

COALLESS WINTER FAILS TO WORRY BASEBALL MAGNATES; HOW ABOUT A SEATLESS SUMMER?

CRITICAL RAILROAD SITUATION COMPLETELY STUMPS MAKERS OF SCHEDULES FOR BIG LEAGUES

Two Instead of Three Trips Suggested to Safeguard Traveling Hazards and Save Expenses—Will Consult Uncle Sam

THE most critical situation ever faced by big league schedule-makers confronts National and American League representatives in their conference with Government officials in Washington next Tuesday.

Schedule-making at any time is a man's size job on account of the difficulty of avoiding conflicts. Ordinary schedule preparation implies regular passenger train schedules, and the nationwide transportation crisis is going to make the general task much more difficult this year.

The question of conflicts will, in consequence, give way in importance to the matter of guaranteeing teams ample time to travel from city to city and yet make it possible to play the usual number of games in the usual time.

As to just how serious the situation is, the subject of supplementary transportation has been engaging the attention of the schedule-makers for some time. The use of autos and limo will be handy in the East, where Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Washington are bunched.

SOUND steamships are mentioned as proving handy as transportation fillers in the Boston and New York train traffic. A like situation another year and flying machines no doubt would be available.

Yanks Prepared for Traveling Reforms

MILLER HUGGINS'S Yankees tribe will have the advantage over other big league teams in one respect during the coming season. They at least will be warned in the matter of individual luggage "rotting" to meet ordered traveling reforms.

The days of the uniform trunks are over, for a while at least. The ban has been placed upon the elaborate wardrobe stuff on account of the uncertainty of travel the coming year. Each player, therefore, will be custodian of his own effects at all times.

Fielder Jones Tells Woes of Losing Manager

MANAGER FIELDER JONES, of the St. Louis Browns, comes forward with one of those exclusive interviews secured at great expense at his peaceful ranch somewhere in Oregon and explains some of the perplexities and anxieties which harassed his managerial soul last season.

Reported trouble with Plank, Severid and Shotten is flatly denied, but he admits that Johnny Lavan was disgruntled all season and places the salary question at the bottom of the indifference of the Ann Arbor media.

He throws some new light upon Plank's quitting the team, stating that the veteran slapper appealed to him in a flood of tears to let him turn in his uniform on account of the fact that he was discouraged and believed himself no good for the remainder of the season at least.

AS TO prospects for next season, they are declared "good." "Fighting in the first division," is the way he puts it, and he expresses faith in Grover Loudemilk proving another Walt Johnson the coming year.

Mere Pinch Hitters Likely to Go Next Year

PINCH HITTING is an exclusive and highly essential role in the modern game of baseball, but a player has to be able to do something worth while besides merely being able to line 'em out in an emergency to hold a permanent big league berth.

THE downfall of the greatest pinch hitter of his day is recalled as an echo of Krumler's passage back to the minors. Old Dode Criss was as slow as a cow and as awkward as a giraffe but he could lambast the spheroid.

THE pinch hitter of the coming season more than ever will be required to be able to do something more than pound the ball, for economy of players makes this imperative.

Eddie O'Keefe, Hard-Luck Boxer, Is Training Again

THE champion hard-luck boxer of Philadelphia has started training again. After a layoff of seven weeks, Eddie O'Keefe, the local bantam, is looking for work and cares not whom he meets.

WEINSTEIN also is seeking a return match with Joe Lynch, and the chances are that his man will box Young Britt in Boston in a couple of weeks. Jack Hanlon promised to use O'Keefe at the Olympia the week of February 1.

Three Players Worth \$4000, Says Jennings

BIG league ball players resent the statement made by Hugh Jennings last night ago that there were only three players in the American League who are worth \$4000 per year.

BAKER MAILES CONTRACTS TO MEN FOR 1918

President of Phillies Says Few Salary Reductions Are Ordered

PITCHERS ARE NEEDED

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
The 1918 baseball season opened officially in Philadelphia today. The Government order to go easy on the coal supply did not interfere with the inauguration, for no matter how powerful old Doc Harshbarger may be, he cannot take away the fuel for the Hot State League.

With the season pipes cracking merrily by the Philadelphia office, President W. P. Baker played the opening chords when he sent a flock of contracts to his hired men. Some reductions were made, but the bulk of the players were treated liberally in regard to salaries.

Needs New Pitchers

However, the fact that the pitching staff of the Phils is all shot to pieces cannot be denied. Alex and Blay left a yawning hole to be filled and now it has been learned that Davis, the right-handed rookie, has been called in for the season in order to give Baker a variety among the absent. Pat Moran has only Bender, Geisler, Mayer, Pendergast and Woodward, a rookie, to do his flinging.

The infield remains intact, with Luden on first, Nelboff, second; Baneyoff, short; and Stock, third base. In the outfield, there are Whitted, Cravath, Fitzgerald, Muesel and Long Cy Williams. Pat believes Williams will be one of the stars of the league before the season is over and expects him to do well in center field.

Oscar Lugey and Frank Schulte probably will be dropped and it is not known as yet if they have been sent contracts. That Alexander Deal
President Baker denied that his conference with Moran in New York, yesterday, had anything to do with the Alexander Deal.

"That deal rests with fate," said Mr. Baker. "It was a strategic business proposition with a definite understanding. We agreed that in case Alexander were drafted by the Government any time previous to thirty days before the opening of the championship season (approximately March 16) the deal would not go.

"Stories have been circulated that President Weegman, of the Cubs, has followed to call the deal off in case the fact that Alexander is liable to be called among the first of his district. These stories are untrue. The Chicago deal is a deal, and it is the deal. It is not to be called off in case of war unless the military or naval branches are armed for thirty days before April 18, which has been selected as the opening date of the major league schedules this year."

Several Trades Likely

Moran admitted that he had several trades in view that would be submitted to club clubs at the proper moment, presumably during the rebuilding period in this city next month. His most serious problem is the pitching staff.

"The Phillies will train at St. Petersburg, Fla., again this year. No definite time has been set for the assembly. The training trip will be all probability be shorter than usual, as the weather in Southern Florida is hot. The time of going and the length of the stay may be influenced by the training of the Washington Club of the American League.

Sports Served Short

Frederick W. Trevethick, an old basketball player of West Chester, Pa., has been selected to report at the school for aviation course which the Government is conducting at Atlantic City.

W. Sheppard, the middle distance runner, has filed a claim with the War Department for \$1000 per month for the duration of his military service. He was in the U. S. Army from September 22 and December 12, 1916.

J. J. Lanning, one-time owner of the Boston Red Sox, has purchased the property of the Philadelphia club, the Philadelphia Phillies, for \$1,000,000. The deal was made last night.

Otto Reihel beat John Danielman, 50 to 27, in a boxing match at the Pennsylvania State University. The fight was held at the University of Pennsylvania, the winner being Reihel.

Twenty-six New York golf clubs have shut down in response to Fuel Administrator Garfield's request to conserve coal.

The New York and New Jersey banks and trust companies have organized the Associated Bank and Trust Companies of New Jersey.

Julian T. Hinson, riding George, won the flat race at Philadelphia.

SOMEbody IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



FULTON BOXES MISKE TONIGHT

Fredward Must Win Decisively to Be Considered of Championship Caliber

BANTAMS AT C A M B R I A

By BILL BELL
Fredward the Percheron is working again tonight when he stables up against Billy Miske out in St. Paul, Minn. The Percheron has been taking things easy since winning Harry Tate in Joplin, Mo., and it is believed he will repeat against Miske. As Billy weighs about 170 and hasn't a punch that would flatten a sea-sick jockey, Fulton will be a terrible prospect if he fails to dispose of his opponent in a very short time.

Miske is aggressive
Miske, on the other hand, is an aggressive, nervous fighter and afraid of nothing. He can travel at a fast pace, as was shown in his fight with Jack Dillon and Battling Levinsky. He directs most of his attack at the body, a place where Fulton does not like to take it. For a short time Miske probably will give Fulton a lot of trouble, but the big guy should win in the end.

Scraps About Scrappers

Eddie Baker of Scraper, again has been handled by William Segal, who is making out a reputation for his championship.

Murray Meets McGovern

Johnny Burns has another all-bantam show at the Cambria tonight, and he will be battling Murray and Young McGovern in the wind-up. Murray made a big hit two weeks ago, when he knocked out Dick Gotwald and earned a place in the wind-up.

THREE I MAGNATES TO HOLD CONFERENCE

CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—President A. R. Toney, of the Three I League, last night called the presidents of the Central League, Western League and Central Association to attend a joint meeting to be held in Peoria, Ill., for the purpose of settling the Middle West minor league situation. The date will be set after their replies have been received. It is planned to form two or three substantial circuits out of the four leagues.

BARRETT FAILED TO SCORE FIELD GOAL IN FIRST HALF

Elliott-Lewis Team Establishes New Industrial League Record by Preventing Opponents From Tallying a Two-Pointer

A NEW record was established last night in the Industrial Basketball League games at Traynor Hall, when the Elliott-Lewis five shot-out their opponents, Barrett, without a field goal in the first half.

One Foul Goal

While the Barrett team was striving to register a goal on the field, the Elliott-Lewis youngsters were dropping the ball through the net with ease, and when the first twenty minutes of play was finished, the score was 24 to 1. White scored a free throw from the fifteen-foot mark for Barrett's lone tally.

The "Live Wire" ended up in the second half and White succeeded in scoring two field goals and three more fouls. A one-pointed by McParland brought their total up to nine. The final score was 33-9. O'Brien, Sturgis and Passon led the winners in points scored.

Sign Eastern League Stars

Butterworth, with two new players, Charles McGee, formerly of the Graystock Eastern League team, and Graft, of the Vincennes independent club, in his lineup, had an easy time defeating Lancaster Monotype, 40-15. The game was close for the first ten minutes, but after warming up the league leaders put the contest on ice. McGregor, with four

LAW OF AVERAGES CONTROLS IN GOLFING PASTIME THE SAME AS IN THE OTHER SPORT BRANCHES

Bad Breaks in Luck May Handicap Success, but True Form Wins in Long Run, as in Game of Life

By CHAS. (CHICK) EVANS, JR.
DOES success in golf, or in life, for that matter, come from hard intelligent work in building up skill, or is it mainly the result of a good break at some critical moment? Can the training of years be overthrown by an unfortunate happening that cannot, reasonably speaking, be foreseen or provided against? I think that all thoughtful persons must agree that accidents may in one disastrous moment sweep away the work of years. Instinctively, of course, this is a fact of possibility, but of the greatest probability. In all the ordinary conditions I must confess that the race is usually to the swift and the battle to the strong.

General Results Count

We hear a great deal about "the law of averages" and indeed it is a very real thing. We have all seen badly hit balls and fine good lies. We have seen them headed straight for out of bounds, and headed straight for a stroke. We have seen the little white gloves flinger on the very edge of a putting bunker—and never drop in. We live all kinds of lives, the interruptions, the casual remark, the wrong moment and destroyed the good shot. Then again some players do have the art of inspiring respectful consideration in the gallery, and their shots are made amid a deathlike stillness, while the other player looks on to strike his ball to an accompaniment of stamping feet and staccato bursts of conversation. Unfortunately all these things are true and back luck is to consider is the average result. It is certainly true that it is hard to keep a good man down.

Same as Game of Life

All sorts of bad luck may delay success, but skill averages will win in the long run in golf as well as all the important things of life. The player must learn to forget his opponent's good breaks and concentrate upon his own shots. He must learn to take these things as they come, for luck is not always one-sided. The player must especially avoid crying over the varying luck of the game while it is in progress.

STUMPF, OLD YANKEE, BOUGHT BY PIRATES

For many weeks Barney Dreyfus had been promising Pittsburgh fans a new shortstop who would prove a sensation. Yesterday it was learned that the sensation is an old friend of New York fans, for he is none other than Bill Stumpf, who played on and off mostly off with the Yankees during the regimes of Harry Wolverton and Frank Chance.

Turn to the Right

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