

ER AND HERRMANN GO TO MAT TODAY, WITH HONORS IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL LEAGUE HEAD

ANY BIG QUESTIONS BEFORE NATIONAL LEAGUE SOLONS WHO OPEN ANNUAL MEETING TODAY

Generous Issues Vital to Life of Game to Be Discussed During Confab to Be Held in New York

WITH the National League more firmly entrenched in the public's favor than for many a day, the magnates of that organization began their annual meeting in New York today. Last year the big business before the solons was the settling of the Federal League question, but this year the important business is before the officials, and it is necessary that the use plenty of diplomacy. The life of baseball is at stake. The National League has some very good business talent in its make-up, and the head is a politician and a business man, John K. Tener. He has been guilty of no untimely outbreaks and has said nothing that has been injurious to the game. He has weighed every suggestion very carefully, and he hasn't hesitated to censure a few of the untimely suggestions advanced by Ban Johnson, the American League chief. Tener is in favor of letting the baseball magnates decide what baseball will do next year, whereas Ban Johnson wants to put it up to the Government and let it be the big leagues. It was a patriotic proposition, but untimely, for with the Government burdened with the many problems resulting from the world-wide war, it even hesitates to run the railroads and coal business, let alone assume the burden of handling an amusement.

Again we learn that everything is not serene in the senior circuit. President Tener and Garry Herrmann, chairman of the National Commission, are at odds, and in this case the Cincinnati magnate seems to be in for the worst of it, with his job as chairman of the commission at stake. Herrmann and Ban Johnson always have been friends, in fact, very close ones, and Tener's announced hostility against the policies of Ban Johnson probably has influenced Herrmann to stick to the Bombastic Ban. The Tener-Herrmann feud leaked out when Tener stated he knew nothing of the proposed joint meeting of the American and National Leagues scheduled for Chicago on Thursday to consider problems brought on by the war and that he was much opposed to such a meeting. Herrmann comes right back with a declaration that the joint session will be held, come what may.

Through his powers as head of the National Commission, Herrmann may call such a meeting, but he hasn't the power on his own initiative to call a general convocation of the two major leagues. This power rests solely in the president of the league. Herrmann's authority is limited, and if he wishes to call an informal meeting of the owners, then it is another proposition.

Another important piece of business that will come in for its share of attention is the 1918 spring training trips. The advisability of such a venture has been criticized freely during the last few years, many insisting that it is a useless expense. Now that conditions are so critical and it is advisable to practice economy, it would not be surprising to learn of the calling off of the spring training jaunts.

Houghton Believes in Football as Molder of Soldier

WHAT football is one of the best mediums we have for developing soldiers is the firm belief of Percy Houghton, noted tutor of Harvard gridiron teams. Coach Houghton tutored the Camp Devens eleven this year, and he had a chance to see more than 20,000 men in the camp. He looked them over carefully and found that all who had had previous football training made ideal officers and soldiers. He insists that the gridiron game fashions a man in a mold which makes him excellent army material. This has been proved when one looks over the list of the many officers commissioned since last June. One glance is sufficient that the majority have served some time on the gridiron.

"The big army men believe implicitly in football," he said. "The similarity between football and the far greater, immeasurably graver, business of war is extraordinary."

"In my own case I know that my work as a member of the First Corps Cavalry, my stay at Plattsburg and my readings of military works have made me a better football man."

"In 1914 and 1915 we at Cambridge planned our gridiron campaign just as if it were a military campaign, just as if the winning of that Yale game were the taking of Berlin. If you will pardon the figure of speech, we had to be prepared on a certain day to show our very best. We knew what was ahead and we planned for it. We reached our maximum efficiency, even as we planned, two weeks before the Yale game. In those last two weeks we had the chance to smooth and to pick up the loose ends. Of course, in war you never can tell when your day of battle will come. But you must be prepared. Preparedness is the keynote of football. The secret of success in football is the thorough knowledge of the enemy's weakness. The grasp of the whys and the wherefores, an idea of the strategy of finding that point at which the foe is weakest, is a fundamental in military science."

"I NEVER have felt so proud about anything as I have about the way our football players from Cambridge have earned commissions in the army and in various branches of Federal service."

Football Real Game That Teaches Discipline

Why does football, in a greater measure than any other sport, prepare men for military pursuits? I think there are four parts to my answer. Football is a game of discipline. Therefore their amenability to discipline makes the former college players good material for the service.

"In the second place they are extremely interested in the subject of football and cannot but be deeply in earnest as regards the business of war, similar to the gridiron sport.

"Then the third consideration is that of gameness. The word we used at Cambridge was 'guts,' not elegant, but expressive. How often, at Plattsburg and in army cantonments do the young men get cold, wet, tired and discouraged! Then their football training, the habit of 'keeping at it to the end' comes to the assistance of the young men. They keep going, refuse to be discouraged, and they make good.

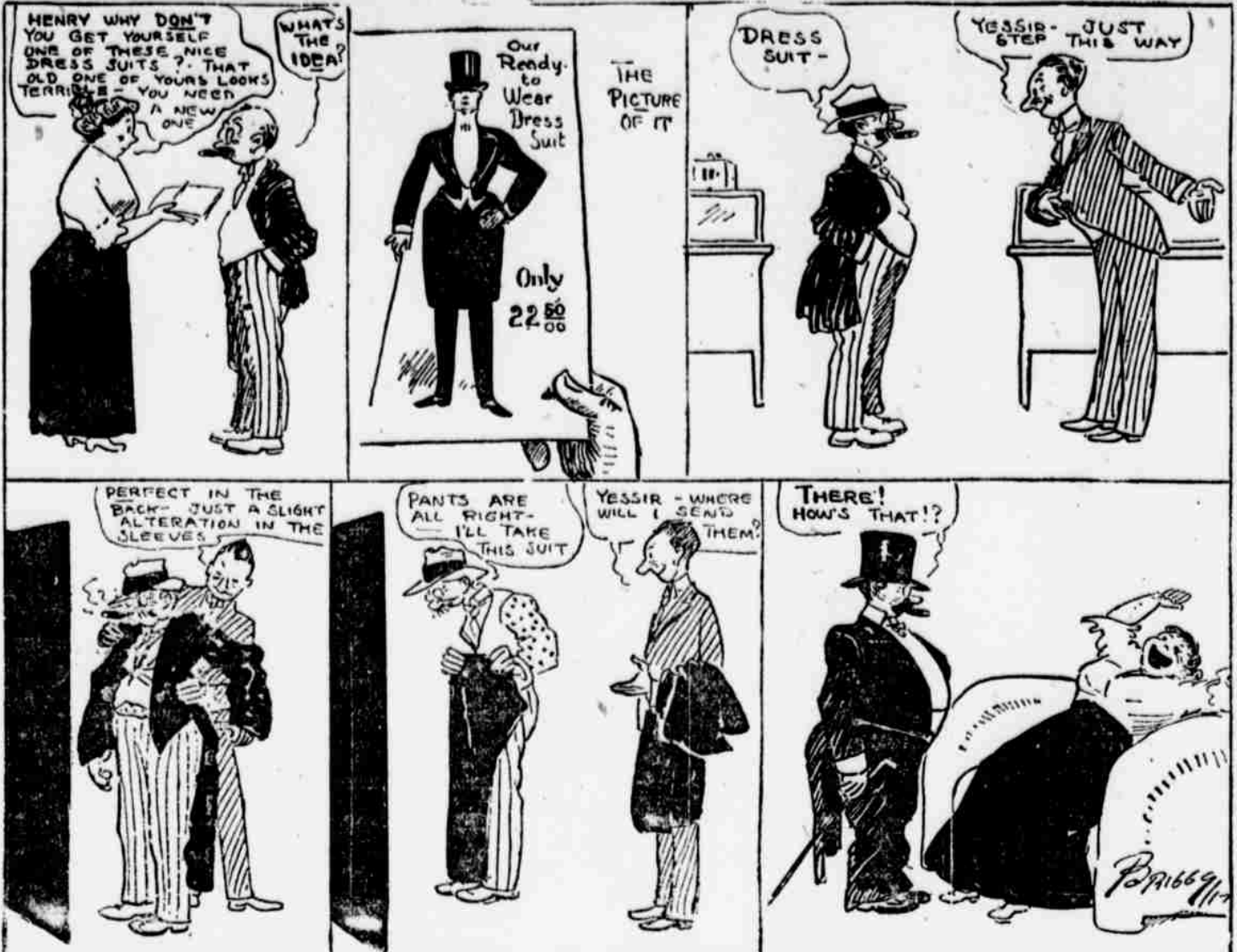
"The last reason why so many players have obtained commissions and are making good as officers is their grasp of the whys and wherefores. Why, our scouting system in football was nothing more or less than a simple espionage system. The more you elaborate the more you realize the similarity between football and war. My experience at Ayer this fall was wonderful. The army officers are admirably qualified by reason of their arduous duties and great activity to play good football at a moment's notice. It was surprising to me to see how the Ayer officers stayed up through our games with Upton and Cupid Black's Newport Reserves.

"Cantonment and service football is capable of a tremendous development. I found that there was no do or die spirit in service football. There was the lack of desperation which was so apparent in the college game. The service men play an aggressive type of game. They need only to develop the esprit de corps so frequent in college circles."

Tom Jones Is in Again With Another Future Champ

It is just as easy to keep Tom Jones out of the boxing game as it is to get on the brakes at Niagara Falls. Tom refuses to give up his place in the spotlight and dares any one to put him out. Jess Willard tried it and gave his manager the gate and attached the tinware, but Jones came up serenely, with nothing but a bunch of injured feelings to show for his experience. He got busy immediately, and after looking over the list of honors selected Bryan Downey, a welterweight, as his future stablemate, a good boy and now is on the trail of Ted Lewis for a battle for the welterweight title.

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES



EVANS ANSWERS ODD QUESTION

American Lady Golfer Entitled to Half Stroke on Testing Course

By CHARLES (CHIC) EVANS JR.

Every once in a while the question as to how and wherein the two sexes differ in golf arises and discussion has been recently stimulated by a match played not so long ago between Jerry Travers and Mrs. Gavin, which the latter won—a very amazing fact, considering that Mrs. Gavin has not been ranked among the leading British lady golfers. Travers allowed Mrs. Gavin nine strokes on eighteen holes; the event was at thirty-six holes and played over two courses, Englewood and Wykagyl. Mrs. Gavin won the first round at Englewood by four holes, and added three more at Wykagyl, thus giving her a handsome victory of seven up.

JOHNNY DUNDEE SCORES KNOCKOUT

Louis H. Jaffe Reports Last Bout Before Going "Over There"

By LOUIS H. JAFFE

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 11.—Johnny Dundee, who in all probability will meet champion Benny Leonard in a six-round bout this spring, once again proved that he was going back with reversed English when he scored a five-round knockout here last night in a scheduled twelve-round bout over Becting Kuntz, 146-pound lightweight champion of Connecticut.

GAME JOE TUBER LOSES TO PETEY

Little Bearcats Furnish Exciting 18 Minutes in Final at Olympia

By BILL BELL

A game little fox terrier and a husky bulldog seldom meet. When they do the bulldog wins, but the victor knows he has been in a regular scrap. That's about the way we view the star doings at Olympia last night. Little Joey Tuber, 114 pounds of fight, gave Champion Petey Herman, 118 pounds of class and title, the greatest six-round bout of his career. The final honors belonged to Herman, but the credit goes to Tuber, Herman won because he was the stronger; he showed the stuff that champions are made of, while little Joseph sent his pals home thinking how near he came to being heavyweight champion of the world.

LEONARD BEATS K. O. LOUGHLIN

Tomorrow night at Olympia Irish Patsy Cline meets Benny Leonard, lightweight champion of the world, and the greatest lightweight scrap of the year is expected. Cast aside the blues or care of business and get a seat while the thing is possible. Both boys possess a knockout punch, and the bout may be the making of a new champion.

HERE IS THE SECRET

I thought I had discovered the secret—the shots are chiefly made up of the second shot to the green. As a rule, women do not recover, as well as men, neither do they play cut shots with the same ability. If a woman is playing her brassie well and her run-up shots and cuts are good, the man who gave her a half stroke a hole would be hard put. It is easier to give nine strokes in eighteen holes than a half on every hole, but my rather limited experience leads me to believe that a first class man can give a first-class American woman player the half stroke, provided always that the course is a really testing one. There are in this country plenty of "leveling courses," where no odds would be fair, but I feel that on a stiff course like Pine Valley one could give one stroke on twelve holes and win.

WIN FOR RED DOLAN

Red Dolan acted like a regular scrappier in the semi, and although Johnny McSheehy fought him hard and true Dolan earned the going. Frank Baker drew with Billy Horn, Danny Pervers beat Whitey Fitzgerald and Young Robieau stopped Harry Grennan in the first.

LEONARD BEATS K. O. LOUGHLIN

LANCASTER, Pa., Dec. 11.—The bout held between Leo Houck of Lancaster, and K. O. Loughlin, of South Berks, was a real one. Loughlin, who forced the fighting in every round, defeated Sammy Schiefel of Harrisburg, in the semi-final. Cy Davis had the better of Rube Bennett, of Mount Joy, when Rube was knocked out by Johnny Alex, of Allentown, in the fourth round. Frankie Flawd was stopped by Harry Edwards in four rounds in the opener.

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1918 CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TENNIS AND GOLF WILL STIMULATE BOTH GAMES AND INCREASE SCOPE

But Rice Wonders if There Is Much Glory and Honor to Be Won With So Many Stars Absent

By GRANTLAND RICE

"The Land of 'Might Have Been' (Re-entered upon subdued solicitation) Here's to 'The days that might have been,' Here's to 'The life I might have led'—The fame I might have gathered in, The glory ways I might have sped, Great 'Might Have Been' I drink to you, Upon a throne where thousands hail; And then—there looms another view— I also 'might have been' in jail.

"Land of Might Have Been," we turn With aching hearts to where you wait; Where crimson fires of glory burn, And laurel crowns the glowing gate; It's may not see across your field; The rightless skulls that knew their foe— The broken spears—the shattered shields— That 'might have been' as truly so.

"No real man," writes Private Peck, "is scared by the 'frightfulness' which Germany uses." On the contrary, the other hand, if golf and tennis had been played that far back, how much pride would a man take in stating that he was "tennis champion in 1855" or "golf champion in 1854"?

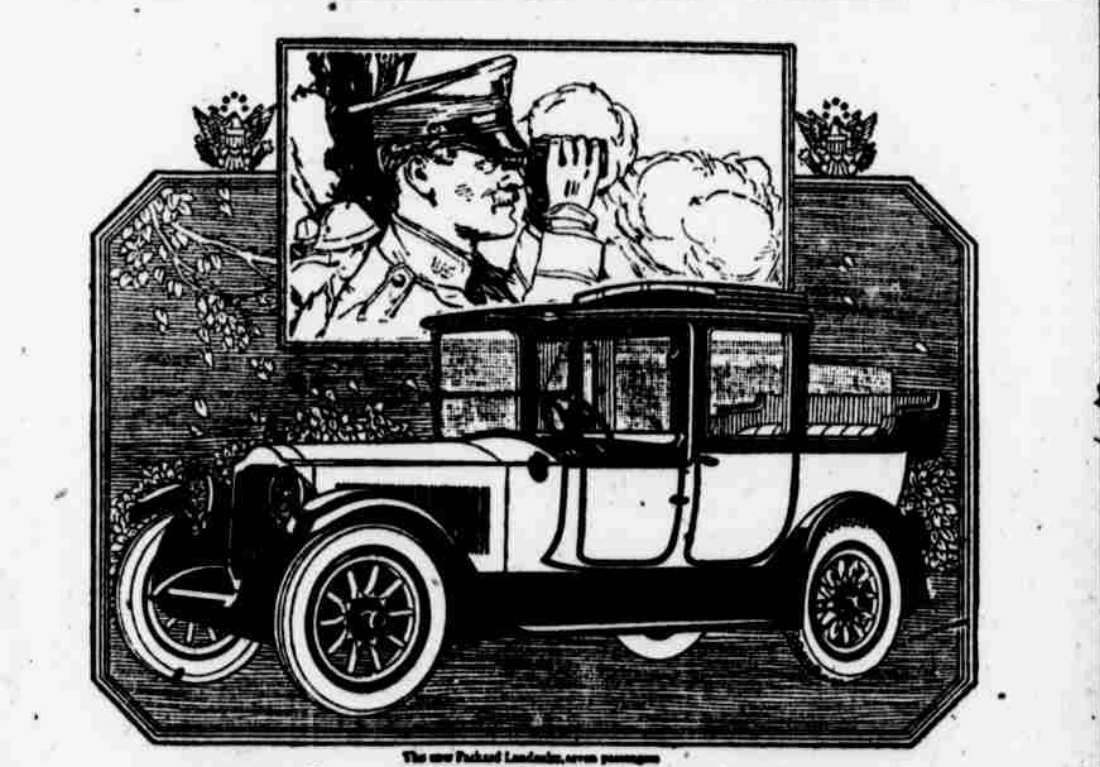
Which reminds us that Germany might have well recalled one of Herk's ancient maxims, "Before cracking anything be sure of your terminal facilities." 1918 Championships THE matter of championships for 1918 is a delicate affair. In one way they will undoubtedly stimulate interest in the game and increase its scope. In another way it is doubtful as to how much title honor, or rather glory, will be gained, say in golf or tennis, by winning a championship with so many stars absent on foreign fields or in hostile waters. There is considerable argument left on both sides.

If it can be shown that championship play in such games as golf and tennis can produce greater revenue for Red Cross or Y. M. C. A. war-work purposes, it might be well enough to resume. On the other hand, if golf and tennis had been played that far back, how much pride would a man take in stating that he was "tennis champion in 1855" or "golf champion in 1854"?

The record frequently uncovers a number of unknown details. No one had an idea in 1916 that Wally Pipp, a .280 hitter, was beyond Cobb and Speaker at the art of driving in runs. And none had any idea last season that Bob Veach also led Cobb and Speaker at this art. Jess Willard reiterates his statement that he is willing to return to active ring work when there is a public demand for his appearance. From present indications Jess will still wait a few weeks longer before the clamor attains noisy proportions.

CAMBRIA A. C. Burns & Fisher Managers Kensington Ave. and Somerset St. FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 14 Stanley Yankum vs Johnny Nelson Four Other Crackerjack Bouts

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