

SINCE NICK II DROPPED THE INDICATOR THE UMPIRE HOLDS CLEAN TITLE AS REAL CZAR

SISLER AND JACOBSON CRUMBLE IN HITTING WHEN COMPELLED TO PUT ASIDE ARMOR-CLAD CLUBS

Catcher Nunamaker, of Yankees, Shows Curiosity and Brown Sluggers Relinquish Doctored Clubs Before Umpire Can Rule Them Out

GEORGE SISLER, the efficient baseball team drawing his semimonthly stipend from the St. Louis Browns, is suffering a terrible slump in his batting. Jacobson, an outfielder on the same payroll, also is on the downgrade, and Fielder Jones is sitting up late trying to dope out the cause. In one week George the Sluggler fell off sixteen points in his general average, and Jake, while he is holding up his end, is not walloping the pill with the same effectiveness that characterized his batting early in the season. Of course there is a reason, and Jones will save himself a lot of worry if he believes the yarn told by the New York players, now visiting our city. According to the dops, both Sisler and Jacobson were using armor-clad bats, which are illegal, and when they were forced to discard them their hitting suffered.

According to the story Sisler stroled up to the plate in the opening game of the recent series in St. Louis, and Leslie Nunamaker, catcher for the Yanks, noticed a few metal knobs at the end of the bat.

What kind of a bat are you using these days, George? asked Nunamaker. Let me take a look at it? Oh, it's just an ordinary bat, replied Sisler. It isn't worth looking at. But let me see it, insisted the catcher. I want to look at that row of tacks at the end.

They're not tacks; they're nails, answered George. This is my favorite bat, and I fixed it after breaking it in batting practice. There is nothing wrong with it. Nunamaker walked over to take a good look at the damaged part, but Sisler hurried back to the bat rack, where he selected another war club. He did not use his favorite bat in the series, and as a result his hitting fell off.

Shortly afterward Jacobson appeared with another "damaged bat," and once more Nunamaker spotted it. He asked to examine it but Jake was as exclusive as Sisler. He too ran back to the bench and used another bludgeon. And his work at the plate slumped badly in the games.

Armor-Clad Bats Used by the Browns, Is Claim of Yankees According to Bill Donovan, these patched-up bats were responsible for the heavy hitting of the Browns early in the year. The sticks are illegal, and in the future the umpire will be asked to be on the lookout for them. It is said that Sisler's bat was dotted with the flat heads of big nails, covering an area of about eight inches and having the same effect as a strip of steel at the end. It is much easier to meet the ball fairly with a bat like this, and the driving power is increased considerably. Sisler and Jacobson belted the ball all over the outfield and all their hits traveled with terrific speed. Had they been allowed to use those bats all season Cobb and Speaker would have had a hard time to keep in the front.

Doctored bats are popular with big league players, but it is hard to get away with them. The opponents are on the lookout constantly, and it is seldom that anything escapes their notice. Frank Thrasher, who worked for Connie Mack up to a week ago, had a favorite bludgeon last year which helped him to make his record with the Athletics Club. Thrasher did not use spikes, however. He cut long grooves at the end of the bat which kept the ball from slipping off. Frank discovered this stunt by accident. He picked up a metal top from a bottle one morning and scraped his bat unconsciously, while talking to the other players. He used that bat in the game that day and did not lay it aside all season.

STUFFY McINNIS is careful about his bats, but he never fixes them up. The first baseman doesn't have to. He uses a light stick, evenly balanced and takes as much care of it as he does of his diamond ring. Somebody swiped his favorite club early in the season, but Stuff had a dozen made and is well fixed this year. His batting average shows it.

Umpire Only Czar Left and His Authority Increases The tottering Kaiser in his best days was not able to claim class as a dictator with his Czarship, the American umpire, and since the late Czar of All the Russias let fall the indicator and beat it for the street ahead of the outraged populace, the native product has had a clean title to the dictatorial belt.

Regardless of the inability of the ball player to get by the umpire in a dispute, he has always seemed to think that it could be done in the end, as witnessed by a marked persistency and enthusiasm of effort. But now that the umpire, in addition to the prerogative of making an ultimate guess on balls, strikes and conduct, is vested with the authority to decide a ball player's intention, and, in fact, put him out of the game for good, encouragement to protest is bound to be reduced.

The recent enactment of the National Commission rests in the breast of the arbiter of play the right to determine whether or no a "bean ball" was hurled at the bat or at the bean. Umpires have mastered previous knotty situations and conscientious and studious officials may be expected within a short while to distinguish one from the other, but the going is likely to be difficult for a while. The fact that an adverse holding subjects the offender to the extreme penalty of being thrown out of organized ball is bound to prove an asset to the umpire's status as a real ruler, at the same time to reduce the practice of the gentle art of "dustin' 'em off."

AMBITIOUS umpires, anxious to perform their increased and more difficult duties, will find it useful to take special courses in psychology, palmistry, clairvoyancy and soothsaying. It will be necessary to invoke all known sciences relating to "detecting" to efficiently perform the obligations imposed by the new and more difficult exactions of "guessing them off."

Derrill Pratt Holds Big League Long Distance Record DERRILL PRATT, star, second sucker for the St. Louis Browns, is an all-around athlete whose work does not attract the attention given more spectacular performers. He is in there working all the time, however, and his recent lay-off brought to a halt the big league record for distance going, and at the same time helped attract attention to his all-round value as a ball player.

Since joining the Brown layout September 2, 1914, Pratt had never been idle a game until put out by his recent accident. He had played in 366 straight games. From his first game he was awarded a position as a regular, playing in thirty games that season. In 1915 and 1916 Pratt took part in the 158 games played each season and had gone fifteen straight when laid out.

Pratt jumped into the Southern League from the University of Alabama, where he had starred in general athletics, having much more celebrity, however, on the gridiron than on the diamond. His record for consistency and for always being in the prime of physical condition was almost as notable in his first professional experience as in the big ring. In the two years of his service in the Southern he missed playing in but two games each season.

PRATT'S love of the game is a prime feature of his successful career on the diamond. His father is a business man of means down South and entertained an ambition for his son to succeed him, but he is an strong for baseball as is his son, and takes a great deal of pride in his boy's success as a ball player.

Pitler a Purliner as Well as a Pickler PITTSBURGH Purchases Pitler announced an alliterative headline a few days back by way of topping a news story of the buying of the hard-hitting second baseman of the Chattanooga team by magnate Barney Dreyfuss.

The news story called attention to the fact that Pitler was hitting well over 300 and leading not only his team in batting but the league in which he has been performing, the inference being plain that Pitler was purchased for the reason that he could pick the pellet.

That the Dreyfuss find is also a bear at another branch of the sport appears in a report of a recent game at Mobile, which Pitler largely won for his side by pilfering the platter a couple of times.

Another College Strike-Out Phenom Looms Up FROM the mid-West comes the season's best hurling-phenom thriller. The star of the press agent stuff is C. C. McKinley, pitcher for the William Jewell college team, which very appropriately this season is located at the City of Liberty.

Through McKinley's sterling mound work his team found it difficult to obtain opponents, and no wonder. He was only able to pitch thirty-three innings, but during that brief period of play he fanned seventy-three batters. He pitched two no-hit game and two two-hit games and allowed but a skimpy total of five hits in the thirty-three rounds. The only apparent weakness in the case is a failure to show the prized "no hit" achievement.

If the latest "college phenom" answers the call that the big league scouts are stated to be following to him, he will undoubtedly be classed as "another George Wright," for when not playing first he is worked in the outfield, where he made a fine leading record and batted .400 in the six games in which he took part.

Horse Racing Booming in and About Philly PHILADELPHIA is booming in and around this city. Many new steeds have come to Philly from other places this season, and the new horses are arousing much interest in racing circles. This is particularly true with the Road racing fraternity of Philadelphia, who hold weekly matinees over the Chamounix half-mile course in Fairmount Park.

On Saturday, six of a field of seven pacers in one race were new horses, and two other sidewheelers competed in another contest, making eight new horses in the Park competition. Six trotters scored down the course for their respective branches in the East, a grand total of fourteen new light harness horses being locally.

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?



DATES ARRANGED FOR SCHOOL GAMES

Seven More Interscholastic League Baseball Contests on Local Rosters

WEATHER UPSETS PLANS

Because of the inclement weather, not only yesterday but all through the month of May, there are seven more interscholastic League games on the schools' roster, and all must be played off within the next week or so, as the league season was to have come to an end last week.

West Philadelphia and Trades School were unable to play yesterday, and no date has been fixed for this game. Central High and Frankford High decided on June 1 for their match. Northeast High and Southern High were scheduled to play, but owing to Coach Harry Snyder's inability to get into communication with Coach Mowery, of Southern, no arrangements were made for this contest.

According to the schedule announced by Henry Reichhold, secretary of the league, the eight games and the dates of the majority of them follow:

May 29—Trades vs. South Philadelphia. May 29—West Philadelphia vs. Frankford. May 31—Frankford vs. South Philadelphia. May 31—Trades School vs. Catholic High. June 1—Central High vs. Frankford. June 1—West Philadelphia vs. Frankford. June 1—Northeast-South Philadelphia (indefinite).

St. Joe Plays at Pennington St. Joseph's College plays Pennington Seminary in a holiday game tomorrow afternoon. The National Farm School, of Doylestown, will meet the Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf players, Williamson School and Atlantic City High School are scheduled to play at Atlantic City.

The Lafayette interscholastics will take the pick of the athletes from this city to Easton. Captains Mellinger will lead the Central High runners. The local schools will be represented, with very few exceptions, by the best runners and jumpers. The interscholastic teams are preparing for their title meet on Friday.

Frankford High's big game is with Tome School at Port Deposit on Saturday afternoon. The School of Pedagogy nine has a game with the speedy Girard College team, victors over West Philadelphia High School last Saturday. On Saturday the Lehigh interscholastics will be held, so the Quaker City athletes will have a chance for a few days' rest between the Lafayette and South Bethlehem games.

Elect Two Baseball Captains Episcopal Academy's baseball players have elected Henry Sellers to lead the nine for next season. He is the third baseman and one of the best players on the team. Ross Hamilton, the present leader, who was catcher on the nine, will graduate. Hunt, McCull, Fugh, Harriet, Burrows and Lathrop will bid adieu to Episcopal.

Penn Charter School's players have re-elected Lester Stiley, center fielder, captain of the team. He was also one of the best pitchers in the school. The Quakers will lose only two regulars by graduation. Marshall Pieroul will enter Penn and Bill Fleming will go to West Point. With seven out of nine players back the 1918 team at Penn Charter will be strong.

Kirk Swing, manager of the West Philadelphia High School baseball team, has resigned his position and has left school to take up farm work in New Jersey. Dixon Krege is now manager of the team. When Swing stepped out the West Phillies were not only without a coach but minus a manager.

WE RECOMMEND DON DIGO HAVANA CIGARS

Willys-Knight Eight Cylinder Exhibition Chassis on Display At Our Show Room May 30 to June 3

An opportunity to see the silent sleeve-valve motor in operation—explained by F. W. Lawton, special representative of the Willys-Overland factory. Mr. Lawton will gladly show you the inside of the motor, explain why it improves with use and why carbon helps it.

OVERLAND MOTOR COMPANY 323 N. Broad Street TELEPHONE-WALNUT 4497

SOUTHPAWS ARE HEAP BIG NOISE

THIS SEASON, STARRING IN BOTH PITCHING AND PICKLING THE BALL

Schupp, Ruth and Vaughn Most Effective Hurlers, While Six of Eight Leading Hitters Clout From Off Side of Plate

By GRANTLAND RICE

THIS seems to be a southpaw campaign. The two most effective pitchers in the game are Schupp and Ruth, closely pressed by Jim Vaughn. The leading batsmen have been Speaker, Sisler, J. Smith, Roush, Hohe, Burns, Cobb and McInnis—and six of the eight have been left-hand hitters. It isn't far from a cinch that a left-hand batsman will lead both leagues with the wooden mace and that a left-hand pitcher will lead both leagues in effectiveness of games won. It may be that the war is turning the world upside down, but whatever the reason, the answer is being written every day.

Confidence Counts The part that confidence plays in sport draws additional evidence from the case of Ferdinand Schupp, the giant left-hander. For three years Ferdie sat on the bench as a substitute pitcher. No one thought Ferdie was good enough to be a regular, so Ferdie thought the same. And, what is more to the point, Ferdie pitched that way. He had fine speed, a fast, baffling curve and pretty fair control until some critical moment arrived. Then Ferdie's lack of confidence tore him apart.

The Start Last spring McInnis couldn't find a pitcher good enough to go five innings. Most of them should have been good, but they were not. So Ferdie began to be inserted at odd intervals. Finally the southpaw hooked two games in succession. That was all he needed. He had everything else but confidence, and confidence came with those two victories. McInnis made him a regular, and from that day he became a regular he was harder to beat than Walter Johnson or Grover Alexander. And this is no figure of speech, for when the present week swung under way Ferdie hadn't lost a game since last fall, and in his last defeat he allowed only two or three hits and nothing like an earned run.

An erratic substitute pitcher for three years, from the day he became a regular he also became the most effective pitcher in baseball. He was the first of them all to finish a season while permitting less than one earned run to the start in something like fifteen games.

Different Type Schupp hasn't the powerful frame of Johnson, Alexander and Ruth to carry him along. He is nothing like as big as Mathewson and Walsh. Neither is he one of the tall and rangy types. Of average height and average weight, but smaller than the average pitcher, the giant star has fine speed and the leverage of a man several inches taller. He has a whiplike style of working. And today there isn't a pitcher in the game with any greater confidence or ease. It would be impossible to figure out a quicker or a greater mental change in a man than the change that has come over Schupp in less than a year. Barring some accident he is almost sure to lead the National League this season, and, if he continues working as he has since last August, he is likely to hang up a record of astounding dimensions.

Cricket Benefit Those who have long wondered just what sort of game cricket will have a chance to satisfy their desire if they happen to be near Staten Island tomorrow. Starting in the forenoon, the New York Halifax Cup team will meet a picked New York team for the benefit of the British Red Cross. There will be representative cricket players on both teams and the match will be well worth watching.

How to Pitch Shoot all the stuff, both lean and fat. Your fastest curve—your deepest drop—Till Cobb or Speaker come to bat—Then call a cop.

The toughest job in baseball today belongs to Bill Donovan. Bill as an old pitcher is wise enough to know that each stadium should work at least once every four or five days. Yet here is Bill with at least eight first-class pitchers on his staff to select from. If Bills works only four he must leave four on the bench to rust. And the tough part is that at any one of the eight is about as likely to win as any of the remaining seven. Fate will need an early pitching staff, whatever it may do to the rest of the club.

CY AND EDDIE MAY HOLD ON TO WEIRD HEAVES Ban Johnson Says No Law Against "Licorice" and "Shine" Deliveries

CHICAGO, May 29.—After examining baseballs used by Pitcher Cy Falkenberg, of the Athletics, and Eddie Cicotte, of Chicago, President Johnson, of the American League, ruled tonight that the protest filed against the alleged illegal delivery was without foundation. Clark Griffith, manager of the Washington club, protested against what he termed the "shine" ball used by Cicotte. Manager Fohl, of the Cleveland club, protested against the "licorice" ball hurled by Falkenberg. Fohl and Griffith said the alleged tampering with the balls caused them to hop freakishly in their delivery. The balls were sent to Johnson for his examination.

Mike Donlin Resigns Managership MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 29.—Announcement was made yesterday that because of illness in his family in New York Mike Donlin, manager of the Memphis Southern Association club, had resigned.

SUITS \$11.80 TO ORDER Reduced from \$30, \$25 and \$20 PETER MORAN & CO. MERCHANT TAILORS 15TH & MARKET, ENTRANCE ON 15TH N. E. COR. 9TH AND ARCH STS. Market St. Store Open Every Evening

CAMPBELL'S SHAG TOBACCO. You don't miss the money you pay for your occasional smokes, because you spend it a little at a time. BUY A BOND. You won't miss that money, either. You invest just a little at a time. It's Easy.

The Big Four ATLANTIC LIGHT ATLANTIC MEDIUM ATLANTIC HEAVY ATLANTIC Polarine. THERE'S just one, great, big, vital point for you to get, in connection with lubricating the motor of your car or truck, and that's this: That, for every possible condition, at least one of these four Atlantic Motor Oils is the exact, proper and correct lubricant for you to use. The oldest and largest manufacturer of lubricating oils in the world says so, and thousands of motorists, can testify to the accuracy of this statement. Confer with your garageman. His long experience with cars and motor oils and his definite knowledge of how Atlantic Motor Oils behave in actual use will be of great benefit to you, your car and your pocketbook. Ask him for the "Why" booklet, or drop us a postcard and we will mail it to you. Engine-lubrication is a serious matter. Treat it that way. THE ATLANTIC REFINING COMPANY Philadelphia and Pittsburgh Makers of Atlantic Gasoline—the Gas that Puts Pep in Your Motor. ATLANTIC MOTOR OILS Keep Up, Keep Down