

MUGGSY M'GRAW'S DEATH-DEALING GAS BOMB TURNED OUT TO BE A JUICY CREAM PUFF

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL, AS DOES ALSO THE RUMOR THAT PITTSBURGH IS TO HAVE A NICE, NEW MANAGER

Dreyfuss Shows Folks Who's Boss by Retaining Callahan—Old Honus Victim of Latest Managerial Hearsay—Muggsy Mild as a Dove

EVERY time the Pittsburgh ball club gets down in the race rumors emerge from the smoky village to the effect that Jimmy Callahan is about to be named and another manager inflicted with the job.

But tarry just a moment. The most recent dope is that J. Honus Wagner, that picturesque ruin who was dragged from the old homestead to indulge in the frivolous pastime a short time ago, will be the new guy at the helm and will take charge of the cutlass and pieces of eight when teams walk the plank.

THE principal asset possessed by Wagner, however, is his popularity not only with the fans, but also with the players. He has that faculty of inspiring confidence and no doubt can get more work out of the men than any one else.

Instead of a Howling Cyclone, McGraw Is a Gentle Zephyr AS AN anticlimax with all the fancy trimmings, recommend us to the demotion of the McGraw episode. The Giants' well-known peppy manager was fired and suspended by President Tener, following which a broadside journalistic outburst appeared, in which President Tener was lambasted, vilified and defied.

One of the bloodiest little encounters was predicted since the Germans were forced back at Verdun. But did it come across according to schedule? Hardly. Instead of the hand grenade, the liquid fire and the asphyxiating gases, Mr. McGraw sent in through the mails a sweetly scented missive. He not only didn't say anything of color about Mr. Tener, he declared, but he hadn't even read the rough stuff.

MORAL: Never talk to the poor newspaper guys at all. They are looking for opportunities to get other people in trouble and to have themselves shown up as fabricators. This applies especially to partisan reporters like the flock of New York scribes who personally stated their reputations for veracity upon the now branded fake interviews with the mild-mannered and much-lauded Mr. McGraw.

Weak Pitching Staff May Cost Red Sox the Pennant

UNLESS some Red Sox hurler very quickly steps out and begins to give aid and comfort to Babe Ruth and Dutch Leonard the Red Sox are due for a greased descent in the American League averages. It has been charged with more than the ordinary amount of baseball backing that these two sterling left-handers are all there has been to the Red Sox 1917 kiosk.

Shore and Mays lately have been showing form and may yet fall into the breach in time to carry the Red Sox down the stretch to a last-minute flinch and even to another championship. There isn't much difference in the machine as it stands today compared with its status a year ago, figured from the standpoint of effectiveness in any department except pitching.

Bill Donovan, manager of the Yankees is one firm believer in the allegation that Ruth and Leonard are due for a crack. "Just wait until hot weather strikes the batters and begins ironing the kinks out of the other pitchers in this league," Bill remarked. "Then we'll see whether Babe Ruth and Dutch Leonard will continue knocking over the opposing teams. We also will begin to find out if Ernie Shore and Carl Mays are going to add impetus to the Red Sox pennant fight."

The difference between the Red Sox and the White Sox, generally favored in the pennant dash, lies in the hurling mound. Rowland has a first-class string of flinging youths from the first to last. No one star seems to glimmer with more brilliance than another except on certain special occasions.

Braves Act Badly and Stallings Is Up Against It

THE complete crumple of the Boston Braves this season suggests something more than the possible effect upon the playing ability of Stallings' men as a result of the loss of Understudy Fred Mitchell. It recalls Stallings' experience as manager of the Yankees, when utter demoralization set in, which resulted in Stallings eventually being canned in favor of Hal Chase.

Something more than the results of games is in evidence to display the fact that the Braves are now demoralized. Rumor has it from varied sources that discipline and order are lacking in the team, and names are suggested of some who are said to be openly and flagrantly violating training rules. One of Stallings' former pitching stand-by's has been too heavy playing cards and otherwise dallying to give much heed to club affairs. It is alleged. Rumors were current in New York during the last series there with the Giants that the lobby of the hotel at which Stallings' men were stopping showed disregard of rules regarding hours and general behavior.

Stallings always has been known as the dominating type of manager, but he also has been recognized as one who was unskilled in the art of pulling things together once a crumple-in started. The season the Braves were the league sensation they started badly, but then Fred Mitchell and Johnny Evers were on hand to lend supplementary pep and fighting stamina. Evers is left, but the fiery veteran is not himself any longer and Stallings is going it alone as a leader.

THE prevailing impression about the circuit seems to be that Stallings is not merely losing his grip on his team, but that he has already lost it, and has no chance to get things together, this season at least.

A. A. U. to Hold Regular Championship Events

THE decision of the Amateur Athletic Union to hold all regular championship events this season is a good one, and should result in helpfully contributing to patriotic aims rather than proving hurtful thereto, as was for a time feared. The decision in point has just been announced and came as a result of a mail vote recorded by the championship committee of the organization.

Considerable difference of opinion developed as to the manner in which the events should be contested with a view to meeting war conditions, but the consensus of opinion favored the policy of holding all contests on a championship basis. That championship competition was inclined to encourage soldierly qualities and aid in a military sense, and was, in addition, well in line with the opinion of President Wilson urging a continuance of athletic sports, were other points that prevailed in reaching a definite conclusion.

From present indications it looks as if the East is likely to get the big general A. A. U. meet this season. The event was scheduled for St. Louis, but word has come to the effect that, owing to unsettled conditions, the western authorities are inclined to pass the buck. It is understood that both Boston and Newark, N. J., are in the field for the honor of serving as pinch hosts in case St. Louis declines the honor.

The "Rabbit" to Play for Uncle Sam

ANOTHER major league ball player has been reported as among those who have enlisted. The second to enter the service is Walter (Rabbit) Maranville, star shortstop of the Braves, who is to wear the colors of the Naval Coast Defense. Hank Gowdy, his teammate, already has joined the Ohio National Guard, and expects to report for duty July 1. It is said that Maranville wants to be sent aboard a battleship or a torpedoed destroyer.

Two well-known golfers will wear a uniform, Phil Carter, former North and South champion and one-time Yale star, and Max Marston, of Baltusrol. Marston yesterday was eliminated in the Lynswood Hall cup tourney, and is expected to enter the navy.

AIN'T IT A GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELIN'?



POTH MAKES GOOD WITH THE FANS IN CHESTER; ORGANIZES BIG LEAGUE BALL CLUB AND LOSES BUT ONE GAME

New Manager Is City's Hero and Signs Dooin and Other Stars—Big Game with Upland May Decide Championship

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

FRANCE has her Joffre, Great Britain worships Lloyd George, Germany still is strong for Kaiser Bill, and to carry the same thought across the ocean and use it nearer home, Chester is proud of Frank P. Poth, her most recent baseball hero.

There was no haggling over terms. Poth, when he made up his mind to get a player, allowed nothing to stand in his way. He said the players the salary they demanded, but he figured that his investment would not be a total loss. His close bargaining with the other players kept the payroll down to a respectable size and his business instinct told him that enough cash customers would be on hand every Saturday to almost pay the expenses. And he was right.

Frank Poth has been in baseball for ten years, but was content to keep in the background until he was called to the arena of glory. He is of a naturally retiring disposition and never seeks the limelight unless aroused by what he calls a "bum deal."

There was a regular windup at the Broadway A. C. last night, but the gentlemen who occupied all of the seats and standing room around the arena paid little attention to it. Instead, they watched every move of a slender, light-footed, graceful person wearing a collarless blue striped silk shirt with the sleeves rolled up, who took the part of the referee. They were proud of the third man in the ring and at regular intervals burst into loud and healthy cheers. For once the much-abused author was exceedingly popular.

Benny Leonard was the guest of honor among the prominent clubmen who pay their weekly dues to Muggsy Taylor, Esq. The lightweight champion made a special trip to this city to officiate in his first ring battle and the Broadwayites turned out in huge flocks. For a couple of hours they crowded the time away watching some boxing bouts, but no one seemed who won or lost. Furthermore, no one seemed to care.

They were in the spotlight—and there's no joke about that spotless stuff—clubroom to pay homage to the popular champion and they left nothing undone. No referee ever received such an ovation in the history of boxing, and it is doubtful if it ever will happen again.

When Benny and his manager, Billy Gibson, were ushered into the club by Jake Weinstein, the prominent sportsman, a couple of guys were knocking the tar out of each other in the ring. Instantly the battle was forgotten and, although the participants in the quarrel—whoever they were—continued the tar-knocking process, they might as well have been out in a back lot or some place putting on their act before an audience of blind men.

Mr. Taylor's patrons stood up, craned their necks toward the door and a mighty cheer shook the rafters. They kept it up until Benny stepped into the ring and then they almost raised the roof. It was a great night at the Broadway.

The lightweight champion is a swell referee and Billy Gibson is proud of him. He keeps out of the fighters' way, shifts and sidesteps with the boxers, pulls them apart when they clinch and acts like a regular third man in the squared circle. There were no arguments and everything was lovely from start to finish.

It is an unusual thing for a champion to make a special trip just to do a favor for some of his friends and receive nothing for it. Benny Leonard paid his own expenses last night and was glad to oblige his friends. He appreciates the treatment he has received from the Philadelphia fans in the past and little acts of kindness like that will make him the most popular lightweight champion the world ever has known.

There are other big league stars on the team Joe Knotts once played in the Tri-State and Southern Leagues. Murray pitched for Holy Cross, Brown was on the Winston-Salem and Savannah teams, and Jimmy Sharpe was with the New York Giants in 1916 and the Detroit Americans in 1915. Harry Pierce was a Jersey City player. Ogdin, the first baseman, is said to be good enough to play on any team, but his business connections will not permit him to play more than once a week. He formerly was captain and star pitcher for Penn Charter. Turner and Spaulding play in the outfield. Brown shortstop and Popolowski second base.

It is one of the strongest semipro teams in the country and has defeated Syracuse and the famous Jersey City nine. The latter club has defeated many of the National League teams in Sunday games.

Chester's closest opponent in the pennant race is Upland, the team made famous by Frank Baker. Upland is a couple of games behind and the most important battle of the year will be staged Saturday, June 20, when the two clubs meet in Upland. Baumgartner will pitch against Chief Bender and the game will be well worth seeing. It is predicted that the largest crowd that ever witnessed a Delaware County League game will be present.

The Delaware County League was organized in 1909 by J. Burton Weeks, of Chester, and is the only incorporated semiprofessional league in the State. Mr. Weeks has been the principal factor and is responsible for its success.

Strongest in Country

Large Crowds at Games

Charley Dooin Signs

Scraps About Scrappers

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

Charles Dooin, "Big Tom" Carey, the Newtown pitcher, is the star bait at the Camden Club. Young Lawrence, Billy James, Leo Ryan, Edna, and Tommy are also on the team. Jimmy Sutton vs. Charley Zebs.

LEONARD STARS AS REFEREE OF BOUT

Lightweight Champion Officiates in Wind-up at Broadway A. C. RECEIVES AN OVATION

Evening Ledger Describes of Ring Bout's Last Night

BROADWAY A. C.—Eddie O'Keefe defeated Al Warner, Danny Hark drew with Guskei, Edna, Tommy and Mike Russell drew, Young Welsh knocked out Tommie Bost.

NEW YORK—Joe Burman outpointed Jack Shuerer, Eddie Walker shaded Tommy Foubey, Phil Franklund and George Adams drew, Phil Hark knocked out the cubes, second.

BOSTON—Fred Fulton stopped Sam Langford, seventh, the latter's chief second tossing toward him the tin.

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THIRTY-GAME PITCHERS PASSING, ONLY ALEX AND BABE APPEARING LIKELY TO COME THROUGH IN 1917

Walter Johnson's Sad Start Casts Indigo Shadow on Present Year's Record of Great Blond Moundsman—Sports to Boom After War

By GRANTLAND RICE

GROVER ALEXANDER and Babe Ruth were the first two major league pitchers to carve out ten victories. They reached the mark almost together, and from the present outlook they will be the only pitchers now extant capable of winning thirty games.

Last season and the year before Alexander was the only thirty-game winner in the festive corral. The A. L.'s leading entry, Walter Johnson, fell a trifle shy. Johnson's sad start this season has cast an indigo shadow across his chances for the National star has only bagged five victories out of thirteen starts.

With anywhere from six to ten pitchers comprising various pitching staffs, the art of winning thirty ball games a year is fading out. Alexander is almost sure to reach this mark again, and it will be interesting to see whether Babe Ruth can maintain his clip and also qualify. In his favor he has youth, stamina and the stuff. That should be about enough.

The Next One? "When" asks Duffer, "will the next golf championship be played?" The prophet who can answer this question has 98 per cent on the Delphic Oracle at its best. Britain held her last golf championships in the summer of 1916 and the record stands. Since that date she has made no attempt to revive any competition.

The next golf and tennis championships will be held when the war is over and peace is established beyond doubt. This star has only bagged five victories out of thirteen starts.

Queer Fish When he turns in a perfect frame the golfer talks about his game; And when he has a rotten score He talks about it even more.

50-MILE RACE AT DROME HERE TOMORROW NIGHT

Riders Have Been Training Hard Two Weeks, During Which Races Were Postponed

Tomorrow night the special fifty-mile motor-paced race will be the feature event at the Point Breeze Park Motordrome. This race has been postponed for two weeks owing to rain, during which time the riders have been training on the tracks at Newark, N. J., and in this city, and they are all in fine condition.

Vincent Madonna, the Italian champion, has been training on the local track and is very anxious to show his muscle and tonight's race. His aim is to capture the title of champion of the United States this season, and from the form he has displayed in his try-outs, Carman and Wiley will have to pedal at a lively clip to retain the honors.

After the War After the war sport and the competitions thereupon be played? The prophet who can answer this question has 98 per cent on the Delphic Oracle at its best.

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