

MORTON MOWED DOWN GIANTS WITH SUCH SPEED THAT BALL LOOKED LIKE CLOTHES LINE

BIG YEAR AWAITS CLEVELAND IF JOE WOOD AND GUY MORTON FULFILL COME-BACK PROMISES

With Crippled-Wing Duo Right Once More, Bagby and Coveleski Would Fill Up One Swell Pitching Staff

THE fate of the Cleveland team this season rests upon a gamble, but it now looks as if Manager Fohl has a chance to take in on the turn of events. The cast of the die depends upon the ability of two swell hurlers of past times performing that heroic role known as the come-back, and training season dope at least threatens to vindicate the policy of the patient manager in hanging on to men who seemed permanently lost. And should these broken reeds prove really mended, the Indians seem not only likely to become a formidable team, but real pennant contenders.

The players in question are Smokey Joe Wood, of Red Sox world series fame, and Guy Morton, and both have been showing real stuff after most discouraging breaks in fate and in strangely similar fashion. Both absolutely blew up with arm trouble when they were going like Walter Johnson, and year-round treatment so far has failed to bring them back to form. Both have been so much down and out, in fact, that nobody has figured on either as a live heaving possibility the coming season.

The beauty of the prospect, from a Cleveland standpoint, is that with these twirlers right again it is doubtful if either the Giants or White Sox can show a better quartet of mound artists. Bagby and Stanley Coveleski are dependable and high-class men. Bagby won more games last season than any other American League hurler excepting the great Cleo. His record was twenty-five, against twenty-eight for the shine-ball phenom, and with places swapped the record of the two surely would have been reversed. And Coveleski had an even better average on an unusual run per game basis. Also he won nineteen games, and that is three more than Urban Faber won.

Smokey Joe Wood has been looking so good at the Indians' New Orleans training camp that scries have predicted him right, and also have gone further and stated that he has shown such aptitude of hitting and out-fielding that he appears good enough to stick as utility man.

MORTON breezed through the Giants the other day with six scoreless innings, and if he didn't have everything in the balling line the Giants were faking.

Arms of Both Went Back on Them Suddenly

WOOD has been up against it now for four years. His arm snapped in a game at Boston in 1914 and ever since he has been fighting against quitting. Morton's salary wing dived or cracked in a game against the Tankees in 1916. It suddenly flopped in his side, and since that time has failed to respond to careful nursing and treatment. He pitched only off and on last year, but at that broke even in twenty games. He never was right at any time during the season, however.

Here is the way his work against the Giants Monday at New Orleans is described by a New York scriber:

"Morton climbed the hill for the acid test of it, withstood it for the five innings. He whipped the ball across the heads of our Giants, down slingers that they are, like a white streak, and patted the way for a complete shutout by a score of 10 to 0. The ball that this mad-evil young man tossed in the teeth of our haughty athletes traveled so fast that half the time it looked like a clothesline stretched from the mound to the plate."

Wood is a wise old bird and has suffered too many disappointments to avoid any optimistic expression, but he backs up the judgment of the scribers in effect in the following conservative language:

"I won't be really able to get a line on my condition until I try my arm out in big league company. But it feels better than it has at any time since I hurt it when with Boston. Of course, I have not done any serious pitching yet, but down in New Orleans I gave it several good tests in practice when the weather was hot, and it did not give me any trouble at all."

Should Morton and Wood come through Fohl would have four hurlers who should be able to deliver an average of twenty games, and that number of games would make a mighty swell nucleus for Fohl Speaker to deliver the long-expected hunting for the joy of the long-suffering Cleveland public.

WITH every other position, with the possible exception of first, sure to be well looked after. Fohl may spring one of the season's great surprises.

Pratt and Lavan Suit Upset Entire League

THE inside stuff in any big transaction never is known until the full returns are in, and even then some essential facts may be missing. The German people, it is reliably stated, are going to have some difficulty in getting at the actual truth of the late alleged drive to enforce peace with the shining sword and iron fist.

Another little recent war engagement of some interest was the legal bout between players Pratt and Lavan and Owner Ball, of the St. Louis Browns. The facts covering the finish of this combat are not all in as yet. For instance, nobody knows what the terms of settlement were. It is known, however, that the affair laid the entire American League on its head and that it took a lot of delicate persuasion to get things smoothed out in the interest of the general good of the whole organization.

It seems that Messrs. Pratt and Lavan had a real smart guy for a legal sponsor. This Blackstone shark was right on the job and he managed to mess up the going so that not only the Washington and New York club affairs were gummed and the two big trades blocked, but the playing schedule of the league was tied in a knot. Clarke Griffith and Miller Huggins couldn't move a peg and Ban Johnson couldn't tell who would be in uniform on any team, for all leading players in the league were gummed as witnesses and were subject to call to St. Louis at a moment's notice.

In the light of this elegant complication, Ban Johnson went to work through Miller Huggins at Mason and Clarke Griffith at Atlanta, and in due season the players were pacified and some settlement agreed upon. Pratt seems to have been about as smart a guy as his lawyer. New York had to have him and the Browns had to have the bunch of Yankee players, and this was the ideal leverage for holding out.

IT IS easy to see how Clarke Griffith and Miller Huggins were deeply interested in ending the suits, especially if they could pass the buck from their clubs to the shoulders of the St. Louis club owner. Ball no doubt paid the fiddler after all.

Twirler Has Only Five Fingers Altogether

MUCH has been written about the freak pitching hand of Mordeno Brown, the former Cub star, and recently a six-fingered young twirler, Benjamin Feltowitz, was discovered in this city. But neither has anything on Wallace McTarnahan, of Portland, Ore., one of Willie McGill's candidates for a hurling job on Northwestern University's baseball team. This former Cub had only one battle-scarred hand, but the Purple twirler is handicapped with two, boasting altogether just five sound fingers where he ought to have ten. Three of the digits being on the south paw, Wallace uses that as his pitching hand, while a specially constructed glove fitting over the two-fingered hand helps him in his fielding.

Willie McGill, a former major leaguer, has an idea that Wallace will "make" the team, for he has a curve ball unlike any other Willie has ever seen. In addition to pitching, McTarnahan also is considerable of a weather, in fact, he is thinking of trying for a place on the Northwestern mat squad after the ball season is over. This bird should be able to invent some swell holds calculated to get results in the gentle art of the mat.

Hendricks Fears Only Giants and Cubs

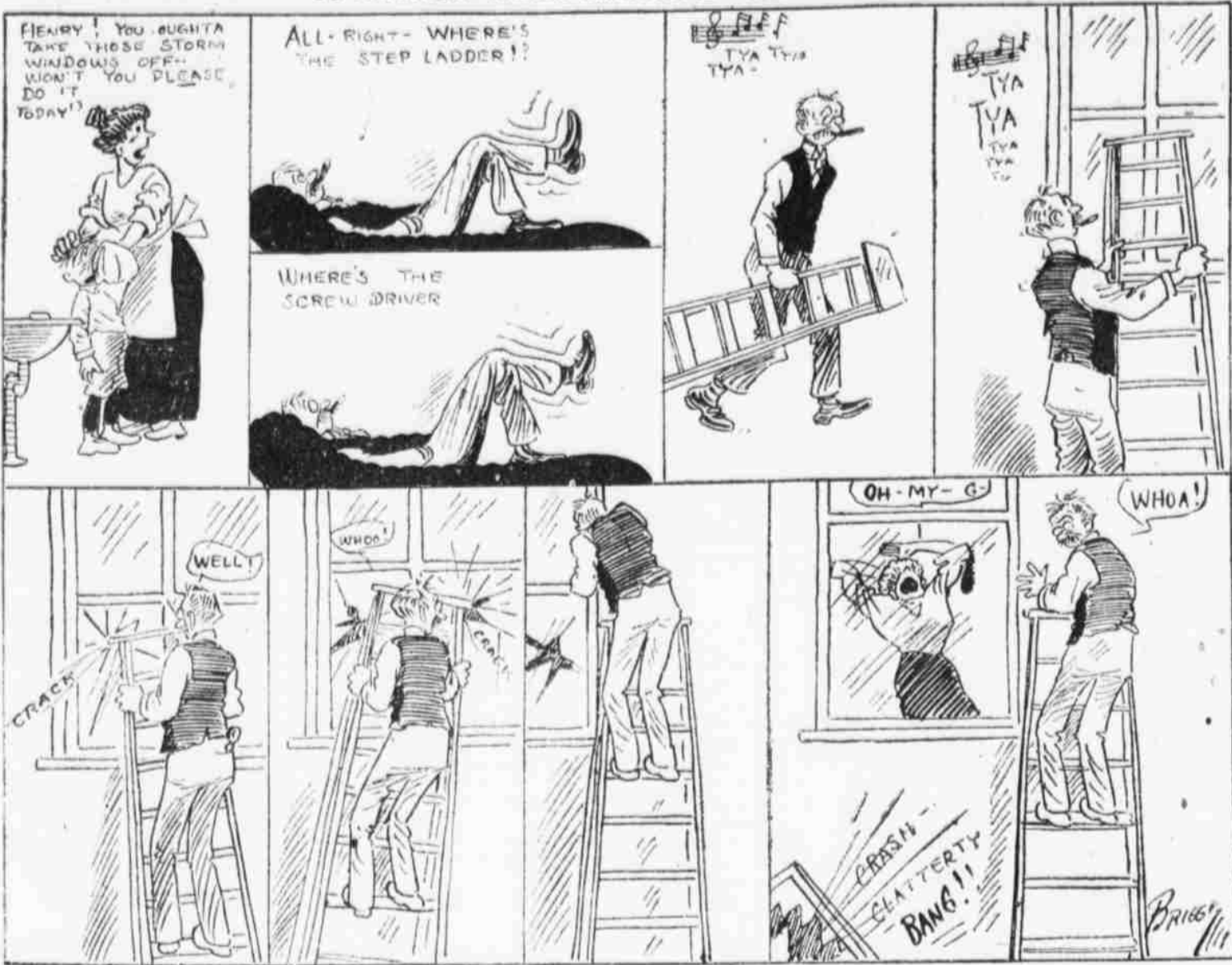
THE signing up of holdout Jack Smith and the securing of Nielooff have so inspired Manager Jack Hendricks, of the St. Louis Cardinals, that he is very optimistic for the season. He says:

"Two clubs in the National League may beat us to the wire, but I am positive I have a first-division aggregation. The Giants and Cubs are the clubs we will have to beat, the Giants because of their remarkable reserve strength and the Cubs because of their great pitching staff. Barring unforeseen accidents, we will finish ahead of the other clubs and we'll make the Giants know they've been in a battle. The Cardinals' apparent weakness has been eliminated at second base with the acquisition of Nielooff. With Jack Smith in line the outfield will be entirely satisfactory."

Polo of Great Value in Army Work

"POLO Players and the Army" is the subject which is interestingly treated by H. A. Buck in the current number of Vanity Fair, being introduced by a statement from Sir Douglas Haig, in which the commander-in-chief of the English forces is made to say, "I attribute great importance to young officers being encouraged to hunt and play polo." Further on in his story Mr. Buck quotes William A. Hazard, who has a son in training in Texas for the great war, as saying that he wished "there were more polo players in this country." Mr. Buck gives many facts concerning polo, and how it has given their lives to their country, and

A HANDY MAN AROUND THE HOUSE



TEN PITCHERS SHADE GIANTS IN DECISIONS

Marquard and Coombs Prominent Among Those Effective Against New York

Few pitchers won more games from the Giants than they have in Philadelphia. There are ten pitchers of National League clubs, out of 15, who have won more games from the Giants than they have in Philadelphia.

Meusel, Given Gate 4 Years Ago by Clark Griffith, Gets Last Laugh on Washington

CLARK GRIFFITH was in rare spirits today. The boss of the Senators was giving a job and in laughing heartily every time he thought of a good one which he had proposed to University Field down in Columbia street. Griffith is a funny, easy-going, and a good one good to see him doing his job.

RACING IN KENTUCKY FACES A BUSY SEASON

The Kentucky Derby will be run at Churchill Downs, Louisville, on May 11. The spring campaign opens in the Blue Grass state at Lexington on April 25, with a meeting to close on May 2.



JOE WOOD



GUY MORTON

MEUSEL, GIVEN GATE 4 YEARS AGO BY CLARK GRIFFITH, GETS LAST LAUGH ON WASHINGTON

Keen Humor of Senators' Boss Enables Him to Enjoy Irish's Prominent Part in Phils' Victory

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL. PHILADELPHIA, N. Y., April 10. CLARK GRIFFITH was in rare spirits today. The boss of the Senators was giving a job and in laughing heartily every time he thought of a good one which he had proposed to University Field down in Columbia street. Griffith is a funny, easy-going, and a good one good to see him doing his job.

Two Players Have Hit Homers With Bases Full

Two homers with the bases full already have been knocked in this training camp. Hubbell, a giant big pitcher, hit one of another pitcher, Mike Hogan, at Martin, while Babe Ruth, who is commanding the ball club at Red Springs, likewise came through at Al Mamane. Ruth's hit went a mile over the center field fence and was a high fly.

BASEBALL LABEL SUIT SETTLED OUT OF COURT

Pratt and Lavan Get \$500, But Ball Says He Didn't Pay It.

St. Louis, April 10.—Derrill Pratt and John Lavan, former members of the St. Louis American, who compromised their \$500 damage suit against Phil Ball, president of the St. Louis club, received \$500 in settlement, according to information obtained here yesterday.

Burns "Saves" Food

He was in the luncheon room at the station when the train pulled out, and was destroying a stack of about cakes with much relief. When he was through he looked around and found the place empty. He ate the cakes and found the place empty. He ate the cakes and found the place empty.

Play for Soldiers Today

The game today is for the benefit of Camp Sevier, and a tough tussle is looked for. Washington wants to show the Phils that they are not the only team in the city with a good pitcher.

DODGERS AND RED SOX SET EXHIBITION RECORD

The Dodgers and Red Sox battled sixteen innings the other day, establishing a record for an exhibition game. The American League won by a score of 7 to 6. The Red Sox got off for a four-run lead in the first inning and then were scored until the fifth, when they put two more over.

Speedboys Hold Practice

West Philadelphia High has been working out in the school gymnasium and will continue to do so until the weather conditions permit outdoor practice. The speedboys were unusually strong in the indoor season and only lost the title by the narrowest of margins.

Don't Care for Brats

Washington, April 10.—Fritz Flitting would be taxed out of existence by a bill introduced yesterday by Representative Station of Texas. Each applicant would be required to pay a tax of \$25 and 10 per cent of his net income.

Willys-Knight

Come and see the Type of Motor that is Helping the Allies Win

From the European battle front comes additional evidence of the superiority of the "Knight."

Twenty-five thousand owners of Willys-Knight cars in America can readily and enthusiastically tell you why.

Because the sleeve-valve Knight motor is supremely quiet, vibrationless and absolutely dependable—

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