

ALL THAT HUGHIE JENNINGS HAS TO DO NOW IS TO DIG AN ALEXANDER OUT OF THE STICKS

HUGHIE JENNINGS TO BLAME FOR DETROIT PENNANT FAMINE? IF NOT—WHY NOT? ASK CRITICS

Freckled One Has Failed to Develop a Single Notable Pitcher in Six Years and Herein Lies His Heel of Achilles

THE Stove League season is about over and the raucous voice of the umpire will soon be prodding the fan to murderous threats and vicious deeds; but before turning the jaded eye on the action in the various training camps it might be well to consider a question which has passed around the hearth all winter. "What is the matter with Hughie Jennings?" It sounds harmless enough and we are willing to bite. "What is the matter with Hughie Jennings?" The answer is that for seven years Hughie has piloted the greatest offensive baseball machine in the country and has not come better than fairly close to winning a pennant since 1908. The Tigers have an outfield second to none in the game, the greatest individual star that baseball has ever produced and a fine fielding club. Why, then, have the Bengals failed to tear the American League to shreds and saunter to victory over the mangled ruin of the other seven clubs? There is only one answer, and it is offered by the friends of Hughie as a perfectly good alibi: Jennings has never had a first-class No. 1 pitching staff. His team can go get runs any old time, but so can other teams, for the very good reason that the Tigers' hillmen are weak. Detroit's main line of defense is easily pierced and the entire works put to rout. All this is very true, but as an alibi it will not serve, for there appears to be just one man to blame for the pitching weakness, and that is Hughie Jennings himself.

The freckled one has an unlimited bankroll behind him; he has capable scouts combing the bushes all the time. Probably since 1909 Jennings has had a hundred pitchers working for him, and he hasn't developed one star out of the lot. This is an unenviable distinction enjoyed by Jennings alone, for every other big league manager has developed at least one good pitcher in the same length of time.

Hughie Seems to Lack the Necessary Patience

SO IT is that many are forced to the conclusion that the leader of the Tigers has not the knack of developing hillmen. A wonderful tactician on the ball field he undoubtedly is; an inspiring leader, an adept at developing infielders and outfielders; he is falling simply because he does not understand pitchers. It is said that Hughie, instead of laboring patiently with a promising young finger, loses patience with him if he does not show something right away, and shoves him back to the sticks. He does not nurse them along the way McGraw did Terreau and Schupp, Miller Huggins did Doak, Robinson did Pfeffer, Clarke did Mammaux, Carigan did Shore, Ruth and Leonard, all of whom were rough and wild when they "came up." It took patient, painstaking effort to develop most of the present stars of the majors—the sort of nursing that Jennings apparently does not understand.

Just who has Jennings developed? Since the stars faded whom he found on the roster when he took charge, no really great youngster has flashed into the limelight wearing a Tiger uniform. Coveleskie, the best pitcher he had last year, is a veteran. Leave him off the list and what remains? A few youngsters who are fair and nothing more. Hughie hasn't a real pitcher today that he has developed himself. True, he has brought a number of pitchers to the front, but all of them have been little more than mediocre. There is not one who can be placed on the list with Alexander, Schupp, Ruth, Shore, Leonard, Faber, Morton—not one who has really made an indelible impression on baseball.

It is something of a tragedy to see a man who is undeniably such a great leader and baseball manager as Jennings falling because he seems to lack one qualification for success. Is the indictment that Hughie does not know a pitcher when he sees one true? Or is it because Dame Fortune has refused to allot him in all these years a few youngsters who could be developed into pennant-winning stars?

HUGHIE may never win another pennant, but he is a manager who understands how to give the spectators the worth of their money. He has never permitted his team to play indifferent, listless baseball, and as long as he leads them they will be an aggressive, fighting team.

Comiskey Admits White Sox Will Win Pennant

THE Chicago White Sox believe they are headed for a pennant. They admit it. President Charles Comiskey comes right out and assures the populace that there is nothing to it, and, barring accidents, the 1917 pennant will be flapping in the breezes of Lake Michigan next season. The Chicago impresario says that his team would have won last season had it not been for the loss of several stars at crucial moments. Comiskey points with pride to Eddie Collins, "Happy" Felsch and Ray Schalk and loudly inquires, "How can they stop us?"

At first base Manager Rowland has his problem. This was the stumbling block last year. There are four candidates for the job—Fournier, Hasbrooke, Henry and Jourdan. Fournier, a heavy batter, is weak as a fielder. Jourdan, Henry and Hasbrooke are youngsters. Jourdan comes from St. Joseph, Mo., where he hit above .300 and stole more than thirty bases. Eddie Collins will be found at second base. Last year Eddie was field captain, but there is a possibility that Rowland will relieve him of this, as he believes Collins's hitting was impaired by the worries. On the other side of the diamond, Buck Weaver will play either short or third base. He can deliver in either. Candidates for the other job are Terry, McMullin—old-timers—"Swede" Risberg and Bruce Hartford. Risberg comes from the Vernon club of the Pacific Coast League, and is said to be a bear at the shortfield position. If he makes good on his press notices, Rowland's troubles will be at an end on that side of the diamond and Buck Weaver will play third. Terry and McMullin will do in a pinch, but both are light hitters and below championship caliber. Hartford was drafted from Des Moines and is said to have the making of a big league shortstop. He formerly was with Cleveland.

Only One Outfield Position Is Open

JOE JACKSON, one of the hardest hitters in the league, will be in left field. "Happy" Felsch, also a slugger, will be in center. Rowland will give several athletes a chance for the right-field job. Last year Shane Collins held down this position. He is an in-and-out. Among other candidates are Eddie Murphy, formerly of the Athletics; Nemo Liebhold, formerly with Cleveland; Ross Eildred, secured from the coast, and Bruno Haas, drafted from Wilkes-Barre. The pitching staff, which was somewhat of a disappointment last season, will not see much change. Rowland will be equipped with such right-handers as Joe Benz, Jim Scott, Eddie Cicotte, Red Faber, Elwood Martin and Mel Wolfgang. Faber and Scott were out of condition during most of last season. Martin is the only newcomer. He comes from Oakland, in the Coast League. For pitchers Rowland has Red Russell, Williams and Danforth.

Spare the Skull and Build the Biceps

PARENTS who would have their children famous at a youthful age may well take a lesson from the career of the eminent Mr. Jess Willard. Our latest social note on the activities of this foremost citizen is to the effect that he is dragging down a matter of \$250,000 the year, but from a much more reliable source comes the assertion that this amount is greatly exaggerated and that the heavyweight champion ONLY gets \$3000 the week for twenty-five weeks. It hardly seems enough. Another young man of Willard's age making in a year the slender amount of Willard's stipend in a week would come under the head of being "fairly" successful. At least he would not be thought a "flivver" not by a wide margin. Willard's is REAL fame. Does the heavyweight hulk but stop in a wayside tavern to dally with a bottle of beer, a crowd gathers. Does the leading exponent of being hit on the nose and turning one to the enemy in retort but set foot on Chestnut street, immediately the busy mart is choked, traffic is stalled and there is a bedlam of citizenry jostling vigorously, the one against the other, in a mad effort to get a single look at the beefy bulwark. Does Jess but do his bit, short though it is, twice a day under a circus tent, six days a week, comes at the end of that time the above-mentioned round-up of mazuma to the hollow of his spreading palms. What else does life hold for us poor mortals in this short span than this, the adoration of the populace and its golden tribute?

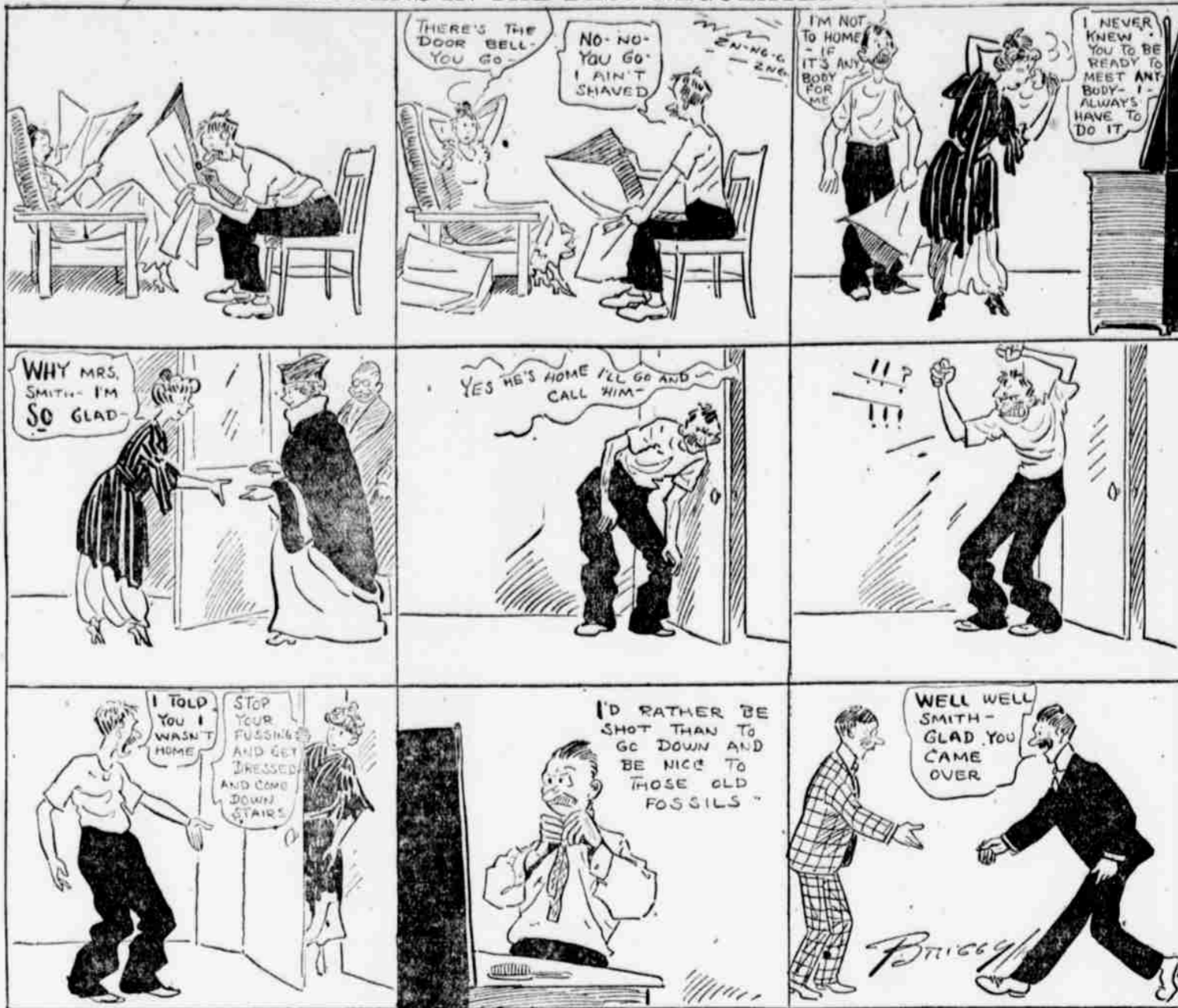
Here No Flowing of the Midnight Oil

NO PORING over textbooks of a stilly night, no study of the lives of great Americans, no sparing of the rod to spoil the child, no careful development of the skull has brought this glowing Goliath to his hour of triumph. Alack, no! 'Twas a rollicking life on the plains, a rounding-up the steers; 'twas a bit of squaring off with an expatriated negro in a twenty-four-foot ring; 'twas six-feet-six and 235 pounds on the hoof that brought him the admiration and hat-throwing of the multitude. Is there any fame like this for the cunning calculations of him, he of highly trained, delicately balanced mental apparatus? Is there glory in the brain power of a scientific discovery or in the creation of a long-span bridge? There is, but not in this world like the power of the mighty fist. Have you a little Jess Willard in your home? Then all's well with America.

The Rippling Brook and "Pop" Go on Forever

"POP" GEIERS is only sixty-five years old. He is calmly preparing for another season as a driver of trotters and pacers. The sultan of the sulky, bruised and battered by many accidents around the half-mile dirt seepways, bowed down and knotted from his long career, still ranks as one of the greatest horse men that the harness game has ever known. This year will be the thirty-ninth season behind the reins he loves as human beings, but the "Silent Reinsman" is just as keen as ever to get back to the wire. He will shortly leave his home in the South to come north for the winter and the veteran's life. But his wonder-ful vitality, his "never-say-die" spirit that has brought him out of many a box-in and a coming loss, first to the wire, pulled the old man through. His hands, almost a century old, because of coming to feel the reins tighten in his grasped, were back for the last burst of speed to

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES



RECORDS EXPECTED IN COLLEGE TANK

Penn Men Expected to Set New Marks in Individual Championships

When the pick and cream of the collegiate swimming world get together for their annual individual swimming championships in Weightman Hall on Saturday, March 24, some intercollegiate records are doomed to topple among the pile of debris of wrecked records of former years. With all of the swimmers of the larger colleges in the East taking part in these championships, it is safe to say that swimming enthusiasts in this section of the country will not have another chance in years to see such exhibitions as will take place at the end of this month.

Five Colleges Entered Columbia, Yale, Pennsylvania, Princeton and the City College of New York will have their best swimmers in these championships, which are held each year separate from the collegiate championships. The man winning first place in each of the events is considered the collegiate champion in that particular event. The annual intercollegiate championship is run off each winter between the swimming teams of the colleges mentioned above, and the team securing the most wins over its competitors is awarded the Intercollegiate Swimming Association championship.

Competing in the fifty-yard dash, Yale will have some fast men in Schaefer, the blue captain, Mayer, and Ferguson. All of these men are certain to give a good account of themselves in this event. Simonton and Keiser, of Pennsylvania, will also be heard from.

Volmer, Columbia's versatile water athlete, will be the individual star of the meeting, he being credited as the fastest swimmer in the collegiate ranks today. Volmer not only holds intercollegiate swimming championships, but he also holds American swimming records. His only competitor has been Columbia's star tank swimmer for the last two years and has been that team's most consistent and largest point scorer. Without Volmer, Columbia would not have been the fair way to an intercollegiate swimming championship this year.

In the plunge event for distance, Columbia and Yale seem to hold the reins in their hands. Yale has half a dozen good plungers who can go well over seventy feet. Columbia also has several good men, one of them being Levy, but in all of their performances this year the Morningside Heights lads have been somewhat erratic in their performances.

Penn Entries Coach George Kistler announced his entries yesterday afternoon for these individual championships, and it is certain that all of these men will give a good account of themselves in this annual classic. The entries will be the following: Fanny diving—Roat, Klein and Leopold; 50 yards, Simonton and Watts; 100 yards, Watta, Keiser and Russell; 220 yards, Russell and Keiser; plunger for distance, Birch, Scholz and Buckalove; freshman relay team, Shields, Bringhurst, Leopold and Keiser. The freshman relay event will be a new feature in this year's championship, and it is expected that the Red and Blue lads will be returned the winner in this event, for with Shields swimming anchor man on this quartet, the Quaker lads should experience little trouble in downing their opponents. This is a new race this year, and was included in the championships due to the fact that freshmen were prohibited from competing in the dual meets this winter.

SELLERS THAT CAN'T BUST BALL FIRST YEAR IN BIG LEAGUES HAVE HARD TIME KEEPING OFF THE SKID

By GRANTLAND RICE The Fallen For those who have fallen the living weep; Are they not asleep? They wait beyond where the shadows creep, But their dreams are deep. Since the way is short and the day is brief, Why should the world so waste its grief For those who have come to the end of the play In the old, brave way? "They have come to die!" you cry, agape. At the rolling drums. What if they have? Will you escape When the Hour comes?

JUST how far is the batting eye a developed institution? Can a weak batsman ever be turned into a strong one through training? Is batting a natural or a developed function? Take the four leading batsmen of the present epoch. Their names are Cobb, Speaker, Jackson and Collins. These men all started in as regulars with the .300 gimp. Which is to say that as regulars they started batting .300 from the jump, and have never struck below that figure for any reason. The same was true of Wagner. He broke in batting .309, and he traveled for seventeen years without slumping below this mark. Cobb, his first year as a regular, batting .325. Last year he batted .371; so he has advanced in his art. Collins, his first year as a regular, batting .346. Last season he fell away to .308. Collins has only improved his first year's mark twice in eight seasons. Hans Wagner started out batting .344. You can figure from this how much development he needed. Only upon rare occasions have batsmen who were poor hitters their first year out ever improved to any noteworthy extent.

Big league managers have long recognized this fact. They have turned back many a fielding star who was fast and skillful around infield or outfield in the knowledge that weak batting in the minor leagues generally means a lack of knack that can't be supplied. Managers have taken poor sellers and turned them in first-class products. But a man in the minors who can hit, unless he is abnormally slow, is always a prize. And most of those—not all, but the majority—who can hit in the minors can hit in the majors.

Time is still moving along. Of the \$100,000 fence-busting Athletic Infield of 1914 only one batted over .300 last year, and he barely managed to take the hurdle in the last two weeks.

Tennis fires the first shot in the inter-sectional program for 1917. The West, with Johnston and McLoughlin, has the advanced edge, but with George M. Church in the office, the Eastern barrier is no light one. Church dropped McLoughlin last summer at Forest Hills, but beating the Native Son upon his native heath is another rendezvous.

W. P. H. SWIMMERS BEAT LANSLOWNE

Holst Surprises Uhl in Fifty Event—Haverford Twirlers Report

West Philadelphia High School has the best claim to the scholastic swimming championship in this section, and from present indications the Speed Boys will have titling teams for the next few years. The nonletter swimmers surprised Lansdowne in the dual meet, winning by the large score of 41 to 12.

Lansdowne High's star point swimmer, Uhl, was beaten in both the 50 and 200 yard events. In the 50 he lost to Holst, Coach Anthony's young marvel. In the 200 event he was forced to lower his colors to Ommerie, another promising youngster. Holst, Ommerie, Sheridan, Beckel, Lind, Riddagh, Conwell and Swinton form a team of swimmers capable of bringing more than one title to Forty-eighth and Walnut streets.

Since giving Girard College credit in this column for its splendid showing in basketball this season a prominent official and basketball referee has pointed out that the Girard players form a team that is "easily the best in Philadelphia."

This official, who has refereed in the neighborhood of some half hundred scholastic basketball games with teams in the section between Easton, Pa., and Washington, D. C., says that Girard College is the best team he has seen in action.

Girard College has scored on an average of fifty points a game at home and also won from the George School team on the George School floor. It is the first time George School has lost a game at home in six years.

Coach J. B. McDermott turned out a great combination of youngsters, and he deserves all the more credit because every boy on the team is under eighteen years of age. Twirlers and catchers at the Haverford School reported to Coach Eckles and Bob Towne and are hard at it, awaiting a chance to get out in the open. Haverford School ended a very successful basketball season, and now all the Main Line athletes are turning their attention to baseball and track.

SAICO CLOTHES advertisement featuring a man in a suit and a hat. Text includes 'Save \$5 to \$8', 'ALWAYS \$10', 'The Barrister', 'CONSERVATIVE 3-BUTTON SACK', 'A GARMENT THAT WILL INSTANTLY APPEAL TO THE WEARER', '30 PATTERNS CASHMERE, WORSTEDS, TWEEDS, CHECKS, ETC.', 'DIRECT FROM FACTORY FLOOR TO WEAVER', 'J. SALSBERG SONS & CO.', 'S.E. Cor. 9th & Sansom Sts.', 'HALF BLOCK FROM CHESTNUT ST.'

REPUBLIC MOTOR TRUCKS advertisement. Text includes 'REPUBLIC FOR SERVICE', 'REPUBLIC MOTOR TRUCKS', 'ALMA, MICH.', 'The Natural Move for "S-H" to Make', 'Their business expanded far beyond expectations of a year ago. The Swain-Hickman Company, Inc., has moved its salesrooms and service depot to commodious quarters at 2116-18 Market street.', 'When the Republic Truck Company, of Alma, Mich., selected Swain-Hickman as its Philadelphia distributors it was but natural that these two powerful forces—so splendidly co-ordinated—would achieve unprecedented success in this territory.', 'But this success was preordained because of one big factor—the all-around quality that goes clear through Republic trucks.', 'Swain-Hickman wants you to know why Republic trucks are giving better service than their competitors, and therefore invites you to inspect the complete organization that is at the disposal of present as well as prospective owners—an organization whose every department is managed from the standpoint of true efficiency.', 'There's a Republic truck for every line of business.', 'Republic Dispatch, Model 9, maximum capacity 1500 pounds. Complete with express body, canopy top, side curtains, glass front, electric lights with generator and storage battery and electric horn. \$795; or with beautiful solid panel body, \$820.', 'Republic, Model 10, one-ton; stake or express body, seat and bow top included, \$1195.', 'Republic, Model 11, one-and-one-half-ton chassis, \$1375.', 'Republic, Model "A," two-ton chassis, \$1785.', 'Republic, Model "T," three-and-one-half-ton "dreadnought" chassis, \$2675.', 'F. O. B. ALMA, MICH.', 'Phones—Rate 2681, Service 3548', '2116-18 MARKET ST. Trénton Branch PHILADELPHIA 9 & 11 Fair St.', 'Service Station 2117-19 Ludlow St.', 'SWAIN-HICKMAN COMPANY, INC.'

Stearns advertisement. Text includes 'KNIGHT TYPE MOTOR', 'Stearns', 'Pioneering Is Secret of Stearns Success', 'THIS is the magnet that attracts buyers of the new Stearns-Knight four and eight-cylinder models.', 'For nineteen years Stearns has set the standard of mechanical perfection, successfully defying many would-be imitators.', 'Today the Stearns possesses every desirable attribute of a perfect car.', 'No other make of car embodies such evidence of the result of successful experimenting and corresponding refinements as in the present Stearns.', 'The first 4-cylinder American Knight car was a Stearns.', 'The first 8-cylinder Knight was a Stearns.', 'FOUR: Cloverleaf roadster, \$1400; touring car, \$1400; coupe, \$2000; limousine, \$2500; limousine brougham, \$3000; landaulet, \$3000; landaulet brougham, \$3100; Springfield, convertible, \$3500.', 'EIGHT: Roadster, \$2250; touring car, \$2500; coupe, \$3000; coupe, \$3500; limousine, \$4000; limousine brougham, \$4500; landaulet, \$4500; landaulet brougham, \$5000.', 'All prices F. O. B. Cleveland', 'Demonstration on Request', 'WILLIAM C. YERKES CO.', 'Phone Poplar 3531', 'Spring Garden at Broad', 'COLUMBIA A. C. JOSEPHY BURNS'

Suits or Overcoats advertisement. Text includes 'Suits or Overcoats TO ORDER \$11.80', 'See Our 7 Big Windows', 'PETER MORAN & CO. MERCHANT TAILORS', '8 & 2 COR. 5TH AND ARCH STS.', 'Broadway A. C.—Thursday Night Bobby Reynolds vs. Jack Dunleavy—OTHER DEAR CAT BATTLES—', 'COLUMBIA A. C. JOSEPHY BURNS'

SHOCK ABSORBERS advertisement. Text includes '10 Days Trial to Ford Owners at Our Risk', 'Let any dealer sell your car with them—ride on them 30 days—then if you prefer to ride in your Ford without a shock—the trial will cost you absolutely nothing.', 'Makes the Ford ride as smoothly and evenly as a \$2000 car.', 'SHOCK ABSORBERS', 'Are double acting, protecting Ford Cars from bumps and "bumps" too. Increases life of car. Attached without drilling or cutting. \$15.00 per set of four. Guaranteed.', 'GAUL, DERR & SHEARER CO.', 'Distributors 217 N. Broad St.'