

ALEX INTIMATES THERE WILL BE NO WEAK-KNEE COMPLICATION IN HIS DEMAND FOR BOND

ANNUAL OVERTURE OF HOLDOUT ORCHESTRA DISTINCTLY HEARD ABOVE THE DIN OF WORLD WAR

Usual Harbinger of Baseball Season. However, Comes With Fewer Typewriters in Action Than Usual—Rather Make Munitions

THE soft, sweet, balmy breezes which joyously entered our city a couple of days ago and put the cold wave to ignominious rout brought with them—meaning the breezes—huge parcels of news which were snowbound and almost frozen to death in the far West or some place. Startling information has been thawed out and we now know that the 1918 baseball season is with us. The overture is being played by the troupe of holdout artists and battle lines are said to be strong enough to last all summer. The holdouts always appear first in the baseball drama, and after they get through with their act the real stuff is put on. It's funny about those guys who are attacked with writer's cramp about this time each year when their contracts are shipped to them. They suddenly become aware of their own importance and boost their salaries until they are satisfied. It means nothing to them if the boss takes the opposite view. They put on their little act, threaten to quit the game, grab off a little harmless newspaper publicity, fight it out with the manager and in the end invariably sign up at the original figure. Of course, there are some glorious victories, but they are few and far between.

The first thaw of the year brought with it the startling information that some ball players don't care a hang if they cavort around the diamond or not this summer. They can't see their way clear to work three or four hours an afternoon for salaries ranging from \$2500 to \$10,000 for six months. They had rather work in a factory ten hours a day for \$10 a week and they hold this as a threat. It's a swell threat to make, for the ball player can't see that early morning and late at night stuff and his manager knows it. But he must go through the motions of holding back, for it shows the boss that he isn't very anxious to sign the papers.

The crop is not so large this year, although some of the salaries have been sliced considerably. The players evidently figure that the war will not help the game and the 18 cent tax will run into the profits. However, there are a few recalcitrants to keep the hot stove league fires burning until the real news begins.

Minor Leaguers Are Causing Most of the Trouble

SOME of the big leaguers like Alex, Killefer and Hornsby are annoying their losses for more filthy lucre, but their troubles can be adjusted. The minor leaguers, however, those who are about to enter the big show from the bushes, always make the most trouble. They insist on a star's salary the very first year and believe they have it coming to them. They can't wait to see if they make good.

At present we recall the following gentlemen in the holdout league: Fitzgerald and Muesell, Phillips; Alexander and Killefer, Cubs; Hornsby, Cruise and Jack Smith, Cardinals; Nunnemaker, Lee Macee, Williams and Houck, Browns; Al Mamaux, Brooklyn; Spencer, Detroit; Del Pratt, New York, and Ed Konetchy, of the Braves. There are many others, but their names are kept secret. Connie Mack may have some holdouts on his list and the same goes for Clark Griffith in Washington.

Muesell and Fitzgerald are the prize holdouts on the Phils. They have sent back their contracts, which call for higher salaries than they received last year, but not enough to satisfy their demands. President Baker stated yesterday that he wanted to be fair with the men and would increase their salaries if they playing warranted it. He says the men must show what they can do, however, before any boosts in salary are given. There are others who have not signed the papers, but these always are slow starters. George Whitted usually argues a month before accepting his contract, but is on the job when the gong rings. Stock, Bancroft, Crayth and Niehoff also are late signers.

ALEXANDER, Killefer and Hornsby are too valuable to be kept out of the game and some arrangement will be made to settle their differences before the season begins. Pratt and Konetchy also will be taken care of.

Mayer Gracefully Accepts Cut in Salary and Signs

IT WAS believed that Erskine Mayer, the Philly flinger, would raise a big kick when he received his 1918 contract. Up to this year he carried a wartime contract and his salary was sliced quite a little. However, instead of joining the holdouts, Mayer called on President Baker yesterday and told him that he would be in the game next season and work harder than ever before. "I will give the club the best I have in me," said Mayer, "and the reduced salary will not affect my pitching. I realize that the war has forced the club owners to cut down on salaries and I am willing to take mine."

President Baker also announced that Ben Tincup, who was reported lost in the draft, has been placed in Class II, A, and will be available this year. He has been sent a contract and ordered to report to Moran at St. Petersburg.

It is reported, but not verified, that Stanley Baumgartner, the southpaw who worked on the Phils in 1916, would be back in the game soon. He still is the property of the local club and Moran is seriously considering his application to stage a come-back. Baumgartner at present is director of athletics at Delaware College, in Newark, Del. If Fittery goes to Los Angeles in part payment for Hogg, Stan will be the only left-hander in the flock.

ARRANGEMENTS for the training trip have been made and Bill Shetline has reserved a few bunks on the boat which sails from New York on March 15. The Phils are hoping that the Washington club decides to train in Tampa, for it will give both teams a chance to hold daily practice games. Griffith probably will make his decision at the schedule meeting in New York Tuesday.

Basketball Can't Stand One-Sided Contests

THE dismantling of the Industrial Basketball League doesn't mean the cage game is losing its hold on the followers of the sport in this city. A basketball contest between two first-class teams, fairly even in ability, will draw a capacity house every time, but when two clubs in a league so far outclass the others, as Butterworth and Dobson did in the Industrial, interest in the organization is sure to lag.

What basketball fans want, as is the case in all the other sports, are close contests and not runaway games. Take the case of the American Basketball League of this city. St. Columba is leading by a comfortable margin; in fact, now has the pennant cinched. This hasn't detracted from the interest of the organization, for the spectators know that they always will see a close game. The Young Men's Hebrew Association is a good example in point. This club, composed of scholastic stars, is occupying the cellar position with only two victories in eleven starts, but its defeats have been by two or three point margins. Y. M. H. A. always has given the other clubs a hard fight. As a result Traymore Hall, the playing quarters of the league, is filled to the limit on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The American League isn't the only one to play before large and profitable crowds. The Northwest Church League, playing at First Dutch, attracts many spectators, as does the West Philadelphia Amateur League, the National League, a newly formed amateur circuit for younger boys, in addition to the many independent and church teams throughout the city. The Intercollegiate League contests at Penn this year have been played before crowds which have filled Weightman Hall. The schoolboys have been forced to turn away would-be spectators several times in the Public High School League.

THE trouble with the Industrial League was that two teams outclassed the others. There was no uncertainty regarding the outcome of a game in which either team played, unless they played together. As a result interest lagged, the crowds grew smaller, expenses continued and the only thing left to do was to disband.

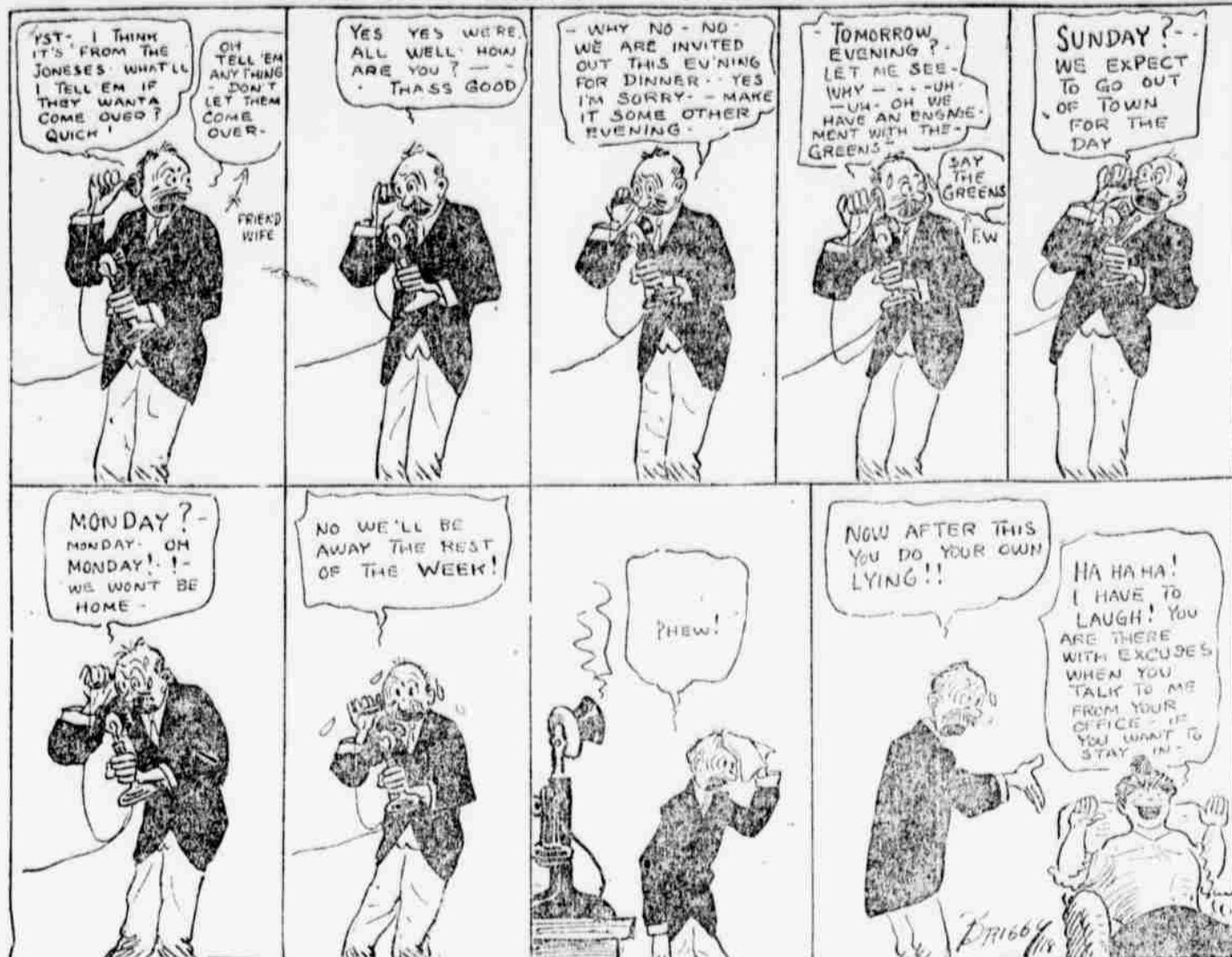
Tubby Spencer Has Several Complaints

EDWARD, better known as Tubby Spencer, the original horrible example and Exhibit A for the youth of the land and rotund and rubeous baseball receiver on many diamonds and in divers climes, is one of the dullest holdout artists at large. Eddie would be "delighted" to play with Hughie Jennings the coming season were it not for the fact that he doesn't like Jennings, doesn't care for the owner of the club, or the town, or the size of his contract. It develops incidentally that the fat receiver had a run-in with the management during the season and the bad feeling never was patched up. All that Spencer asks for is to be allowed to become a free agent. It is understood that he has plans to return to the coast. Another story is the ancient one that he is tired and will quit the game because it bores him to death.

Airplane Hunting New Form of Sport

WHICH rich who have time on their hands are on the trail of a new form of sport. This is nothing more or less than hunting ducks by airplane. The machine being the opportunity for wing shooting against double speed; the machine is traveling at bird speed while the ducks are doing

MOVIE OF A MAN LYING OVER THE PHONE



RIVAL SEXTETTES TO PLAY TONIGHT

Moravian Prep Will Meet Temple University in the Latter's "Gym" VISITORS ARE CONFIDENT

By PAUL PREP

The championship Moravian Preparatory School girls' team, of Bethlehem, arrived in this city this morning to play its "most important" game of the season tonight with the Temple University sextet, in the Temple gym, Broad and Berks streets, starting at 7:30 o'clock.

The up-State squad was accompanied by its coach, N. S. Filippone, formerly of Philadelphia Trades School. Filippone has made a splendid record at Moravian. Last year his protégées won the interscholastic championship of the Lehigh Valley. Twelve games have been played this season, ten of which resulted in victories for the Moravian sextet. Games were lost to Roselle Park, 17-15, and Easton 'High last week, 21-9.

Veteran Team

Coach Filippone will place a "veteran" team on the floor tonight. All were members of last year's championship squad. Captain Meyers and Miss Fritch, the forwards, are regarded as the fastest in the Lehigh Valley, which is going some.

The jumping and side center positions are well taken care of by the Misses Widman and Lear, respectively. Miss Ross, a regular from last season, and Miss Cresswell, a substitute, are clever "cutters" as well.

"Of course, we realize we're facing a strong opponent, but we expect to win," said the prettier maid on the team this morning. "Look for our victory, we scored 275 points, against 121 for our opponents. This is our thirteenth game of the season, and although we've not been so successful, our boys never can tell how a team will play on these hoodoo days. We hope for the best."

Sports Served Short

Angle Killefer earned 15 points in the play-off basketball game for the winter three-circuit affiliated championships at Chicago, and now leads the circuit.

Ohio Retell, of this city, added a pair of New York points to his tally by leading his team to a 15-10 victory over the Philadelphia team at Philadelphia, Pa., on Monday.

Winds, Zwickel, the world's greatest chess player, defeated his 10th annual opponent, Karl Lasker, the southern champion, at St. Louis.

Postponement of the twenty-second bout between Frank Moran and Fred Fulton at Moravia, Pa., has been postponed to Saturday, Feb. 23, as announced by Fulton's manager.

George W. Stutzell, of this city, was awarded the gold trophy for the best net and putting record for his club last week at the club at Park Forest, Ill.

European men, managers and players, of the New York clubs, were held by the Maritime Keno for trial in New York. The men were held by the Maritime Keno, which is holding exhibitions on January 11 and 12, and will be held at Grand Junction, Pa., on Jan. 13.

Fillmore Van S. Hyde, of the Harvard Club, won the national sports champions championship on the Harvard Club course, "How Long" and "The Great," on the Harvard Club course, on the Harvard Club course, on the Harvard Club course, on the Harvard Club course.

Mrs. Dorothy Campbell Hurd, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and husband, H. B. Hurd, were the winners of the women's 81, Valentine golf tournament at Philadelphia.

H. C. Ingles, of Pittsburgh, William T. Hurd, of Philadelphia, and J. G. Nicholson, of Philadelphia, were the winners of the men's 81, Valentine golf tournament at Philadelphia.

Jack Kelly, Philadelphia's champion sprinter, who was transferred from Penn State to the University of Pennsylvania, will return to the local unit in a few days.

Carroll Johnson, of the Larchburg, A. C., athletic club, who has been called to the service, was a basketball player when he scored forty-two field goals in a game at Bridgewater College. His team tallied 130 points.

HOGG, LOS ANGELES MOUNDMAN, MAY COME TO PHILS IN TRADE

Wade Killefer Reported Anxious to Secure Fittery in Swap for Former Dixie Player

Another Hollocher Kid to Play Ball on Coast

A younger brother of Charles Hollocher will play ball on the coast. His name is Louis Milton Hollocher. He is sixteen years old and has been having a regular season since he was five years old. He is a right-hander and has been playing ball since he was five years old.

Hogg is a fairly good hitter and this should make him a valuable asset to the Phils. He is a right-hander and has been playing ball since he was five years old.

Poor Year for Fittery

Fittery had a bad year with the Phils and appeared in only seventeen games. He was more of a relief pitcher and finished the season by winning one game and losing two. He pitched sixty-two innings during his brief tenure on the club and his average earned runs per game was 4.39. If Al Moran had out-batted last year Fittery would have been a star.

In 1916, however, things were different. Paul was then working on the Salt Lake Club and had a wonderful year. He was called the "iron man" of the league, winning twenty-nine games and losing nineteen. He pitched 418 innings during his brief tenure on the club and his average earned runs per game was 1.44. If Al Moran had out-batted last year Fittery would have been a star.

MUST GET BONUS, DECLARES ALEX

Big Pitcher Says He's Earned the \$10,000 and He's No Hold-Out

WANTS A SQUARE DEAL

CHICAGO, Feb. 8.—Grover Cleveland Alexander will play with the Chicago National League team next season, and any grievance he may have against the club will be adjusted to the pitcher's satisfaction. President Weegman in a statement today said that Alexander's statement that he must have a \$10,000 bonus and a salary of \$12,000 a year. "Nothing but war will keep Alexander out of the game," said Weegman.

Grover Cleveland Alexander still stands pat so far as the baseball situation in Chicago is concerned. If he gets the bonus of \$10,000 he plays baseball. If he does not get that amount he will not be seen on any diamond this year. He declares he stood by the National at a time when he was offered \$15,000 in cash to quit and play in the Federal. He says he is not a hold-out or anything of that sort, but he wants a square deal. Just that and nothing more.

Regarding his position in the army draft, Alexander said that he had never forced his claim for exemption. He said his mother was dependent upon him for support, but that if he was called into the war he would willingly report for duty and serve his country. He said nothing was said about a weak knee, and he was told that his foot would not exempt him from the draft. He said "Alex" was an army man and he will take care of his mother. When Alexander was examined by the draft board he was told that his foot would not exempt him from the draft. He said "Alex" was an army man and he will take care of his mother.

Jimmy Rutwell, one of the foremost of the present-day "left-handers," who has been called for examination in the draft, waived exemption. He is thirty years old and married.

Jack Kelly, Philadelphia's champion sprinter, who was transferred from Penn State to the University of Pennsylvania, will return to the local unit in a few days.

GOLF, OLDEST GAME IN WORLD, IS JUST NOW ENTERING UPON ITS 561ST YEAR AS SPORT OF KING

Game in This Country Really Only Dates Back to 1894, When the United States Golf Association Was Formed

By CHARLES (Chick) EVANS, JR.

I WAS looking over the January issue of the Canadian Golfer when my eye chanced upon a chronological history of golf, the dates running from 1172 to 1917. This seems a good time to pause and look back.

Golf was played in 1172, but it was not until 1875 that it was given its "official" status. This law apparently did not accomplish its object. A number of these laws failed and we are told that in 1563 the King was playing extensively. The King of England at that time was Henry VIII, and the King of Scotland was James IV. I think it must have been Scottish Jamie rather than English Henry who was in fact Stuart and needed all the consolations that golf can offer.

Fifteen hundred and fifty-two is the date of the first mention of golf in the state of the first mention of golf at St. Andrews.

Blackheath the Oldest

The Royal Blackheath Golf Club, the oldest in England, was founded in 1380. I saw the course when I was in England in 1912 and it is still and rather magnificent and many have been easy to care for all these years.

Scotland soon got into it and in 1743, 1744 and 1745, respectively, the famous golfing societies, the Edinburgh Golf Club, the St. Andrews Golf Club, and the Glasgow Golf Club, the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St. Andrews. The first Royal and Ancient was founded in 1754 and the members of the workers in gold and silver and have increased at times.

In 1891 the Royal and Ancient King William IV was first competed for. All this time the feather-stuffed ball was being used, but in 1818 the gutta ball came in. Soon we begin to see the names of the champions, professional golfers. Among them were Allan Robertson, John Donne, Tom Morris, Sr. and J. P. White Park, Tom Ferguson and others. I remember visiting the famous golfing society, the Edinburgh Golf Club, the St. Andrews Golf Club, and the Glasgow Golf Club, the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St. Andrews. The first Royal and Ancient was founded in 1754 and the members of the workers in gold and silver and have increased at times.

Quaker Captain Practices With Team for First Time in Month

JOE MITCHELL BENCHED

Joe Mitchell, one of the cleverest players in college basketball circles, has returned to the Phils and will play in his first game in a month. He has been out of the game since January 2, 1918.

Scraps About Scrappers

Joe Mitchell, one of the cleverest players in college basketball circles, has returned to the Phils and will play in his first game in a month. He has been out of the game since January 2, 1918.

Maybe He Was Gassed or Fed Poisoned Candy

ALOX WILL GET ALL HE WANTS FROM THE CUBS

NATIONAL A. C. D.H. & Catherine Saturday Evening FEB. 15th Frannie Callahan vs. Terry McGovern 4 OTHER STAR CONTESTS

GIRARD
Adds to your pleasure never subtracts from your good health
Never gets on your nerves
10¢ up
Real Havana

New Ready-to-Wear Department
We have opened in connection with our merchant tailoring establishment a ready-to-wear department, where will be found a vast collection of all the newest and richest effects in Men's Suits. Many of these garments are our own make—from our workrooms. They're of the finest quality Serges, Worsteds, Chevots, etc. We can offer you a regular \$20 to \$25 Suit—our leader always—at **11.80**

OUR TAILORING DEPARTMENT
Suits or Overcoats To Order \$11.80
Regular \$30, \$25 and \$20 Values
See Our 7 Big Windows
PETER MORAN & CO.
MERCHANT TAILORS
S. E. Cor. 9th and Arch Sts.
Open Saturday Evening Until 9 o'Clock

MANY TARGET SHOTS LISTED TOMORROW

Independents, Eagle Club and West Jersey League Arrange Matches

Many shooting matches are listed tomorrow for local marksmen. Several Public marksmen will compete in the New Jersey League competition.

Model "MO" MOISTEN
Portable Bathing, Grooms, Grooms, Factories, etc.

M. M. Moore & Co., Mfrs.
Office & Display Room, 3931 N. 3rd St.

Olympia A. A. Broad and Bishop Harry Edwards
MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 11
Hughie Hutchingson vs. Johnny Eddy
Eddie O'Keefe vs. Chan. Foughey
Young Joe Horrell vs. Young Tom Fenwick vs. Tommy Tuck
23c. Res. 50c. 75c. Arena \$1.50. 50c. adv.