

SCOUTS WILL GO, BUT CLUBS WILL NEED REAL PROPHETS MORE THAN EVER NEXT YEAR

WITH UNCLE SAM'S BALL DRAFT WORKING OVERTIME, NEXT YEAR IS CERTAIN TO BE UNCERTAIN

Big Stars Are Falling, Trading Is More Hazardous Than Stock Dabbling and No Manager Knows Where He Stands

THERE is not a chance for a debate over the proposition as to what is to be the situation in the baseball world the coming season. The grand old pastime indeed is in for its most weird, peculiar and eccentric season. But one thing is certain, and that is that everything is uncertain. Nobody can tell what's coming off, in the light of war conditions, not even a broad prophet, and baseball trading has become more uncertain than dabbling in phony stocks.

The draft of the diamond sport in the past has been a potent institution. Few players have failed to heed its dithers. What the draft would do and went cheerfully. Everybody was anxious to receive the summons to step higher. Another draft has come along, however, and the old baseball draft has been forced into a sitting posture in the back row of the gallery. The higher-up call of the diamond no longer can be heard above a whisper, while Uncle Sam's clarion note to come forward can be distinctly detected by the naked ear everywhere and by all the busy youth of the land who used to aspire to shine on the diamond.

Uncle Sam's draft is no respecter of persons and it fails to take any notice whatever of a \$50,000 deal and a \$100,000 salary. Some of the biggest stars of the game have been called to the colors to serve for no more per month than they were accustomed to receive for one playing day during the ball season, and many others will go. Hence there is no way for a manager to figure on possibilities or to guarantee himself against a sudden smash-up calculated to upset completely his season's plans.

Alexander the Great went to the Cubs in the big deal of the year and Alex has been ordered to make ready to put aside the burning bill for the trench pot. Anybody with no better half evidently is able to divert just to what extent Magnate Wegman, of the big haul, could realize his dream of putting over a pennant winner without the big Nebraska.

WITHOUT Alex and his thirty games per the Cubs would be lucky to finish in the first division for the general class of the team as at present made up, without Alexander in the east, six cents but an ordinary outfit and one little if any stronger than last season.

Others Must Go, and the End Is Not Yet

Given a Class I rating, which means that they surely will go in the next call. These are Fred Toney, Christy Mathewson's big dependency in the box, and Benny Kauff, the blushing nose-tyer of the McGraw and McGraw can be going better under this decision than can Mathewson because Toney is not worth any more to the Reds comparatively than is Alexander to the Cubs. Big pitchers are the big guns in the machine and the loss of an outfielder, with the exception of men like Cobb and Speaker, cannot be considered as a knockout blow. However, there is no telling how many more will be called and there is no telling when any team may be hopelessly crippled by the plucking of a star batsman or some other absolutely essential star.

The baseball world was startled recently by the report that Ty Cobb would have to go. The great player's failure to include in his questionnaire the fact that he had a very healthy little family caused a review of the case and a delayed classification, which seems certain to carry him through this year at least. Another great player about whose fate much uneasiness was expressed and upon whose case rested the destiny of one well-known club is Rogers Hornsby. The clever infielder and fierce clown of the St. Louis Cards, it seems, following the tragic death of a brother, has become his mother's sole support, and for this reason he will be able to coast at least one more season and fight for a juicy raise in pay as the result of some lurid publicity afforded by the press agency of the Chicago Cubs.

AND while the coming baseball season is bound to be most uncertain, should the well-known Hun be able to last out the next playing season of the war virtually all the big stars of the game would be gone and the favorite American pastime would have to rely solely upon children and old men.

Southpaw Should Prove to Be Great Sniper

PITCHER SHERROD SMITH, the Brooklyn southpaw now in Uncle Sam's service, ought to prove an adept in the art of sniping for he led all National League boxmen in "picking 'em off the bases" last year. His record was fifteen, and his unceasing movement in watching the sacks made the runners step lively and think fast after they had reached the first cushion.

Old-timers say that Smith is the nearest approach to Matt Kilroy in making men hug their bases and pick plucking men off they ever have seen. Nick Altrock, when he was active in the American League, did a lot of Nick Smith stuff, and, according to Fielder Jones, boss of the Browns, who is not given to ruminating, once caught eleven men off the bases in one game played out on the Pacific coast. This record is not in any of the record books, but Jones vouches for it.

Philly Recruit Is Champion Strike-out Artist

STATISTICS compiled by the veteran dopester, John Lawres, of Milwaukee, show some interesting facts regarding the strike-out kings of the diamonds of all leagues for the last three decades.

According to the research work of this historian, "One-Arm" Daley ranks first as a strike-out pitcher in the big league with an average in 464 innings of 8.25 batters per nine-inning game. He pitched in fifty-four games. This record was made in 1884 and was being up at a time when the pitchers were doing the most deadly work in mowing down the hitters. When, however, it comes to season-after-season honors, Babe Waddell has a clear bill to the highest big league distinction. The famous eccentric southpaw whiffed an average of more than seven in five different seasons. The greatest number of batters ever fanned in a season was 505, by Matt Kilroy while wearing a Cincinnati uniform in 1886. In order to set this mark, however, the ancient side-wheeler was compelled to perform in eighty-five contests. His general average gives him fifth place, according to the authority in question.

But it is necessary to go to the minor leagues to find the highest marks set in strike-outs. And this is where the Philly recruit, Dixie Davis, comes forward as the head of the entire pitching pack. His great record of an average of 11.17 per nine-inning game was made in 1912, when he was breaking into the game with the Knoxville team, of the Appalachian League. His record for a single game was twenty. Often he made a dozen or so walk back to the bench.

While with Richmond in 1913 Doc Ayers was some bigger. He averaged that season more than ten per game, which record exceeds that made by Ven Greig in 1910. Ayers' totals are given as 250 batters whiffed in 842 innings, against Greig's record of 374 in 325 innings. A number of minor leaguers have a better record per game than Daley or Waddell.

WALTER JOHNSON, generally held to be the greatest big league strike-out pitcher since Babe Waddell's day, is rated as thirteen in the figures presented. That Walt has been performing at a time when the foul strike has been operative is further testimony to Waddell's wonderful ability.

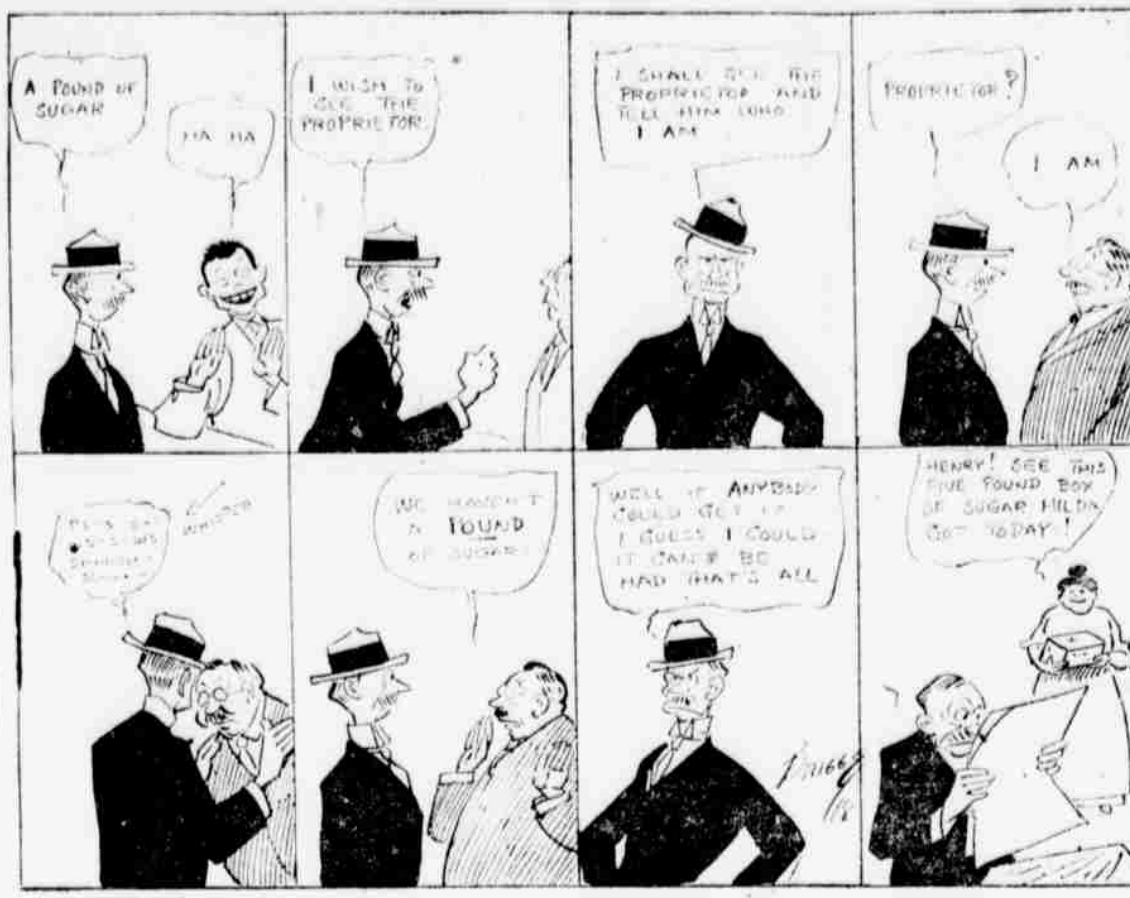
Branchfield Will Retire From Baseball

WILLIAM E. "KITTY" BRANSFIELD, a former big league first-sacker and last year an umpire in the Tenger circuit, will not be seen on the diamonds 'till the National League next season. Bransfield has decided to quit umpiring on account of the weakness of his legs. While with the Phillies several years ago Branchfield was seriously hurt in Cincinnati and was laid up in the hospital for several weeks as a result of an injury to his right knee. KITTY has come to the conclusion that the injury to his knee has prevented him from covering a match ground as an umpire should in order to give his decisions properly. His judgment on balls and strikes was exceptionally good, but his work on the bases was rather poor.

Portland Will Pay Soldiers' Salary Loss

MICHAEL J. GARRITY, manager of the Portland club of the Eastern League, has announced that all local players who enlist in the military service during the duration of the war will receive the difference in salary paid by the government and that called for in the figures of their contracts. The offer has been authorized by Hiram Abrams, millionaire president of the club and owner of a chain of moving picture theatres. The Portland club is believed to be the first in baseball to make such offer in an effort to encourage enlistments. While many major and minor league players have enlisted, none of them, so far as is known, will serve his country under such an agreement.

OH, MAN!



CHICK EVANS TELLS OF THE DRAW FOR LAST BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP IN WHICH AMERICANS PLAYED

United States Represented by Amateur and Open Champions and Other Stars at Sandwich Tournament and Things Looked Rosy

By CHARLES (Chick) EVANS, JR.

ON THE afternoon of May 14, 1914, the drawing for the last British open championship was made. The honor of making the actual drawing was given to Jerome Travers, and to him and it was one hands that drew the names. When the result was announced the general opinion seemed to be that, everything considered, the Americans had been rather fortunate for the first day.

The drawings for the Americans were made by the honor of making the actual drawing was given to Jerome Travers, and to him and it was one hands that drew the names. When the result was announced the general opinion seemed to be that, everything considered, the Americans had been rather fortunate for the first day.

There is such a big body of good players in Britain that the "base" draws of America are not so important as they are here. The Royal St. George, and so it proved. The opponents of the other players were pretty good, and we felt that we had a chance there were so many wonderful players who might have looked our progress at the beginning of the play.

Quimet Gets Best Caddy

Quimet's opponent had lived on long in the Philippines, and although a champion we did not feel that he was very formidable at the Royal St. George, and so it proved. The opponents of the other players were pretty good, and we felt that we had a chance there were so many wonderful players who might have looked our progress at the beginning of the play.

Palmer Famous Player

Of these British players, Palmer, Wilkison, Cranston and Chastwick had been the strongest in the tournament of the previous week. Directly after the first round I heard it stated that Palmer was really the most difficult man to play, but if Travers defeated him he would have thereafter on to a certain point the easiest point of all the Americans. Palmer was a very formidable opponent, however, with many victories to his credit. At his best his game was said to be very good, and he was a great fighter. A big game of a man, determined to win in a critical match. Therefore, in spite of his good qualities as a player there seemed to be no doubt in the general mind as to the winner. This record is not in any of the record books, but Jones vouches for it.

READING CLUB TO STAGE SHOOT

Great Eastern Handicap Big Event at Hercules Club Tomorrow

CITY'S GUNNERS ENTERED

One of the largest participating matches of the year is scheduled tomorrow at Reading at the Spring Valley shooting grounds. The event will attract all the well-known gunners of this State.

It is the Great Eastern Handicap three-day shoot. The Hercules Club Club has charge of it and from 1911 to 1917 it was the most important event in the gunning world. The event will be staged regardless of weather conditions.

South Philadelphia High will be the host for the event. The Hercules Club Club has charge of it and from 1911 to 1917 it was the most important event in the gunning world. The event will be staged regardless of weather conditions.

Westtown to Play Here

Coach Sutton's progress has played two games this season, defeating Jenkintown High and Darby High. These two games have done much to show Coach Sutton the weaknesses of his team, and also the relative strength of the players. Captain Beck, at center, continues to be the individual star. He is a consistent scorer and is strong both on offense and defense.

ZBYSZKO BEATS OLIN ON THE MAT

Powerful Wrestler Forces Opponent to Quit by Punishing Toe Hold

Entry Lists Increased

Later in the season, beginning with the tournament, it was decided to give prizes to the winners of the regular events. About 200 men began to show. Bala, Lu La Temple and Shawnee showed that they would participate in prizes were offered. The Philadelphia Cricket Club and at Whitehorse were called off.

It is very probable that the whole matter of the tournament play will be left to the executive committee. Those of the delegates who feel that such action will result in the calling off of all tournaments will oppose such a motion and will try to settle the question once and for all at the meeting.

Maxwell Loses Medal

Norman H. Maxwell, North and South champion, the brilliant youngster from the Aronovitch Country Club who already has one tournament at Philadelphia, was defeated by Zbyszko in the final round of the annual St. Valentine's golf tournament there yesterday by J. D. Standish, Jr., the Detroit player, finishing with a 75 to Norman's 77. Norman won this event last year and his chief opponent in the tournament should be Standish, one of the best players in the Western States, as he is in different brackets. George W. Stutzell, president of Aronovitch, and Norman's host at Philadelphia, is in the second flight. His score is in the third, as is R. W. Betrand, of Overbrook.

COWLER FOULS WEINERT; THROW OUT OF RING

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 28.—Tom Cowler, the English heavyweight, was disqualified and thrown out of the ring last night in the second round of the Western States wrestling tournament. Weinert, Cowler's opponent, was awarded three previous victories. After the first round Weinert took a short rest and insisted on resting for a few minutes. When he started fighting again and Cowler after receiving a terrific landing and in a hopeless condition, deliberately fouled again.

PLAY FOR SECOND PLACE TONIGHT

Hancock Meets Girard for Runner-Up Position in American League

AT TRAYMORE HALL

The struggle for second honors in the American League will be resumed this evening at the Traymore Hotel, when Hancock and Girard meet for the runner-up position. Hancock, who has been the favorite, is in the lead, but Girard is a strong contender.

With this title is considered the more important, it is likely that the other attraction between Brotherhood of Beth Israel and Y. M. H. A. will be more interesting to the majority of the cage fans and fauntes at tonight's double-header.

Both Israel and Y. M. H. A. have, with the exception of St. Columbia, more followers than the other clubs in the circuit and tonight's contest has been an early looked forward to for several weeks.

With the addition of Lew Sugarman, Doc Newman and Harry Franke, the roster of the B. I. E. five believe that the Y. M. H. A. club has a possible chance to win. But the Y. M. H. A. team with its former scholastic stars, Babin, Schneiderman, Passon and Black, working together in the best fashion, is determined to upset the wise ones and finish on the long end of the final score.

Hancock is leading the Girard five by a full game, so the defeat for Hancock and Girard will be a bitter one. Hancock's men will put the two clubs on even terms and give the Saints a much better margin in the race for the pennant. Jack Lawrence, who failed to appear for the game last week, is expected to jump center for Hancock.

Jimmy Walsh Enlists

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—Jimmy Walsh, former star pitcher and a member of the Boston Red Sox, has enlisted in the United States Navy. He is anxious to become a machinist's mate.

KID WILLIAMS LOSES BIG BOUT TO LYNCH WHEN MANAGER STOPS UNEVEN BATTLE IN 4TH ROUND

Battered and Helpless, Former Champion Is Saved From Beating When Wartnik Jumps Into Ring—Victor Credited With Knockout

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

STEADFAST against the ropes raised in a noble effort to ward off the crashing blows which were being showered on his unprotected face by Joe Lynch, his youthful opponent, Kid Williams, former bantamweight champion, went down into defeat at the Olympia A. A. last night. The end came in the fourth round, when Joe Lynch jumped into the ring and hit the beaten hero to his corner. This stopped the bout and Lynch drew credit for scoring a knockout.

Williams was beaten, not on his feet and hadn't one chance in a million to weather the storm. He was wedged in the corner as he couldn't fall, and it was only a question of seconds before he would be battered into helplessness. Lynch, cool and calculating, calmly shot home blow after blow and was measuring him for the final crushing wallop when the red came. The Baltimore boy and his lines sagging, his face awarred with blood and a glassy stare in his eyes, stood like a man facing a firing squad and received the final salute.

Williams' corner had been advised toward the boxes. Lynch drew back his right arm and was ready to put all of his strength behind the blow when he was stopped by the referee. This time Wartnik had walked on the outside of the ring to Williams, jumped through the ropes and took the battered boxer to his corner. Williams was not counted out, but in the fourth round the bout was down as a knockout. This is the second time Williams has been stopped, George Chaney knocked him out about seven years ago when the Kid was a preliminary fighter.

But last night's result came as a huge surprise. Some of the wise ones from New York predicted that Lynch would win by a knockout, but his second round was made so many men guess in the past that their inside noses were not always accurate. In the first two rounds Williams had things all his own way and piled up a big lead. He had Lynch on the run and was being hit by the younger boy, but he stopped. He also jumped up some healthy wallops on the chin and looked like an easy winner.

In the second round the boys mixed it up in a corner and Lynch got a stiff right on the jaw which stopped the younger boy and he was not in the best of health when the bell rang.

It was different in the third. Williams' long jabbing, as he was hand-cuffed by Lynch's height and reach. The Kid directed his attack at the body and had his man backed against the ropes near the spot Johnny Dundee was once cornered by Willie Jackson, when Jackson suddenly backed away and whipped the right to Williams' chin, the arm was raised and it virtually won the bout for the New Yorker.

Williams Goes Down

Williams' knees sagged, he threw out his arms blindly to grab something and fell to the floor. There was a surprised look on his face as he tried to arise, but he was not able to get up. He couldn't get up until the count of seven. Lynch was on him like a tiger, but the referee stepped in.

Lynch Hurt in Second

Williams walked over to where he was sitting and with a wistful smile on his face said, "I believe I was hurt. He defeated me fairly and he deserves all the credit he can get. I have no excuse to offer. I wish Joe Lynch all the best and I believe he will give Peter Herman a hard fight."

Lynch has been boxing for two years and graduated from the amateur ranks. His first notable triumph was last December, when he won from Eddie O'Keefe in three rounds after Eddie had broken his arm. Williams' manager, who is a former champion, said that he could easily make 116 rounds.

The other bouts were very good. In the new-division Joe Welsh, Bobby Gunn, champion, fought to Young Brown in six rounds. Willie Moore, a local star, defeated Charley Daily in the third. Jack Thompson, a brunette warrior from St. Joe, Mo., flattened George Christian in the second, and in the opener Al Moore defeated Max Williams.

Sports Served Short

Notes of the Bouters

LOST AND FOUND

HELP WANTED—FEMALE

BELL TELEPHONE OPERATING

THE BELL TELEPHONE CO. OF PENNSYLVANIA

BOOKKEEPER—Young woman, experienced and accurate at figures; steady, reliable, efficient. Apply to Mr. J. H. Collins, 118-122 Egg st., opposite 6th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—A man for a position in a large business. Apply to Mr. J. H. Collins, 118-122 Egg st., opposite 6th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Oldsmobile 20th Year Service is one of the prime requisites of satisfactory ownership. We maintain a service to owners that is indeed a revelation for promptness and efficiency. This fact makes Oldsmobile ownership doubly satisfactory. Larson Oldsmobile Co. 231-33 N. Broad St.