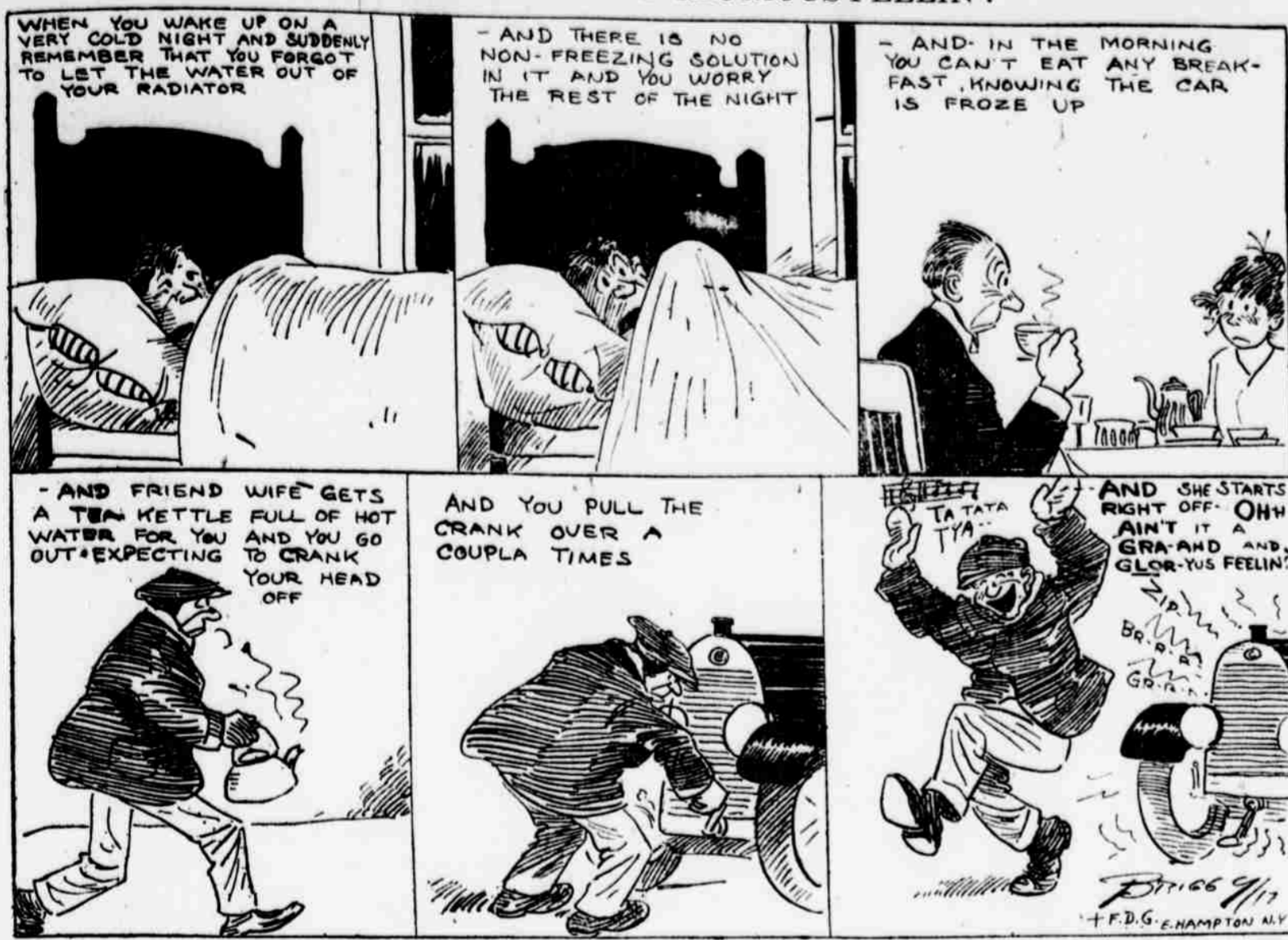


ALEXANDER'S ARM STRONG IN SPITE OF STRAIN IN GRABBING THAT BIG SALARY INCREASE

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?



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LOCAL STAR MERMAIDS WILL SWIM IN DETROIT

Miss Olga Dorfner and Miss Helen Pennacker, of the Philadelphia Turngemeinde, will compete in Detroit on March 28 in an exhibition swim at the Detroit Y. W. C. A.

Miss Dorfner will swim 100 yards against a team of five, each girl swimming one-fifth the distance.

Miss Pennacker has won the Middle Atlantic A. A. U. championship for four years. She defeated Miss Bartlett, the wonderful Metropolitan champion, in Atlantic City, and will be matched against Detroit's best divers.

POLO TOURNAMENT ON COAST GETS UNDER WAY TODAY

SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 20.—The representing the Meadowbrook Country Club, of Long Island, New York, and Miami Valley Club will meet today in the first game for the Pacific coast all-American polo trophy.

GROVER'S CURVES START WORKING

Phillies' Star Twirler Gives Demonstration That He's in Great Shape

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL. ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 20.—Grover C. Alexander is ready for another strenuous season, despite the huge salary which soon will be forced upon him in semi-monthly installments.

Alexander's playing has made a big hit with Manager Moran and his work shows that he is worth every cent of that \$12,500 he captured about a month ago.

Alex Introduces Himself. The other night Alex was talking with one of the most recent tourists at the Edge-water Inn and after discussing the war and the threatened railroad strike the subject of baseball was brought up.

"I understand that the Phillies are stopping here," said the tourist, who hails from New York, "and I am very anxious to see this fellow Alexander, who is getting such an enormous salary. It seems a shame to give a fellow like that so much money, because he probably doesn't know what to do with it.

"Well," drawled Alexander, "I think you have the wrong idea about ball players. I won't argue with you, but I am a member of the Philadelphia club and do a little pitching during the season. My name is Alexander."

The visiting tourist bent a hasty retreat and hasn't been seen since.

Game Called Off. Pat Moran called off the game today and put the regulars and rookies through two more strenuous workouts. Pat feels that the men will get more out of the practices than in a game and the hard work was substituted. However, the players are showing the effects of the daily toil and the hospital list is getting larger. Gandy pulled up yesterday with a charley-horse. Bancroft has a blistered foot, Duguey possesses a defective ankle and Ratscamp, a rookie catcher, has a sore arm. Bill Killifer also has lost some of his "pump." But he is out every day working as if nothing has happened.

Military drill still continues and the soldiers are making headway in the various formations. Sergeants Cravath and Fortune have studied up on the manual of arms and will pull some new stuff as soon as the men are able to march properly.

Killifer wore a "bean-ball-proof" cap while batting yesterday. The cap has a ridge of cork around the sides and will lessen the blow if hit on the head by a pitched ball.

FORM, GRACE AND EASE COMBINED, MARK STAR ATHLETES IN ACTION, FANS DECIDE IN HOTSTOVE CONFAB

By GRANTLAND RICE

AS THE last glowing embers from the Stove League were fading to ashes, the Fans Colony thereby gathered was discussing a new turn in connection with the National Franchise.

This debate was aimed at the playing form of the game, the list including those who led the field in this respect.

Form might be described as a combination of natural ease and orthodox methods in delivering results.

Or it might be described as a combination of grace and rhythm. In any event, you obtain the general drift.

The Leaders. The most graceful infelder that ever lived—the most natural—the one embodying the greatest amount of rhythm, beyond any doubt was Napoleon Lajoie, just retired from the main circle after twenty years.

Lajoie in his prime, although weighing 190 pounds and standing over six feet, was a section of human poetry in his work around second base. In places of starting for a ball he seemed to glide. There was always a certain carefree, relaxed ease in the way he handled even the hardest chances without even the semblance of effort. He was far more graceful than Eddie Ford. He was more effective, and even the lithe, willowy Johnny Evers was back of the big Frenchman in natural grace of play.

Lajoie's play at times gave out the appearance of indifference, whereas it was only the utter lack of waste motion.

And he was as natural and as graceful at bat as he was around second base.

Infield Rivals. Lajoie's closest infield rivals were Jimmy Collins at third, Bill Bradley at the same job and Hal Chase at first.

These all had symmetry and rhythm beyond measure, their work bringing a delight beyond any results obtained.

The Outfield Leader. The most graceful outfielder that we have ever seen is Trip Speaker. Speaker not only uses unexcelled grace in his department, but he carries an unusual amount of it to bat.

MACKIES IN SHAPE FOR BRAVE SERIES

Miami to Be Scene of Games, and Also A's Military Training

By a Staff Correspondent

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 21.—Sergeant Smart drilled his squad of Athletics military baseball men this morning in the usual setting-up exercises and school of soldiering. Amos Strunk, who was suffering with indigestion, appeared in uniform today and marked time to taps of baseball bats on the players' bench.

Following the drill, Sergeant Smart announced that he would take the soldiers to the armory Monday morning, where rifles will be put to arms. The army officer in charge of the drill here will accompany the Athletics team to Miami this evening, where morning drills will be held along the promenade of the hotel where the team will stop during the stay in the beautiful city.

A three game series with the Braves will be played. The first one is booked for tomorrow afternoon.

Only light practice will be staged this afternoon, as the players will have to pack their baggage and depart shortly after the evening meal. Quite a number of fans will accompany the Athletics to Miami. The hotels of all Florida cities are doing an overflowing business, as the weather is breaking all records here. The Mackmen have not lost a minute of time on account of atmospheric conditions. The only objection heard is that against the long ride tonight in the sweltering busses down to the Braves' battling field.

The Athletics are more popular here than ever in view of the fact that so many new faces are seen. Several men connected with organized baseball have visited the A's in action and have predicted a winning team. Connie Lewis, who passed through here on his way from Palm Beach to Auburn, N. Y., where he is soon to report for duty as an umpire in the New York State League, asserts that Mack's team should at least finish at the top of the second division.

Edward Lee King, who acted as utility man for the disconnected Shibe Park squad last year, has been worked at first base during practice games.

Pat Hales is certain to be carried along as an extra backstop this year, as Wally Schang may be sent to outfield duty in a pinch.

Valentine Pielich, the young catcher from Leonia, N. J., originally belonged to the Yankees, but Mack adjusted matters with the Highlanders' management.

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

JOSE RIVERS, the Mex. appears on the pugilistic horizon as a worthy rival for Benny Leonard for the lightweight knockout laurels. Since the first of the year Rivers has participated in six two-year fights in an unbroken run for his four terminating in unanimous wins for his sleep in three rounds; then Joe played nurse to Joe Sherman, who glided off to dreamland in three rounds; Frankie Murphy was landed in two and the other night Johnny kayoed in two and the other night Johnny kayoed in two and the other night Johnny kayoed in two.

O'Leary was knocked out in the eleventh. Johnny Griffiths and Ritchie Mitchell are Rivers' only 1917 opponents, who have stayed the limit with the Mexican. Rivers' last night passed through Philadelphia on his way to New York, where he meets Jimmy Duffy Friday night. His manager, Bob Laga, dropped off to consult local matchmakers about River's services, and matchmakers about River's services, and matchmakers about River's services.

It is probable the Mexican will make his first Philadelphia appearance the latter part of April. Laga denies the reports from Columbus that O'Leary and Rivers were re-matched after Joe knocked out Johnny.

Benny Leonard's schedule is well filled. Tomorrow night Benny tackles Packer Hontony in New York, March 23 he meets Fred Welsh and on April 5 Leonard faces Phil Bloom in a twelve-rounder at Youngtown, Pa.

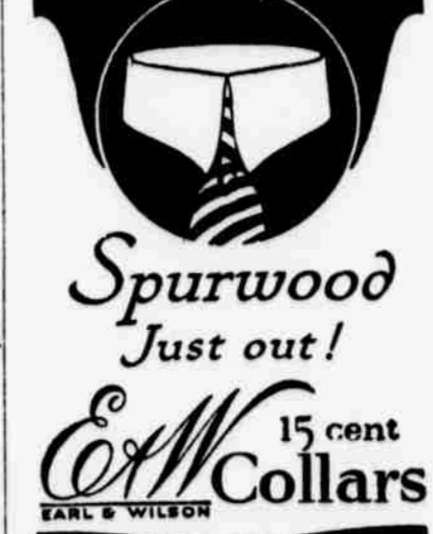
Murray Taylor plans to put on an exceptionally good battle tomorrow night for the benefit of Sandy McNeill, local golf expert.

Evening Ledger Decisions of Ring Bouts Last Night

NEW YORK—Bob Devere defeated Jim Finn. Gus Clark boxed Frank Brown, Warren Casar knocked out Lew Russell, fourth; Red Monroe won from Joe Paul, Easy Lawson and Willie Harris, after scoring double knockdown for nine seconds, drew. LANCASTER—Leo Hunk defeated Danny Kitchell. Willie Franklin won from Brock Taylor. Young Glosch knocked out Kid Jones, first; Joe Becker drew with Joe Metz. Kid Brock stopped Cruiser Fraser, first. LEHANY—Kid Alberts and Young Nelson drew. Young Dundee and Young Zarine. BALTIMORE—Batting Murray won from Frankie White. ALBANY—Chick Hayes outpointed Jabez White. PITTSBURGH—Harry Greb knocked out Tommy Gavenas, fifth. BOSTON—Joe Eagan won from Mike O'Dowd.

The usual program, with Tommy Jamison and Al Traubman in the wind-up, is well put together. Bobby McCall vs. Harry Kilburn, Frankie Williams vs. Young Lawrence, Harry Leonard vs. Joe Wright and Batting Mack vs. Young Patrone are the other numbers.

Johnny Tille in boxes Harry Pierce at President R. L. Knight. The match is scheduled for fifteen rounds at 140 pounds ringside.



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