ILLIES MUST BRACE OR THEIR GOLIATH ENDEAVOR AGAINST GIANTS WILL PROVE FUTILE

GRAW'S CLUB IS PLAYING GREAT LL, AND MORANMEN HAVE TOUGH WEDNESDAY-TO-SATURDAY SERIES

hils May Be Wandering Way Down Where Macks Roamed for Two Years Unless New Yorkers' Spurt Is Stopped Here

18 to be fervently hoped that the Phils will get together in the next two days, rget their mistakes of the past and play the game they are capable of playing. of the biggest jobs they ever faced will start next Wednesday, and unless in's men are in first-class shape a heavy pall of gloom will settle over the ry at Broad and Huntingdon streets. Muggsy McGraw and his high-priced troupe will be with us for a four-day stay after Brooklyn departs, and se Glants are playing swell baseball at the present writing. Only two games been dropped and the club is leading the league by a nice, comfortable mar-St. Louis is in second place, but only the weaker western clubs have been ed and the Cards cannot be taken seriously. The real strength is in the East, nd the battles this week will give us more of a line on the relative power of the entrants. If the Phils hit the skids again they will find themselves roosting in the p. damp, dark cellar and suffer the agonies of the Athletics for two years

However, Maran's hirelings are not in such terrible shape. Against Brooklyn ould profit by it. Brilliant flashes of inside baseball were shown, and we have every reason to believe that these flashes will become more numerous in the near uture. It is a quick-thinking club, but nothing can be pulled until the team play mproves and a few throwing arms get stronger. A pretty play almost was staged the second inning Saturday. Cutshaw was on second with one out when Chief Mayers hit a hard grounder between short and third. When the ball cracked unst the bat Cutshaw tore for third and was about ten feet from the bag when Bancroft stopped the ball. There was a possible play at third, but it required exceptionally quick thinking and fast work. Banny had about two seconds to get the runner and he made the attempt. Unfortunately, Stock was not in position and the throw was muffed, placing Cutshaw in position to score. Nine players out of ten would not have attempted the play, but it is Moran's system and good results have been obtained in the past.

WITH Big Ed Pfeffer in shape, the Phils faced the best pitching of the year. Gavvy Cravath was squelched three times when a hit meant a score and the other sluggers bit the dust when Pfeffer tightened up when men were on base. Twelve Phillies were stranded on the runways, which

Merry Race Is On for Second Place

THE National League race promises to be a very exciting fight for second-place honors among seven clubs unless some one puts a crimp into the Giants. Mc-Graw has a gorgeous array of talent on his payroll and they certainly can play ball. Early-season dope placed them at the head of the league and before March 1 many critics awarded them the pennant. For once everything has run true to form and the club has been winning ball games. The principal strength lies in the attack. The first seven batters are good enough to break up a game at any time, and their averages up to last Thursday bear this out. Burns is swatting at 360 clip, and after him come Herzog, .391; Robertson, .400; Heinie Zimmerman, .391; Fletcher, .304; Kauff, .476, and Holke, .227. Holke is not hitting in last year's form as yet, but his work is getting better every day. That gang of fence-busters s enough to worry any pitcher, especially at this time of the year. A twirler cannot grow careless when pitching to any of these men and the mental strain is more than the physical. If they ever begin hitting, there is no telling how many runs will be made or how far they will go. The Giants are good for at least three or four runs each game and it will take mighty good pitching to hold them down to that.

But the other clubs do not seem to be worried and the players with Boston, oklyn and Philadelphia believe that the expensive cast will crack under the strain. Grover C. Alexander had a few words to say about it, and they sound reasonable. "The one trouble with the Giants this year," says Alex, "Is that their pitching department is weak. There isn't a man on the club who is capable of winning twenty-five games in one season, and a championship club must have man like that. It shouldn't be very hard to win games with a team of hitters like the Glants to drive in the runs, but I will be surprised if any records are made. Tesreau, Slim Sallee, Anderson, Schupp and the others must improve considerably or New York will miss out in the race." Johnny Evers declares that McGraw's en will have the swelling taken out of their heads in a short time, and as soon sa they can wear their caps they will play mediocre ball.

TY COBB also expresses his views and he speaks as one who has suffered. "In a short time," says Ty, "that gang in the infield will be fighting among themselves and you will see a battle-royal before, during and after

Western Teams Appear to Be Rather Weak This Year

B games, It is difficult to get a line on the strength of the teams. On paper, however, they look like weak sisters when compared to the eastern circuit, and the chances are that they will live up to that form when they invade this section of the country next month. It is true the westerners are not feared this year. Once upon a time the real season never got under way until the Cubs, Pirates and asionally Cincinnati had been met and disposed of. Chicago and Pittsburgh always were strong, but that was in the days of long ago. There isn't a player left of the old Cub machine, and Pittsburgh also has suffered. Hans Wagner no onger is in the line-up and the other old drawing cards have petered out. Mathewnand his reconstructed Reds are better than last year, but will not be dangerous. St. Louis has been playing good ball, but it is believed that the club will step out of its class when it travels east of Pittsburgh.

In the American League, however, conditions are reversed. The White Sox k like another gang of Giants and are winning games. Fielder Jones has a good ib at St. Louis and Cleveland cannot be passed without notice. The poor showing of Detroit is a sad blow to the fans of Tigertown, but it must be remembered that exceptionally strong teams have been played. Jennings always has had a weak pitching staff, however, and that has been the principal difficulty thus far.

FOR the first time in two years the Athletics can be classed with the other teams in the league and their showing has been a pleasant surprise. They have won three games and lost six, but Connie has a good hitting club and will win numerous combats before the season ends

Fred Merkle Has Stepped in and Saved Two Clubs

THE sale of Fred Merkle to the Cubs is another indication that the first baseman has qualified for the first-aid honors in the National League. Last year when Brooklyn was up at the top fighting for the pennant, Jake Daubert sprained his ankle or hurt his leg or something, and Manager Robinson was up against it for guardian for the initial sack. He got into communication with McGraw and Muggsy came to his aid. Holke was playing a good game and the boss of the Giants decided to keep him on first and give Merkle the gate. It was a lowdown trick to send Fred to Brooklyn, as the only thing he did was to help win the pennant and grab himself a nice chunk of world series money. Merkle was found to be excess baggage this year, however, as Daubert reported in wonderful shape and the twenty-two-player limit made it necessary to get rid of him. Pittsburgh tried to get him in a deal, but when Vic Saler broke his leg the Cubs got out the well-known and exceedingly fat bankroll and Barney Dreyfuss didn't have a hance. Weeghman was willing to pay any price for Merkle, and when he offered Charley Ebbets \$6000 in real money the offer was grabbed. At first an attempt made to ring in a few players, but Ebbets has his club pared down to twentywo players now and additional dead wood was not needed. It was another demontion of the vocal powers of legal tender.

But Merkle will be a life-saver for the Cubs. Fred Mitchell was getting gray-red in his efforts to land a first-sacker and virtually had decided on switching rry Doyle to that position. Reuther, who got the job after Vic was injured. experience and the playing of the team was affected. Now, however, everyis lovely and Fred will have a chance to hobnob with his old pal, Larry

FERKLE broke into fast company in 1907, when he played fifteen games with the Giants. He was utility man in 1908 when he pulled his mer," and in 1909 became the regular first baseman. Fred is twenty-eight years old and has lots of baseball left in him.

Amateur Question Will Come Up Again

issed amateur question, which was recently resurrected by the ttee of the U. S. N. L. T. A., is sure to come in for a renewed en it becomes generally known that Philadelphia's No. 2 player, den, Sd. has become associated with a sporting goods firm. Tilden a. 2 by the Philadelphia and District Ranking Committee and in the nal Ranking Committee, so that his prominence will cause used in many sections of the country by the supporters of



HOCH QUITS PENN BASEBALL TEAM

Catcher Says He Did Not Get Fair Chance for Position

The first sign that there was dissatisfacion in the ranks of the Pennsylvania baseball squad came to light recently, when it was learned that Charlie Hoch, second string catcher, had quit the team because he believed that he was not getting a fair chance to show his ability in the big games. The blond backstop handed in his regalia one day last week and said that he was through for all time as a member of the

squad.
The action of Hoch strikes Coach Thomas at a most inopportune moment, as now he has only one other reliable catcher, Roger Gilmore, and he will have to turn candidates for other posts into backstops for the practice games. Lud Wray, who with Gil-more and Hoch, made up the Red and Blue catching staff, has left the university and has received a commission as coxswain in the naval reserves. He expects to be called to the colors on Wednesday.

Hoch came to Pennsylvania in the fall of 1914 and altermated with Gilmore on the freshman nine the following spring. Last season was his first as a varsity player, and although he was not placed in many games, he always appeared good when he received one full game, that being against Swarthnore, with Johnny Titzel twirling, more than two weeks ago. In that contest he handled Bitzel in fine shape and threw well bases, cutting off two attempted steals. However, he failed to get a hit.

Gilmore's Throwing Poor

Gilmore never has been a good hitter at Penn, although he slugged with the best of them when he played with the Strawbridge & Clothier team last summer. Furthermore, Gilmore has proven himself very erractic in throwing out runners. One lay he is fairly good, but the next he is shade worse than poor. He has a good, strong peg and it usually goes to the mark, in making the toss. It is this second which ery often loses the putout.

In the Harvard game last season, Gli-more's showing was miserable. In the first seven innings seven Crimson runners pil-fered bases, five of them stealing to second and the other two to third. It was not until cries of "take him out" from the stands became very prominent that Coach Thomas saw fit to substitute Hoch. march of the Harvard players around the bags was stopped immediately, Hoch nail-

ing two with perfect throws.

Another example of poor tossing by Gilmore was seen in the Lehigh game of last Saturday when Fishburn and C. Twombly, the South Bethlehem shortstop and first basemen, respectively, stole seven bases be-tween them. In the first inning Fishburn pilfered second and third and then with C. Twombly worked the double robbery. Fishburn scoring while his teammate reach

To Play Independent Ball

Hoch does not intend to quit baseball, however, and it is rumored that he will play with an independent amateur team. A strong effort will be made to bring him back to Franklin Field in order to save the catching situation for the Red and

Two of the players, who-were veterans last year, were warming the bench at Penn in the early part of the season and one is still there. They are Sammy Moore, who captained the nine last season, and Daye Bennis, the hard-hitting centerfielder. With White playing at third base, however, there is little hope of Moore breaking into the game, as Johnny has shown that he is one of the smoothest infielders ever to wear the twin colors of the Quaker University. Therefore Moore still is holding down a place on the bench.

place on the bench.

Johnny Lavin was given the choice over
Bennis in every one of the games played
this year, with the exception of the Lehigh
contest on Saturday, despite the fact that
Dave led the team in hitting last season,
being the only man on the squad to whale
the sphere over .300. He was started in
the Lehigh game, however, but failed to
show up well, all the so-called luck of the
contest seeming to break against him.

Baltimore to Retain Sunday Baseball BALTIMORE. Md. April 23.—In an effort to have professional baseball playing prohibited on Sundays and also to prohibit the charge of admission to the championship game played yesterday at the Gentiemen's Driving Park, between the Rochester team and Jack Dun's team, witnessed by several thousand baseball enthusiats, the Men's Bible Class of McKendres Methodis Epicaopai Church, Arlington, headed by the pastor Rev. A. H. McKinley, spipeared before Marshal Cockey, of the county police force. The marshal told the delegation that no charge for admission would be silewed and that he saw no harm in a peaceful, orderly

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS By LOUIS H. JAFFE

EDDIE FITZSIMMONS, of New York, is a great little battler. Fitz, however,

and this served Fitz with roal fighting

walloping to Brown and also knocked him down, the K. D. process occurring several times. A week later Fitzsimmons didn't change a line of his act with the same

Pres Brown. The next time Fitz came over to box here was against Stanley Willis. Willis didn't sting the New Yorker

at any time. That was probably the reason

regained his feet he dealt out such a ter-rific lacing to the Philadelphia Eddie, it is

rific lacing to the Philadelphia Eddie, it is doubtful whether Wagond's closest friends

recognized him after the set-to. Eddie put

up a game battle, however. He tried his best, or rather his worst, to land another

wallop that would bring Fitz down for keeps. Wagond started punches often but

missed with the wicked ones, and while

the good old Wagond fanned the air, Fitz

continued breaking down the Wagond with an assortment of rights and lefts that

He handed out an impressive

insists that he be stung before he begins to put on his act that proves him a great little to Remain in Limelight put on his act that proves him a great little battler. A punch that rocks the New Yorker, and would make most any other, boxer careful, causes him to throw his throttle on high gear. Then it a case of much grueling for whoever happens to be in so much hard luck as to be in the same ring with young Mr. Fitz, excluding the referee, of course. When Fitzsimmons boxed Preston Brown here. Press made boxed Preston Brown here. Pres made Eddie's nose smart with stinging left jabs,

colored the local lad's features batter than

Coffey Must Beat Morris

Irish Patsy Cline is being recognized among New York's leading lightweights. He has been boxing so well that several dotham promoters are attempting to match him with Benny Leonard. Despite Cline's ability, he has a tough Job on his hands for tonight at the Olympia against Terry Mctiovern. Terry is a rugged battler, and Trish Patsy will have to be on his toes every inch of the eighteen minutes. Joe O'Donnell sets started again after a long lay-off, and he will meet Renny McNeil in the semt. Gussle will meet Renny McNeil in the first part lewis tackles Johnny Moloney in the first part of the scheduled "triple wind-up." Other bouts are believen Lew Stinger and Lee Vincent and Billy Hines and Young McGovern, of Allentown.

at any time. That was probably the reason Willis was the winner. Last Saturday night at the National, Fitz was paired off with the W. W., Eddie Wagond. The Walloping Wop stung Fitzsimmons in the second round with a right-hand punch, and Fitz feit the sting so badly that he took an unwonted five-second vacation on the mat. But from the moment the Gotham Eddie regained his feet he dealt out such a ter-Bobby Reynolds says he would not pass up a date with Darby Caspar, and admits he would be all the more anxious to face Darb again. However, Reynolds is desirous of setting on with Johnny Dundee. He says he clearly outpointed Dundee before, and believes he could repeat. The entire boxing populace of South Philadelphia would back Bobby in a match with Dundee, the Philadelphian says.

WAR SAVES MONEY FOR HARVARD A. A.

Cancellation of Crimson Sports Keeps Down Expenses of \$50,000

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., April 23. - Harvard's prompt action in dropping all its organized athletics with the declaration of war will allow the University Athletic Association's books to show a fat profit for the first time since sports were taken up at Cambridge.

The failure to go through the season's schedule in baseball, rowing, track and other sports will save the athletic association approximately \$40,000, and when a grand balance is made at the end of the academic year there will be something like \$50,000 left for investment or to whatever use the Harvard athletic solons wish to

The customary annual cost of keeping Harvard in the athletic limelight is around \$150,000. And as the estimated receipts of the Crimson's football schedule last November are \$150,000 or somewhat more, it can be seen that the Crimson management appeared to be set on the road to showing small profit—somewhat of an accom-lishment in these days of costly specialized athletics.

But the Harvard solons little dreamed last fall that \$50,000 would be still re-maining in the athetic office's account when all bills for the current year had been

So if the spring sports had been con-tinued Harvard faced the proposition of laying out something like \$60,000, with the prospects of only getting in return \$20,000

SCHOOLBOYS FACE MANY HARD GAMES

Eight Interscholastic League Teams Play Today. Hard Test for C. H. S.

P. C. PLAYS EPISCOPAL

With the school baseball teams in the midst of their active season and the league contests coming one after another little time remains for practice games. In addition to the contest with Germantown High today, Central High faces a hard week of three other matches, all in the Interscholas." tic League. If Doctor O'Brien loses Clarke, the Cubas

twirler, it will be a severe blow to the Crimson and Gold. In the South Philadelphia game, which Central won 5 to 3, he did not allow a single hit until the sixth inning. In the last inning South Phillies had a chance to win the game, but Clarke rallied to the occasion and held his opponents to one run. occasion and held his opponents to one run.
Goldberg connected for a triple and then
"Doo" Wattman singled, scoring him. With
one run scored, Wattman on the bases and
none out, things looked gloomy for Central
Clarke fanned Canady, Weintraub and
Owens in succession. After the game the
Cuban stated that as his parents had moved
to Virginia he expected to leave school this
week. Doctor O'Brien would like to retain
him and there is still some chance that he
will finish out the school term.

If the report is authentic that the Swarthmore Preparatory School tennis players have so much military and preparedness work on their hands that they cannot p'ay out their regularly scheduled Interscholas-tic League tennis matches, why not ask Haverford School to join the league to play out Swarthmore's schedule?

play out Swartnmore's schedule?

Haverford School players meet the majority of the Interscholastic and Interacademic League teams at any rate. Manacademic League teams at any rate. Manager Lippincott's schedule includes matches with Penn Charter School, Germantown High, West Philadelphia 'High School, Friends' Central and other local teams. It would be an easy matter to rearrange the list so as to take part in the league series and Interscholastic League officials would welcome Haverford School as a member of this creanization.

of this crganization.

Swarthmore's unexpected action has not caused quite as much surprise as the fact that the Swarthmore players failed to appear for their match with Northeast High on Saturday last and, more than that, they failed to notify the Northeast management that the tennis team would not be on hand. Perhaps a little more time to details of this nature would not be amiss at Swarth-

At many of the schools it has been clearly indicated that the athletes are ready for service, and at the schools where military drills have been made the most of and athletics have continued to win honors and seem to be as well prepared for the call

OTHER SPORTS ON PAGE 15

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