

ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE BLUNDERS WAS COMMITTED WHEN "SIS" WAS PUT IN SISLER IF BASEBALL INTERFERES WITH WINNING WAR THEN OLD PASTIME MUST GO

Magnates Nervous Over Possibility of Closing Parks for Duration of Hostilities—About \$13,000,000 Invested in Major League Plants and Franchises

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor, Evening Public Ledger

BASEBALL was in a wobbly condition yesterday and was hanging on the ropes ready to take the count when General Crowder's draft ruling was announced. It was feared the grand old game was in for a terrible drubbing and at the end would be erased from the map.

In a case like this it is well to consider that the paramount thing in the minds of the American people is winning the war. The big battle over there must be won at any cost, and if the Government decrees that baseball interferes, then baseball must go.

In the big leagues today there are only thirty-six players above the draft age. That means out of sixteen ball clubs there are enough men to form four teams.

Millions Have Been Invested in Major League Ball Clubs

WHILE on the subject it might be well to mention that baseball is a national institution and part of the life of the average citizen. In no other sport are there so many enthusiastic followers in all walks of life.

A rough guess, based on reports of the last two years, shows that about \$13,000,000 is invested in baseball clubs, parks and franchises in the eleven big-league cities.

The war tax is another angle open for discussion. It is true that we need men to win the war, but it also is true that we need money and lots of it.

General Crowder says that individual cases will be handled by the local draft boards. That means every city will decide whether or not baseball is composed of idlers.

See Light When It Is Too Late

THOSE minor league baseball magnates who last November refused to sanction a redistributing of minor leagues during the meeting at Louisville probably are beginning to see the light now—when it is too late.

The International League, one of those to vote in favor of a redistributing, offers an object lesson to other leagues. When this league skidded around the corners of midwinter and voted to disband, the territory was left wide open and players were declared free agents.

Now Lincoln and Denver have faded from the scenery in the Western League. Providence has gone into the Eastern League in the East.

Athletic Rivalry Between Johnson and Gilfillan Settled

THAT athletic rivalry which has existed for some time between Earl Johnson, the versatile athlete extraordinary of Michigan University, and Earl Gilfillan, who occupies a similar position on the Notre Dame track team, was settled last week when Michigan and Notre Dame engaged in a dual meet at Ann Arbor.

It was a foregone conclusion that Coach Farrell's proteges from Michigan would win the majority of the points, so chief interest centered in the dual contest between Johnson and Gilfillan.

The contest for honors between Johnson and Gilfillan was thrilling. While the end of the meet found each with twenty points to his credit, the Michigan star proved that he was the better track and field athlete.

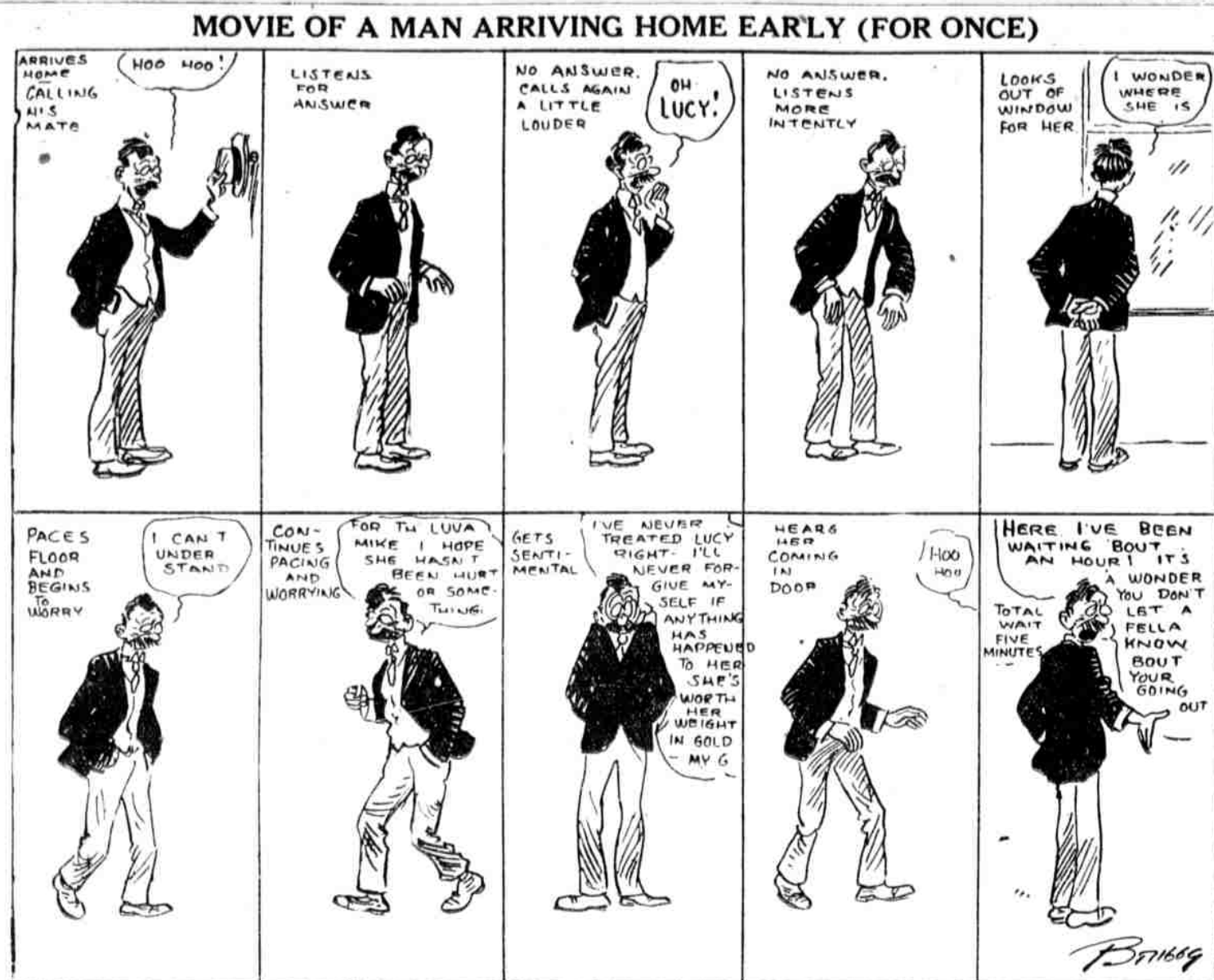
Johnson also won two events in remarkably fast time in spite of a high wind, while all of Gilfillan's performances were mediocre.

New York Red Cross Boxing to Be Winner

THAT Red Cross boxing matches to be held tonight in Madia Square Gardens are attracting a vast amount of interest and it is hardly probable that less than \$50,000 will be taken in.

This show is a great attraction, not only because of the worthiness of the cause for which it is to be given, and this alone would have insured its success, but because the fighting talent that will be seen in action is remarkable for its excellence.

Every one of the boxers who volunteered his services wanted it understood that the bouts were to be real matches and each wanted to meet a champion of his steel.



FOUL FLY RULE HURTS BATTERS

Defies Principle of Fair Play, Says Manager Mitchell, of Cubs SHOULD ELIMINATE IT

Fred Mitchell, manager of the Cubs, makes loud and insistent demand that the foul fly shall be eliminated as a matter of fact, that no foul fly shall count for anything if caught.

Says he is "fair" principle of all athletic pastimes. In a bet of any kind a man must have a chance to win or he cannot play. The foul fly defies the rules both of fair play and of betting.

While it appears to all ages and conditions, the average membership of any club is made up very largely of men who are youngsters learning the business.

The new order will affect in a minor degree the employees of the golf clubs, but in most of the clubs the young amateur's game, like tennis, squash, racket and other sports that could be named.

There is every indication that Merchantsville and Woodbury will fight it out for first honors in the Schuylkill League. Merchantsville was the first of the New Jersey clubs to win championship honors.

So far as the points were concerned there were close finishes in every one of the four divisions but the first. All that Woodbury needed yesterday to win the first division was to win all the six home matches.

"FIGHT OR WORK" RULE DOESN'T AFFECT GOLF

Amateurs Not Under Ban and Only One or Two Professionals Hit—Merchantville, Woodbury, North Hills and Old York Road Winners

THE new "fight or work" rule of Washington is not going to affect the golfers, for golfers are made up of two classes, fighters and workers.

Essentially Game for Amateurs. Golf is a gentleman's game as we know it, and of the millions of men who play the game in this country less than 100,000 are professional golfers.

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Standing of the Teams. DIVISION A. Woodbury 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.

WOODBURY COMES THROUGH. So far as the points were concerned there were close finishes in every one of the four divisions but the first.

PITCHERS LOOK FOR THEIR CUE

Chicago Hurlers Used to Start for Bull Pen on Touching of Cap EVERS WOULD SPIT

Every move has a meaning, remarked a hapless one in mentioning a more or less noted oriental dancer.

Noted Tennis Player to Fly. Fort Worth, Tex., May 24.—George M. Church, internationally known as a tennis player and a member of time numerous in the world's championship contests, has been and here for training as an aviator.

GIANTS ARE BEGINNING TO MISS FERDIE SCHUPP. The Giants are just beginning to miss Ferdie Schupp who has been unable to make a start this spring because of a "pulled" tendon in his left shoulder.

CROSS AND LOUGHREY BOX DRAW AT SERVICE CLUB. Marty Cross, of New York, and Fred Loughrey, of this city, boxed a six-round draw at the United Service Club last night.

SHIBE PARK BASEBALL TODAY. Athletics vs. St. Louis. GAME CALLED AT 3:45 P. M. Tickets at Gaiety Bros.' & Waldman's.

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Bainbridge. MONDAY EVENING, MAY 27. Jimmy McEwen vs. Johnny Belmont. Battling Leonard vs. Denny Hughes.

MORAN PRAISES FIGHTING PHILS

Believes Team Will Be in Shape for Games in Philadelphia

N O W IN CINCINNATI

Cincinnati, O., May 24. The Phillies arrived here from Pittsburgh this morning for a four-game series with the Reds. The boys discussed the new draft regulations on the train coming over from the Steel City last night and were particularly interested in what John K. Tener, president of the National League, said just before they entrained at the Union Station.

Frank Gatch Soon Tamed Karamoff

There have been a number of "terrible" errors in the wrestling game, and one of the best of them was the elated Karamoff. This morning, however, the Sultan had been educated.

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