an earful.

that is.

## **EXANDER EVIDENTLY LIKES PITCHING BASEBALL BETTER THAN PITCHING CIRCUS TENTS**

## **J'INNIS CROWNED MONARCH OF** FIRST SACK WITHOUT ARGUMENT; FIGURES PROVE HIS SUPREMACY

"Stuffy" Has Compiled a Batting Average of .315 in 892 Games of Big League Baseball, and if Further Evidence Is Needed Keep on Reading

THO is the greatest first baseman of all time? Something of a task to answer such a query, and probably if the question is put to a hundred men there will be fifty separate and distinct answers. Some will mention the name of Konetchy, others will shout from the housetops that Chase and Chance were the first-sackers ar excellence, and there will be those who pin their faith to Jake Daubert, Butch Schmidt, Fred Luderus or Kitty Bransfield. All will have arguments on which to base their choice, but only those who murmur the name of "Stuffy" McInnis can stand right up and point with pride to the figures. The supporters of Stuffy don't have to argue. All they have to do is to get out the averages of the last few years and silently submit them, for McInnis, according to the figures, is the greatest first baseman of modern times. What makes a great first baseman is naturally the first question to be answered. In considering first-sackers it is not necessary to say much about base-running, ability to score runs or extra-base hitting.\* A guardian of the initial sack shauld be rated on his ability to field ground and thrown balls, foul flies and on his batting.

No one who follows the game would think for a minute of criticizing the fding of McInnis. Ferhaps there have been first basemen who fielded as well as Stuffy, but he never had a superior. At handling balls he is a marvel without an' equal. The manner in which he scoops up grounders is uncanny, and he can go just as far as any of them for a foul fly. Certainly, as a fielding first baseman, McInnis is supreme. Now about his batting, and here is where the figures come in.

#### A Double Portion of Figures, a la McInnis

HOLKE, of the Giants, ranks first with an average of .351, but it must be remembered that the young New Yorker has taken part in only thir; y-four games and therefore cannot be considered the leader. After he has gone through a season or two and played in the neighborhood of \$00 games it can be said that Holke "belongs," but not until then. Next on the list is McInnis, and he virtually can be considered the leader. "Stuffy" has taken part in \$92 games during his major league career and has compiled the splendid batting average of .315. His nearest competitor is Daubert, of Brooklyn, who has played 980 games and piled up a batting average of .310. Chase, in 1361 games, has an average of .290, while Hoblitzel, in 1172 games, has batted .282. Fred Luderus is considerably further down the list with an average of .277 in §93 games. There are the figures, and if they don't prove the class of "Stuffy" McInnis there is no virtue in averages.

But if is not only as a fielder and batter that McInnis is a valuable player. The Athletics' first-sacker is one of the easiest men to manage in the game. He is a victim of only one habit and is helpless to throw it off-"Stuffy" is an inveterate reader, his appetite for literature is insatiable and the way he rips through the world of letters is beautiful to witness. He is modest and wears the same size lid he did when he joined the Athletics, a raw recruit. Here is an instance of MoInnis's sense of decency and clean dealing;

#### Asked Connie to Cut His Salary

DURING the painful slump which McInnis suffered last season he went to Connie Mack and explained that he did not think he was earning his salary and virtually asked for a cut. Connie laughed and told his first baseman that he wasn't getting all he was worth; and what was more, no manager in the game could afford to pay him all he was worth. How McInnis regained his stride after having his broken nose treated by a specialist is now history. During the last few months of the 1917 season he raised a batting average which was not much larger than the size of his hat to .295.

#### Might as Well Sell the Club as to Sell Hornsby

IF THE report that Mrs. Helen Hathaway Britton, owner of the St. Louis Cards is seriously considering selling Roger Hornsby and Catcher Snyder to the Chicago Cubs is true, baseball is about to suffer a blow from which it will not re cover for some time. St. Louis should be a good baseball town-as a matter of fact it is a good baseball town-but the National League fans out there are weary of supporting a losing team. The one bright spot in half a dozen years of discouragement was the acquisition of Roger Hornsby, one of the finest looking players who has emerged from the sticks in a decade. The rooters accepted his coming as a harbinger of better things, and if Mrs. Britton makes the mistake of disposing of him at any price she might just as well lock all the gates of her park except the one which is used by the ball players. If the deal is made every club in the league will suffer, for a visit to St. Louis will be just about as profitable as promoting chess matches.

The mere fact that the offer was made proves how dangerous it is to have a man in charge of a club who does not understand baseball. Charles Weeghman, president of the Cubs, is a sportsman through and through. He is determined to give Chicago a winning team and is willing to dig deep into the bankroll in order to accomplish his purpose. But Weeghman forgets that baseball is not confined to one town. The wise magnate never overlooks for an instant the fact that the success of one club in the league makes for the success of every other club in the league, and if the St. Louis fans refuse to support the Cardinals every club in the league is going to feel it.

The move also would be particularly disastrous for the reason that Fielder Jones, manager of the Browns, apparently has something of a ball club this season, and if the fans turn their backs on the Nationals they will not be facing a baseball famine by any means. The thing for Weeghman to do is to forget all bout Hornsby and Snyder and every other star in the league who does not belong

WHITMAN TO STOP **DARCY-DILLON GO** Investigation by Governor

May Bar Australian' From New York Ring

### OBJECTS TO "SLACKER"

ALBANY, Feb. 28.-Governor Whitman has started an investigation which may end in stopping the Les Darcy-Jack Dillon fight scheduled to be held in Madison Square Garden next Monday night.

The Governor looks upon the attempt to pull off this prize-ring battle, with a "slacker" as the hero, as an effront to public decency. This is particularly so in view of the fact that the fight has been arranged with a brazen show of contempt for the Governor's message to the Logisor the Governor's message to the Legisature demanding the abolition of boxing in this State.

On the heels of this investigation no strong opposition developed to the plan of some logislators to make the boxing re-peal take effect next January. strong

It was charged that this amendment to he bill is primarily in the interest of Grant lugh Browne, the promoter who has taken ver Mudison Square Garden. When it became known that Governor

Whitman proposes to stop the Darcy-Dillon fight, if he can find legal justifica-tion for such a course, there was a sudden Enter the Brave Hunter shift in the action on the Slater repeal bill. Though formal announcement was made that the commission had voted to re-port the bill, that plan was suddenly abandoned and action deferred by the judiciary committee for one week. "Ah ha " muttered the metropolitan nim-rod, "I see a pheasant in the offing. An animal like that should not be allowed to animal like that should not be allowed to hang around very long, because they are always annoying the animals. BANG<sup>11</sup> Herman suddenly lost all interest in the work on hand, leaped up in the air and ran around in circles. The city chap attempted to apologize, but Mr. Fisher would whave none of it. He ordered the marksman off hit premises, and now doesn't know whether it is more of an insult to be shot or to be mistaken for a bheasant-whatever

A precedent for prohibiting the appear-nnes of Darcy in the ring is found in the action of the old boxing commission, which harred Jack Johnson from all bouts held inder the supervision of the commission. The investigation which the Governor has ordered to find if there is any legal way of stopping the Darcy-Dillon fight will be con ducted by Franklin B. Lord, counsel to the Governor. Lord now has under considera-tion the charges against Boxing Commisloner Wenck

#### AL M'COY STAYS LIMIT: JACK DILLON SLIPPING

NEW YORK, Feb. 28 -- New York fight fans are very much disappointed today. They are in that frame of mind because Dillon, with his armful of left and right hand smashes, didn't knock out Al McCoy in their ten-round bout at the Broadway Sporting Club

Criticism is being heaped on the head of "He isn't fast. He can't hit. He's slipping

Think of anything derogatory to a highclass hoxer and apply it to Dillon and you will have the general New York opinion. Dillon whipped McCoy, and he did it with just as much of a flourish as any one could have expected. The fact that he could have expected. The fact that he didn't knock out the alleged champion must

be put down as a good mark for McCoy and not as a drawback to Dillon's record.

#### GEORGE WHITTED MAY NOT PLAY BASEBALL THIS YEAR

DURHAM, N. C., Feb. 28.-George Whit-ted, outfielder of the Phillies, said that he had received a letter from President Baker. in which the latter declined to give him the increase in salary he asked for. Whitted says negotiations are off, and that he may not play ball this year. understood here that Whitted de-

mands \$5500 a year and has been offered a contract for \$4500. Last season Whitted received a salary of \$4000 and was pre-sented with \$500 at the close of the season as a reward for his good work.

theatre, because there is none; they can't go to the opera for the same reason, and at times it gets quite monotonous-especially in the afternoon. I have watched my riends and neighbors wandering aimlessiy id the streets, just aching to find something More of the Same "Saturday afternoon is the big day in Leiperville, and something must be done to provide amusement for the people and

to be mistaken for a pheasant--whatever

Another howl is being raised about the actions of the baggers of big game in their

strenuous attempts to shoot wild turkeys. For more than a year flocks of tame birds have been at the mercy of the hunters, who evidently believe that there's no dif-

For the reason the voters of Mifflin have advertised their lands against the visits of the intrepid marksmen. The tract con-sists of 3000 acres and is known as the

hunter's paradise because it consists of upland and vale, the very best for trailing small game in Pennsylvania.

James F Dougherty, the Baron of Lieper-ville, visited the city today with a regular idea, which he hopes to spring upon the

good people in his domain in the near future. The Baron constantly has the welfare of his subjects foremost in his mind and for months has been studying the problem of

how to make them happ. Hence the big idea, which he explains as follows: "Out in the country." orated Mr. Dough-erty. "the good people miss the life and gayety of the city. They cannot go to the

The Baron Has an Idea

keep them from wearing out our streets In the summer they have ball games; but now there is nothing. "Now I have an idea." continued the "Now I have an idea. continued the Baron, letting us in on the secret, as he shifted gears to get a fresh start, "and that idea is something GREAT and WON-DERFUL. I shall give my subjects a



By LOUIS H. JAFFE

PHILADELPHIA'S police department is P way up in the air, and it is not because of the high cost of living or because of the war. It has come about this way. Harry Ramsey, a perfectly good middleweight boxer until he joined the force and thus had to retire from professional ranks, has been aching for a regular bout, and to get a regular bout he came out holdly with a defi to Les Darcy. To prove how good he defi to Les Darcy. To prove now gots no was, Rainsey went right along and ad-mitted that he was the champion of the police department. Ramsey probably for-got, or he didn't care, that Eddie Haney vore brass buttons and carried a club, and that Haney also used to be a boxing man. Anyway, when Officer Haney got wind of Ramsey's self-accepted laurels, he went up higher than Georges Carpentier ever did in his aeropiane, and with him arose a lot of other guardians of the law. Now there is much talk of a match to decide the heavyweight champlonship of the police force, and it may be staged at a local club shortly. Haney is an ordinary policeman, while Ramsey does traffic duty, but this question is not raising any rumpus. Who is the champion cop-boxer is that which is to be

## CITY CHAP, WITH DESIRE TO OUTSHINE MRS. BRITTON TO RETIRE BUFFALO BILL, SHOOTS AT PHEASANT AND RUINS GAME IN MIFFLIN COUNTY

Farmer Working in Field Is Mistaken for Ferocious "Animal" and Now Nimrods Are Barred. Baron Dougherty Has New Idea

#### By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

IT WILL be a closed season for the brave, intrepid hunters in Mifflin County, Pa., this year. The official lid has been clamped down on the famous outdoor sport tighter There will be no music, except from padded gloves. I shall give my boxing matinees on each and every Saturday, and the first will be held at the end of this week. It's a swell scheme and a fine idea." down on the famous outdoor sport tighter than ever before, and the farming gentleman ever before, and the farming gentle-men who own the land have issued an edict that the nimrods take it on the run. From now on any guy all dressed up like our standing army and carrying his trusty double-barrelet herdinary in the starty

#### **Boxing Matinces**

standing army and carrying his trusty double-barreled howitzer will be chased as no one has been chased before, and politely but firmly requested to return no more. And This does not mean that the Baron will run the shows himself. Far be it from that. He cares nothing for the sordid business end of a project such as that. He furnished the ideas and some one else there is a reason. Gather closely and get Herman Fisher is a farmer. This is not a knock at Herman, but merely some local color to describe his occupation. Anyway, Herman was working in the field one nice.

Herman was working in the field came a bright, sunshing day, when along came a city chap with a keen desire to prove that Buffalo Bill was a piker and he was the best marksman in the world. He scanned the horizon for something to shoot at and spied Herman working in the field. ince idoi of Lepervine. All balley will act as impresario of the squared circle and book the acts, which he personally will supervise during the performance. The first bill has not yet been announced, but it is said it will be so good that even Leiper-ville will sit up and take notice.

AS BASEBALL MAGNATE Only Woman Club Owner Plans

Sale of Cardinals for Total of \$350,000

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 28.-Mrs. Helene Hathaway Robinson Britton will retire from baseball and sell the St. Louis National League franchise to a syndicate on Saturday if her terms are accepted. J. C. Jones. who served as president of the Cardinals in 1911 and a prominent local attorney, is handling the deal for both sides. Jones holds an option for the purchase of the Cards which expires Saturday. The syndicate, if it makes the purchase, is to pay \$25,000 Saturday, to be followed by a cash sum of \$150,000 and \$175,000, to be paid within three years, making the total figure \$\$50,000.

Attorney Jones refused to divulge the names of the syndicate, but the men who are putting up the money will be exposed if the sale is completed. Jones declares that He furnished the ideas and some one else carries out the scheme and reaps in the profits. That is the reason Mr. Dougherty is a real Baron Mr. Lucius Bailey, known as "Lew" to Mr. Lucius Bailey, known as "Lew" to the the club will be reconstructed from top to bettom. It will be capitalized at \$500,000, of which \$100,000 will be used for the pur-

chase of new ball players. Mrs. Britton refused to give an interview when seen last night. Since her divorce she has remained in the background and has denied herself public pleasures, remaining at home with her two children. Her mana-ger, Huggins, is expected here this eve-



ning. It is reported that "Hug" is a mem-ber of the syndicate and will have close to \$75,000 of the new stock.

When local fans received the announcement that Mrs. Britton was to sell they received the information with favor. The Cardinals have been a losing proposition for years and years because no money has been spent for new strength

As late as last week Hornaby and Snyder

were to be sold by Mrs. Britton to the Chi-cago club for \$75,000. When the syndicate received this information they were ready to call off the negotiations. Manager Hug-gins refused to O. K. these deals and they fell through.

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to the Chicago Cubs and who is an institution in the town in which he is playing. . . .

ANAGER HUGGINS, a man wise in the ways of baseball, realizes the Minevitable result of such a deal going through and has taken a stand against it. Furthermore, Miller is said to have an option on the club and is negotiating for the money with which to purchase it. Let it be hoped that he succeeds, for under his direction the St. Louis Cards should prosper and the National League become stronger.

#### In Which the Young Golfers File Their Orders

IT WOULD seem as though the youth of the land have filed their golf orders and during the coming season must be served. The latest exploit is the work of the Philadelphia youngster, Norman Maxwell, who has been burning up the trails wherever his path has led recently, and Robert Hunter. These two golfers amazed nearly every follower of the winter-resort tournaments at Pinehurst. Hunter, a Connecticut lad, played an absolutely unswaying round, in which he clipped off hole after hole in par figures. He shaved his golf card right down to the bone. It takes the very best kind of golf with scarcely any slips at all to break forty for nine holes. There is no chance to slip up on approaches, the most scientific of shots, and then take three putts. There is little chance to tell of the putts that hung on the lip of the cup and wouldn't go down. There is no chance for shots out of bounds. There is little chance to get in bunkers, lose distance on the out and then come home to tell of breaking forty. A golfer must bug the center of the course all the way and must play the shots correctly as they come. A thirty-six is even fours, and that is a tremendous pace upon which hitch one's ambition. But Hunter lost only a couple of shots all the way and finished in seventy-six over the difficult No. 3 course.

#### Maxwell Goes a Lot Better Than That

OVER the same course Maxwell, who is still nineteen years old despite the passage of time, got about as discouraging a start as any golfer has ever faced. He had to start off like a typical dub, quavering in every limb with the desire to make good and qualify in figures not too monstrous. Maxwell whacked his ball with cocky aplomb into the misty distance. But it developed a roundhouse curve, and took to the pines, hence Pinehurst. Maxwell had to play Willie Hoppe stuff to pry his hall out of the shrubbery. It took three masse shots with his putter to coax the cussed pill into the open, and then the youngster vented his wrath on it by taking the green on the next shot. In two putts he was down and had arnered all of seven strokes. This is a total that Maxwell has not had on any ole in a long series of red, red moons. To get it right off the bat, when his heart's ire was on the medal, was a blow. His recovery shows that the youth has the stuff, and Philadelphians will have to cling to their scalps when he returns to town, if he brings his game back with him. For Maxwell went the other eight holes to the turn in thirty-three, one over fours, and then kept right on going and the bend in thirty-five, one under fours. It was a startling come-back. one great question pulsating in the bosoms of local fans is whether Maxwell shoot his Southern paces over the Northern routes. Few can stop him if he does.

#### Princeton Looks Like Favorite in Race Saturday

DRINCETON'S victory over Harvard last Saturday night at Baltimore in a one-mile relay race puts the Tigers very much in the running for the three-lap relay race, one of the events at the indoor intercollegiate championships at the Building next Saturday night. Cornell, Harvard and Pennsylvania have all been counting on adding this race to their list, so that Princeton's speed ne as somewhat of a surprise to the rooters for these teams. Princeton a very good position for the short-distance relays this year, as in Moore fastest man in college today up to a quarter mile. The Baltimore ed that Moore is running very fast, as he defeated Wilcox, the Harvard hant, with seeming case. Harvard men state that they will have a r team this week, as Meanix will replace Rowse. Meanix is almost as ox, so that his addition to the team will make it at least fifteen yards th Harvard, Cornell, Penmylvania and Princeton all with extra fast arvard, Cornell, Pennhylvania and Princeton all with extra fast should be one of the best of the entire winter season. Reports to the effect that Bartsch, Acheson, Shelton and Grim are going will surprise every one. The raised turns will help the Cornell is almost exactly the same shape as the one they train on in the line Cornell rooters will be down here in a crowd, ready to the content time will will whatever event it sparts in.

Art Maxirl's second bout in the East will be with Marts Farrell, of New York, who really not benifinal to the set-to between Les Da in the semifinal to the set-to between Les Da in and Jack Dillon in New York next Monday and Instructure lack of training, made a good impression here against the Cave-man, Willie Loughlin.

decided

Irish Pater Cline boxes Johnny Netson in the star bout at the Cambria Club Friday night, and then the New Yorker will leave shortly for the coast, where he will meet Will Hoppe, a clever intriveright, in Friero, A Cline-Nelson match has been banging fire for some time. Andy Hurns and Indian Rus-sell are booked for the semi. Other bouts are Young Mulligan vs. Mike Daley. Young Thermey vs. Joe Wright and Young Carlin vs. Eddie Miter.

Darby Caspar. of Smoky Hollow, has a diff. oult proposition on his hands tomorrow night at the Broadway Club when he opposes Eddle Wagond, the hard-bitting Italian. This bout is the second half of a double wind-up, Loo Vin-ent ys. Frankle Williams being the other fea-ture strap. Bob Heebe vs. Toung Artie, Charley Coyle vs. Jack Diamond and Frankle McFad-den vs. Joe Fitzgerald are other bouts. -----

Johnny Tillman, who gave Benny Leonard his hardest bout in this city, will appear in combat with the hard-punching New Torser again March 12. They will box at the Olympia at 188 pounds, ringuide. To zet the return date with Leonard. Tillman agreed to guarantee Benny 11250, while Johnny boxes on a per-centage basis.

Tommy Relly has clinched a good bantam bout for his opening wind-up at the Nonparell lub next Tuesday high! Johnny Maloney, the ormer amateur champion, will pair off with Barney Hahn. Although Maloney has been on the side-lines for some time, he has been keep-ing himself in good shape, preparatory to a match with Joe O'Connell. Maloney will have to beat Hahn to get another bout with Kayoe loss.

Eddie Morgan, the clever English feather



NEW YORK-Jack Dillon defeated Al Mc-Coy, Joe Lynch autpointed Jack Sharker. ST. PAUL-Battling Levinsky won from Billy Miskie. BOSTON-George Chaney was disqualified against Frankie Britt, third.

of Ring Bouts Last Night

**Evening Ledger Decisions** 

weight, has been signed by his manager. R. O. Gilkes, for a ten-round match with Artis Root, who has been boxing so well here, in Cleveland next Wednesday night. Morgan, when in shape, is as good a featherweight as any, barring Johnny Kilbane.

Harry Smith's services are wanted in Potts-ville. The local southpaw probably will box up the State in two weaks. A Pottsville promoter is trying to get either Gussie Lewis, of this city, or Billy Bevan to meet Smith.

Johnny Mayo is the most sensational honor in this city. Whether winning or losing, Mayo is always the aggressor and ceally "makes" the fight, usually turning the tide of victory with a single wallop. As some one said the other night, "All Mayo has to do is land once, and then cross out the other suy's points,"

#### Lafayette, 37; Gettysburg, 31

EASTON Pa., Feb. 28.-Lafayette defeated the Gettysburg basketball team by the score of 87 to 31. Lafayette held the lead from the first few minutes, but Gettysburg kept dog-sing her steps all the way.



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