# EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1917

# **CK ONCE MORE WIPES SLATE CLEAN AND BEGINS ALLOVER AGAIN TO BUILD UP WINNING TEAM**

HE JUST THISHED THIS SOLASHER - HES DOING THE REHSINGTON

SPLASH

# INDOOR GOLF NNIS IS LAST OF THE A'S WHO ANNED GREATEST BASEBALL MACHINE IN HISTORY OF GAME

mber of Championship Teams Now Trails With Tailenders, With Only Memories of Past for Company; Connie's Latest Deal

LINES TO STUFFY M'INNIS

Fve often wondered how it seems to you, g around in the cellar, of a tail-end crew; the Yanks and Indians ing even the Brownsa who were part of the Cossack Guard That raided the captured towns.

Piking alone with the trailers, Here as the summer flits, Sometimes isn't it loncrome Wasting your two-base kits? Batting above Three Hundred While hanging on to a dream

y, I've often wondered, see in my Harlem den, shoats of the lost years ever Gather for you again? sets of the vanished legion Back ere the bubble burst, Collins, Baker and Barry Pagging 'em out to first? egging 'em out to first?

BLANKET of snow covers the Phillies' park, the playing field is obiterated and the deserted stands have a cold, barren, shivery, dismal carance. The scenery at Broad and Huntingdon streets typifies to a artain extent the prospects for the 1918 baseball season. There is nothing couraging about it. A visitor leaves the place shrouded in a pail of gloom and is deeply impressed that there is frost and ice everywhere and not an Alexander in sight. The old battleground seems to be suffering through cold, dreary days and nights, with thoughts of the departed ones-men who have left to make another club as great as they made the Phillies in the last three years and unmake the work they have done.

At Shibe Park conditions are the same, but it's an old story out there. for three years the opening of the season has been welcomed like a conned man greets the firing squad at sunrise, so the recent loss of Strunk, thang and Bush is nothing new or unusual. Additional suffering means othing at Shibe Park.

Yet as we gaze upon the remains of the once wonderful baseball mahine we cannot help but sympathize with Connie Mack. Only a few know how the lean leader has suffered and how hard he has worked to recontruct his club. He never quit. He never overlooked a bet so far as ball players were concerned. Front every part of the United States and Canada to received ball players, only to send them back again after a brief trial. It was discouraging, thankless labor, but he never faitered. One disappointnt piled on another until he had a huge collection of shattered hopes. ie wanted to give Philadelphia a good baseball team, and no man ever ted as hard as he. Several times he was on the verge of turning out a r, but something always happened and he had to begin all over again. was like a child playing with a house of cards. It always collapsed. . . .

OW Stuffy alone remains. The greatest of all first basemon, N who is "piking along with the trailers" and "hanging on to a dream," has stuck with Connie through the dark, dismal days, played his game and always gave his best. He is the nucleus for the 1915 team.

### Mack Virtually Was Forced to Sell His Stars

HE players, outside of McInnis, never realized how hard Connie Mack was working nor did they understand him. He wanted to keep an rican League club in Philadelphia, and it is no easy task to do it and money at the same time. If the attendance figures for the year were a public there would be gasps of surprise. Connie provided American carue baseball for the local fans and paid for most of it out of his own tet. His work never has been appreciated.

We have not seen or talked with Connie Mack since the baseball on closed last October, but from our own observations in the training ps and traveling with the team we can see how the sale of Strunk, and Schang came about. In the first place, there always was the ry question, which never was settled. Last year a temporary truce patched up between the manager and the players, but there always a a breach which never healed. Down South Strunk was accused seval times of not trying to do his best. He seldom ran out his hits and ed to be playing just because he had to. He was indifferent and his ns so aroused Connie that he sent him home a week before the trip nded. This is not meant as a knock at Strunk. Amos is only human and he was dissatisfied. He wanted to play on another club. He had a different temperament from Bush and Schang and couldn't give his best, he tried hard. We know positively that Amos did not talk to

Stuffy, watching a rally Curbed by a weaker male, Doesn't the ghost of Baker Stalk again to the plate? Doesn't the shadow of Bender Quiver athwart your flank? How would you like to be working Back of the shoots of, Plank? is said to be the mother of invention

Swept from the years behind you, Last of the Old Regime? -GRANTLAND RICE

CHARLES EVANS nt the could stay winter golf only nora tic of my home I dise This 1 hung as a target, and the as a target, and there from day to I worked to keep my golf hand in. practice served its purpose nicely.

It was years after this fitte, purel-personal experiment of mine that the real indoor golf, with an interestin-array of cauvas nots and complicate-putting courses, began to appear. Grad-ually all sorts of ingenious contrivators were shown. Almost every depart tore began to set aside space and competent instructors were engaged.

### Reasons for Indoor Game

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Isec. 17 -- Fred he asked after examining the tickets, have drawn, "How do yuh act when yuh try to get." If Chase, from the start, had

THE DAYS OF REAL SPORT

**HELPS THE GAME** OH ISNT IT Evans Says It Is Possible to Concentrate More on the Stroke POPULAR IN THE WEST

# NA MSPLASH By CHARLES (CHICK) EVANS My first experience with indoor gold was an example of that necessity which At that time of

for Smoke Show by

DEDICATED TO MY SON TIDIES -TICKET SCALPERS TENNEY AND CHASE GREATEST OF FIRST BASEMEN, BUT HONOR DONATE SERVICES GOES TO OLD BOSTON PLAYER

Boys Will Do Something George Sisler Only Modern Star Who May

I strongty advise learning to hit the ball on that very spot, and it can be done perhaps better indoors than out, for in-trated on the stroke, and therefore it is much casher to acquire a proper method. Then, too, a missed shot indoors seems less important than a failure on the course and is much less discouraging to the begimmer. Fultron to Meet Eilly Miske MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. Dec. 17-bred

# INDUSTRIAL CAGEMEN DECIDE ON CHANGE IN PLAYING NIGHTS AND WILL USE TRAYMORE HALL

# American League to Feature Dancing With Games Beginning Tonight-Hancock Has Strong Line-Up With Return of Bill Miller

TRAYMORE HALL, Franklin street and Columbia avenue, is now head-quarters for baskethail activities in this city. The American League has been baying there since the opening of the basic and the special meeting of the redustrial Baskethail League yesterday atternoon it was decided to finish the schedule at Traymore Hall and instead of playing on Mondays and Fridays will context their games on Thursdays and saturday. These nights have always been found profilable ones for the cage sport. The

These nights have always been found profitable ones for the cage sport. The industrials had been playing at Nonpa-reil Hall, but the followers of the various teams refused to make the long journey uptown. This is Ladies' Night The American and Industrial Leagues a series for the championalip of New Jersey, have decided to call off the games, and, judging by the attendance,

### This Is Ladies' Night

This is ladies' night in the American Leagué, and they will be admitted free of charge, except for the war tax and they must 'come acress' for Unels' Sam. The schedule calls for St. Columba to meet Y. M. H. A. and Hancock to tackle Brotherhood Beth Brael. There is a possibility of a shakeup with the playing of these games should St. Columba or Hancock meet defeat. Jack Lawrence, the Greysteel: center, will play his first game for St. Columba, and the other three teams in action have new players. Hascock's Lineun Good

This is Ladies' Night The American and industrial Leagues are taking advantage of conditions, and as Traymore Hall is used for daucing. have decided to utilize the facilities and make the games real social affairs Throughout the State daucing follows the matority of contests and has been instrumental in booming the attendances Eight years ago the De Neri gamen were reatured by music and daucing, and when the managers decided to dispense with this feature the erowd gradually fell off. This is indices' night in the American

This is ladies' night in the American willing to finish the season, and in the

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ale for weeks at a time, and this spirit never helps a ball club. But runk was fair about it. When he sulked he did it openly and his troubles are between Connie and himself. He did not tell the world that he was ting a raw deal. He also played as well as he could under the existing litions, and even Connie will admit that he earned his salary.

With Bush and Schang it was different. Bush made the best of things, while it was an open secret that he was dissatisfied, he always gave his best. Schang loves the game too well to lie down on the job, and he, o, was in there playing every minute. Bush had a run-in with Connie in Cleveland last August, but he took all of the blame,

LAST year whenever a player was sold to another club we have often heard one of the trio say: "Gee, there's a lucky guy! I wish I would be sent to a club like Boston or Chicago or New Tork.'

. . .

Sometimes the fans rise up in protest because they figure that the players have been traded unfairly. Sometimes they are, but in this case Connie is conferring a favor on Bush, Strunk and Schung. Just ask them what they think of the sale.

## **Retrenchment** Policy Seems to Have Been Abandoned

HILE the Winter League was running in full blast it was said that big-league baseball would be run on a different basis this year. Exwould be cut to a minimum, salaries would be sliced, the training abandoned, players must sleep in upper berths, the schedule trimmed a 140 games and only eighteen players to each club. That was the before the league meetings were held. But what happened? Instead of putting through these radical changes the clubs voted to on the same as before, take a chance and in reality began to spend money he Federal League barons in the palmy days. Charley Weeghman ap-eared on the scene with \$250,000 in regular money which he announced aid be spent on ball players, and made good his threat by snaring Alexer and Killefer from the Phin. Then came other deals where largo ts of money changed hands, players changed jobs and the events so startling and sensational that the entire sporting world was taken res. The various owners apparently had no fear of the great war and red their confidence in blg-league baseball at every opportunity.

at there will be a come-back, and it will come in a couple of months. pirit of confidence also will take hold of the players, and when the es to sign new contracts the owners will discover it to their dis-For example, if John Jones, of the Phillies, asks for an increase in he won't agree with President Baker when he tells of the uncerof the game, the huge expense and the prospect of losing money this nstead he will ask: "How about that bundle of coin you received he sale of Alexander and Killefer? Don't tell me that you're broke!"

THE same goes for Connie Mack, Weeghman, Branch Rickey, Clarke Griffith and the others. The magnates have shown their ce and the chances are they will have to pay for it. There stormy times shead.

### , 1914 World-Series Hero, Wants Another Trial

BILL JAMES, hero of the 1914 world series which resulted so disdy for the Athletics, wants to stage a come-back. The big rightto has been ineffective since ills great year when the Braves won and the world's championship, has written Manager Stallings. equesting another chance to show that his injured right arm mes was unable to take his turn on the mound during the campaigns, but he received his sulary just the same. When a cut last spring he refused, left the team and departed for difernia. He pitched in a few exhibition games on the coast of these few workouts are said to have convinced him that in to mow down pig-league batemen.

h Through With Big Leagues

# en signed up for a ten-reund, node ut o be held at St. Paul January 18.

PHILS MAY LOSE PITCHER RIXEY

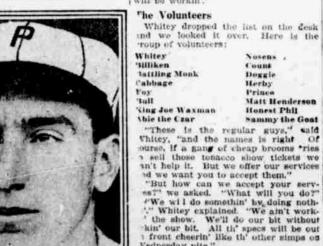
Tall Virginia Southpaw Volunteers for Service in Gas-

Defense Department

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va., Dec. 17.-The Phillies are to lose another mound star. Eppa Rixey, Jr., the tall Virginia yuh?

southpaw, has in all probability made his Boys Donate Services has appearace on the diamond. Ever "Y see, the boys air southpaw, has in all probability made his hast appearace on the diamond. Ever since the close of the National League branch of the war service to enter. The opportunity came this week when he was notified by his former tutor, Pro-ference Francis P. Dunnington, of the

fessor Francia P. Dunnington, of the share to see that they get 'em. University of Virginia, that two Virgin-Chiversity of Virginia, that two Virgin-ia graduates in analytical chemistry were wanted for the gas defense depart-ment for immediate assignment at Nor-folk. Bixey, who has been in the em-ploy of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company at Richmond for the last two months, hastened at once to his home at the university, procured the necessary recommendations from his former im-structors and at once forwarded them to the War Department. It is believed in a for the dist the interview of the and the site for the wail enlist at once. that his application will be a that he will enlist at once. will be workin'."



ANOTHEB FLINGER GOES

Vednesday nite."

in? Do yuh walk rite up to th' door an as curnestly and as steadily as he has hand it to th' guy what's there?' in Redland the last two years, there is no question that today he would top

swered. "I alm't kiddin' yuh," resumed Whitey, "but yuh must understand that I sell tickets au' never use 'on. Many a smart fielder, who batted above .360 for night I tear up the seats I have left eight years—a fine defensive player and the peak. As it stands, the majority of votes were given to Fred Tenney, a brilliant, tickets au' never use 'on. Many a mart fielder, who batted above .360 for eight years—a fine defensive player and nn' heat 10. Never have time to see no a strong man on atlack.

They take up too much of my Chase should have outra where Hal's but there were lean years where Hal's

evenin'. "But such hand th' ticket at the door in' then find a usher or something. Am I right? Then I get showed to my seat, and tha's all. But, say, are these seats any good? I don't want no buun deal on this, because I ain't no sucker, at' I have trouble enough when I'm sellin' then. You're treath' mo right, ain't wab?

### Indoor Championships Most Likely Will Be Staged in This

ica will hold its annual indoor and out-"Us spees ain't so bad," continued door championships next spring, several

ENTRIES FOR VICTRIX RUN CLOSES TOMORROW Entries close tomorrow for the annual

Christmas Day modified Marathon run given under the auspices of the Victrix Catholic Club, over the club's course of s'ightly more than five miles, Many entries have already been received, including several military teams.

Honest Phil Sammy the Goat from the nearby cantonments, which should bring out some close competition. Twenty-five handsome individual and team prizes in the shape of gold watchen, "liver cups and gold, silver and bronze medals are offered as prizes. Entries close with Thomas J. Hughes, chairman, 5435 Vine street, Philadel-blus Ze phia, Pa.

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad and Halubridge TONIGHT, DECEMBER 17 Redy Bell vs. Frankle McKee Bid Scatton vs. Jimmy Devine Frankle Chark vs. Andr Burns Al Nelson vs. Benny Valger Willie Jackson vs. Frankie Callahan Re. Res. 50c. 75c. Arens. \$1.51.50.inc.war tax

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AMATEUR NOTES The Penfield A. A. would like to arrange skethall games with second or third class ans having halls. P. A. Builik, Jr., 2529 diana avenue, or phone Baring 410 between the second nue, or phone Ba and 5:30 p. m.

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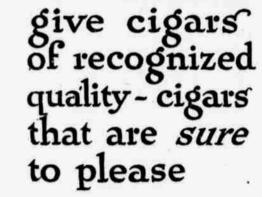
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Matt Henderson

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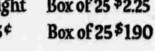


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