his first since

## FIFTIETH CLUB MEETS HANCOCK

Initial Game Tonight in Play-off for League Championship

EACH SIDE CONFIDENT

EASTERN LEAGUE

SCHEDULE FOR TONIGHT INTERCOLLEGIATE LEAGUE

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE! - Cornell at Pennsylvania, Princeton

off for the American League champion-dus will be waged but evening at Nata-orium Lini, when Lancock, where of the outtoo hulf, plays the five of a series of horse contests against Fifteth Club, which offers of cools combination feel confident f their favorites being returned a winner cutto's way Fiftedly, according to its present ferm, clouds our, as Hancock did not lay the bad in the ground series that it Ministed in the first. This is all a matter f conjecture, and only with the playing of he series will the winner be known. The the third, if neversury, on Monday cormary Ja.

The men eligible to compete are, Har-ock: Wood Powell, Wittig, Hazlett Deeg-er, Armstrong, Hopains, Flood, Crombe and atton Efficit: Street, Stevenson, omak, Fischer, M. Sandis, G. Sandis, Epplet, Hunt, Pendenhaugh and Arnold Her man Bact 21 will be the eleventh man in

#### Penn Out of Running

When Penn was beaten by Yale at Weightman Hall on Saturday night 27-23 hopes of the Quakers annexing another intercollegiate care title vanished. The given was bretty rough, and the contestants secred all their goals in sparts, first one taking the lead and then the other.

The Quakers did not and have not disayed the same form and perform as well last year, when they won the title, and is fully admitted they have madly missed Sugarman, both for his advice and

shile Old Penn went down to de-And while con from went down to de-feat and is out of the running one could not let this chance whip by to impress the fact that the hig, heavy Yale team, nat-derally rough and always playing that way, leas penalized on only six necasions by Referee O'Shea. Six fouls in forty min-cutes of play is virtually impossible in any maskethall game.

ntes of play is virtually impossible in any basicethall game. The accord Eastern League series promises to be a lummer when one takes an observant peep at the standing of the clubs. While Jasper and Greystork are tie away for top honors, Reading, Camden and Treaton are all but a game in the rear, and there is no telling when any of the trio will forge ahead. Of rourse, the big fracas from a local standboint, this week is booked for next Friday might, at Copper Battallon. r next Friday night, at Cooper Battallon all, when Jusper meets treestock, and a pacity house is assured, for about that any followers of the Jewels alone will any lollowers of the seems of the melec.
The feature of the week was the drepping two setter by Breystock and the winning the same number by Trenton. The sign-

of Uark by Jasper also was a subject the Neri is demonstrating its ability, and while Manager Myers's proteges may not by the pennant, they will cause all sorts of trouble for opponents. They are looking orward to text year, and that is one of he reasons why they landed Billy Kummer from Jasper. The Joannette star at present s on the blacklist and several magnates

#### how no disposition to lift the pan-Jasper's Basketball Team

When the Jewels take the floor nowadays me men are in uniform, and while several and he dropped, it is said Messrs, Linton and Pattersen have decided to maintain the hote bunch and perhaps this will not cost penny it was recently pointed out that he Trenton payroll was \$1290 a month, but he Jewels are now handles out door than his amount, which only shows the expense of conducting the sport. There are several frenton men who exceed Jasper players in Treaton men who exceed Jasper players in salary, one player on the Potters is getting \$100 a night, or \$240 a month for cight games, but all summed up, Jasper now has the heaviest payrool in the Eastern League.

## Sears Unjustly Knocked

Andy Sears was out of the Readinggies," but according to the inside done all towhead was in good shape, but has about become disgusted with unfair news-paper criticism and knocks from the fans.

about become disguisted with unfair newspaper criticism and knocks from the fans,
and for this reason did not perform. Every
time the Bears drop a couple of games.
Sears and his puls are roasted and their
condition criticized and it is enough to dishearten and one. The writer pointed out
only last week that the same spirit did not
perbeate fleading games and it is natural
to suspect that all this talk of signing new
players and the endeavor to secure others
will have its effect.

Andy Sears has a great record. He has
always handed out the best in the shop
wherever he has played and always been
loyal to Reading and the unfair criticism
is unwarranted. The Bears are but one
game from first place and have never been
beaten on the home floor. If the knockers
who never see a game away from home
would change their tactics the Berks.
County clain would have a little more interest in its work. And the writer, by
the way, is pretty intimate with Eastern
Longue players, and there is generally some
one on the various clubs who does not like
a man, but has never heard any one make
a kielt about Andy Sears, and the old soon. man, but has never heard any one make a kick about Andy Sears, and the old scout says he is still able to produce the goods and has never failed heretefore.

Southwark to Hold Bird Shoot

The Southwark Field Club will hold a live bird his rock match Washington Birthday aft moon The club has spared nothing in making the best match ever held on the club found. It expects to have leading shooter terest. Prizes will be awarded to the win

Suits or	Overcoats
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OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Balubridge TO-NIGHT AT \$20 SiJARP. Billy Hings vs. Frankle Conway Bert Stepher vs. Mike Bully Terry Keichel vs. Frankle Clark Gussle Lewis vs. Frankle Clark Gussle Lewis vs. Funz Marino Kid Williams vs. Eddie O'Keefe Adm. 25c. Bal. Res. 50c & 75c. Arona Res. \$1

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



#### PENN HOCKEY TEAM IN LEAGUE MATCH FRIDAY

Three Games Scheduled This Week at Garden-Wanderers' Slate Still Clean

Hockey matches this week in the Phila-delphin Hockey League at the Winter Garden fee Rink, Fifty-second street and

Lancaster avenue, are as follows: Tuesday, Merion B vs. Philadelphia Thursday, Merion & vs. Philadelphia

Friday, University of Pennsylvania vs. Cynwyd, at 8 p. m.

STANDING OF	TEA	MS	
Wandorers Won I Pickering I Merton II Philadephila A I Merton A I Merton A I Philadephila A I Philadephila A I Philadephila B I Philadephila B 0	1 1 1 1 2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Tied. 1	E SENDICIONALE CONTRACTOR
COURT TEN SCOURTERS	135	T. TO A VICTOR	

Pennsylvania will make its initial ap-pegrance this week. If it has two or three more players like Perrick, who starred sgainst the Wanderers last Friday night, it against the Wanderers last Friday night, it will develop into a strong team. Princeton may come over on Thursday night to play

## PLAY FOR INDOOR TENNIS

NEW YORK, Feb. 19 -- The Indeer Tennis championships will be de-cided this week. The semifinals in the singles are carded today with Arick H. Man. Jr., and Clifton B. Herd in one bracket and S. H. Voshell and Dean Mathey in the other.

## Penn Freshie Lands Third Place

From Freshie Lands Third Place
University of Pennsylvania freshman athlets
and national pole-vaulting champion, was placed
third in the 10-yard low hurdle handlear event
in the litroplety Cellege games here, although
he was conceded a 3-foot handlear by the
region men, Arthur Engels of the New York
A C, and Jack Eller, of the Irish Americans,
Engels showed an excellent performance in winning the race in 8-3-5 seconds, with Eller at
his shoulder, ~

#### WILLARD TO BE OFFERED 870,000 FOR FULTON BOUT

Ten-Round Match for New York May Be Clinched in Chicago Today

Chicago. Feb. 19—Probably the greatest burse ever offered for a ten-round bout will be damiled before the eyes of Tom Jones, manager of heavyweight champon, Jess Willard, and Frank Force, manager of Fred Fulton, when they meet here today, it is proposed to stage a Willard-Fulton contest in New York late in March or early in April

Grant Hugh Browne, of Madison Square Garden, wants the bout. Here is what the articles offered Willard call for: The first \$50,000 that comes into the box

Twenty-five per-cent of all receipts between \$50,000 and \$100,000, and fifty per cent of all above the latter figure. Fifty-one per cent of the moving picture rights or \$20,000 for his share in them.

#### HARVARD ATHLETES TAKE UP MILITARY DRILLING

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 19.-Harvard athletes consider that military drill is the most important branch of athletics at the present time. This was indicated by the fact that the captains of five athletic teams decided to drop training in their branches on the days set apart for drill.

Most of the crack athletes of Harvard are enrolled in the officers' training corps which has been established at the university under the auspices of the East.

#### TITLE REACHES THE SEMI COAST COLLEGE NINE PLANS TO TOUR JAPAN

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 19.-The baseball team of the University of California is to make a tour of Japan next summer upon invitation of Keio University of Tokio. invitation of Keio University of Tokio Present plans call for a twelve-game sgries Californians will play a series in Hawaii on the trip to Japan

# Lagerblade Breaks Pinehurst Record

to it is a second to the processional second to the processional second of the second of the second of the second for the second for course. The best that has ever neen done number two courses that has ever neen done in fourseone play last season.

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best style.

## TINKER SPEARS, J. EVERS BARKING-FAN DREAMING OF OLD-TIME CUBS IS SHOT BEFORE HE WAKES AGAIN

Sees Once More the Shoots of Three-Fingered Brown Hit the Mitt of Johnnie Kling as Feathered Angels Sing

#### By GRANTLAND RICE

The Cub Fan's Dream "Last night," he said, with shining eyes, "I dreamed that Chance was back; I dreamed that Steiny's wallop Once more led the old attack; I seemed to see Joe Tinker make An old-time Tinker spear, And hear J. Evers barking In the shaking umpire's ear; And, like a dream of heaven, Where the feathered angels sing, I heard the shoots of Brownie Hit the mitt of Johnnie Kling.

"I cheered for Circus Solly As he cracked one on the none; I saw old Jimmy Sheckard Pick a scallop from his toes; And with the old-time flash of speed, Apility and science, We mauled the Phillies to a pulp And stamped upon the Giants.'

He closed his eyes in restrospect-He sighed with joy-and then-I kindly shot him through the heart Before he woke again.

WHICH is no part of a knock on Prochef. Mitchell has all the qualities of which fine leaders are made. But many a summer day will drift hazily along before Cub fans will ever see another such ma

out any further debate—the Cubs and the Athletics—machines good enough to win two world series each and to bag four pennants in five years.

mants in five years.

The next club in line is the Boston club of 1898—the club that had for an infield Tenney. Lowe, Long and Collins, and for an outfield, Hugh Duffy, Billy Hamilton and

Cub fans will ever see another such machine—Chance. Tinker, Evers. Steinfeldt. Sheekard. Schuitze, Hofman, Kling, Brown. Overail. Pfeister—once every twenty years is a big average for such a parade.

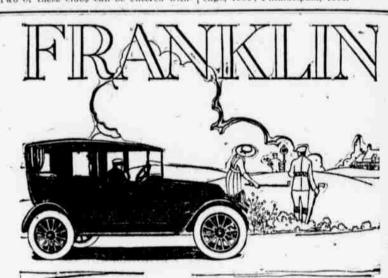
The Four Greatest

Which reminds us that a certain query has remained unanswered for several days. The query, from one of the smaller Fan provinces, desires to know the four greatest ball clubs of the last twenty years, the little of the last twenty years, is a big average for such a parade.

The Four Greatest

Which reminds us that a certain query has remained unanswered for several days. There are six clubs that might well figure in such a debate—the Balimore Orioles of 1854; the Boston Nationals of 1887, the Pittsburgh Club of 1902; the New York Giants of 1905, the Chicago Cubs of 1906, the Philadelphia Athletics of 1911.

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