VERBAL ATTACKS BY BAKER AND EBBETS HAVE COOMBS NEAR UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

COOMBS WILL PILOT PHILLIES IF FRIEND WIFE GIVES CONSENT

Second Reel of Baseball Drama Reveals Veteran in Consultation With Baker and Ebbets-All Needed Is Decision of Mrs. Jack

> By ROBERT W. MANWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

New York, Dec. 12,

IN an obscure corner of the Waldorf corridor last night, in close proximity to the Oasis, sat three men. They were engaged in confidential conversation, for their heads were close together and words were handed out in whispers The man in the middle was strangely silent. He listened to mumbled, sibilant oratory on the left of him and more of the same on the right. He was entirely surrounded and could not escape the verbal broadsides which unmercifully raked him fore and aft, to say nothing of up and down, it was a sight to make strong men shudder, for there could be but one ending absolute surrender. But the middle man put up a great battle and galfantly stood by his guns until he was overcome by the sheer weight of the opposition. Then he struggled for air, made a couple of false starts and said: "I'll have to tell it to the wife." Those words, uttered in that obscure corner of the corridor and close to the Casis, will go down in history in

It was a decision on a vital problem over which the loyal fans have spent many sleepless nights. But John Wesley Coombs, for it was indeed he who pulled that historic line, unflinehingly stood the gaff and came right back at William F. Baker and Charles Holiday Ebbets who had flanked him on either side. He was game, boys, he was game. There were more subdued whispers, the heads were drawn in close formation a second time and the eagle-eyed scribes gazed intently on the scene. Then the trio arose. shook hands all around and wandered aimlessly into the Oasis, where they were lost in the crowd of weary and parched travelers.

THAT was the second reel of the most recent baseball dramd en-titled, "The Canning of Pat Moran." This episode was labeled. "The Bigning of Jack Coombs," for Jack virtually agreed on terms and will hand out his official ruling as soon as he has conferred

Meeting Success Because It Lasted Only Two Days THIS was the final act of the National League meeting, which, by the way, was highly successful because it lasted only two days. Jack Coombs, after turning down the first proposition made by President Baker. was on his way home and paused to distribute his farewells to Baker and Ebbets. They cornered him, put him through the third degree, or something like that, and finally put it over. Coombs is perfectly satisfied, but no official announcement will be made until next Monday, when news is scarce and more publicity will be obtained. Then it will be announced that the new manager is ready to take hold and win the pennant. All new man

agers make that speech. Coombs did not give in without a struggle. He was told he would have to live in Philadelphia if he took the job, and that caused him to pass the buck to his wife. If Mrs. Coombs likes the climate, the deal is on. If she objects, the chances are the deal will be on anyway. For that reason, we might as well accept Coombs as the pilot of the Phillies and wish him luck. He will need it.

While the salary is a secret, we have every reason to believe President Baker was generous. Coombs has a business in Palestine, Texas, which pays him \$5000 a year and he would not give that up unless the ante was raised. He is not getting as much as Moran, but close to it.

Everybody seemed perfectly satisfied at the end, and Baker made an announcement to help the good cause along. "I will do all in my power to atrengthen the ball club," he said. "I am in the market for left-handed pitchers, some catchers and any one else who is good. I also wish to say that Fred Luderus and Gavvy Cravath will be seen in the line-up of the Phillies if they care to play ball again. Those men will not be released. I cannot say anything about the new men until the soldiers return to this country and are mustered out. Then I will know where I stand and will know what to do." . . .

THREE of the defenders of our nation in their army uniforms paraded in the Waldorf in the afternoon. They were Dilhoeffer. Thoup and McGaffigan. They looked to be in the best of condition and probabily will be on the job when the season starts.

Phillies Again Furnished All the Fireworks

THE National League surprised every one, including itself, when the meeting was adjourned last night. Never in history has such a short session been held. Of course, Philadelphia furnished all of the fireworks, but anything was expected after the Alexander-Killefer deal last year. President Heydler and his brother magnates wired to Ban Johnson and eight American League owners to get together for a joint conference in the near future, the move being strange and unusual. The other was a confession of weakness on the part of the National League, "A Stop, Look and Listen" policy or a shrewd move to place the onus on Johnson and his pals to decide the fate of our great national pastime.

Right now it is impossible to determine what it is, but it looks as if the American League was placed in an embarrassing position. The National magnates did nothing but talk. True, they discussed everything, and it is dmed Garry Herrmann was handed a severe panning, but action on the ength of the season, the walver legislation, new contracts, salary and things like that were postponed until the other league is willing to join in the discussion. Even the make-up of the National Commission was held up, all of which gives Johnson a wonderful opportunity to declare himself. Anyway, now is the time for all good baseball men to come to the ald

of the game and settle things for good. We have had enough scrapping. Last night a dinner was given to the magnates by President Heydler to celebrate his election.

JOHN was willing to be the guest of honor, but there wasn't a chance. This feast came in the place of the usual banquet given by the teinning feam in the league, which was conspicuous by its

Heydler Gives Dinner to Heydler and Associates THE Chicago Club changed presidents and vice presidents, and when

the meeting was under way Tuesday some one asked about the dinner from the pennant club. Bill Veeck, who was seated in place of Fred Mitchell, knew nothing about it and explained in a short speech: "What's the matter?" asked one of the magnates. "Didn't they slip

enough money to entertain?" "I'll have to find out about it," replied Veeck, "and will let you know

this afternoon. It must be remembered that President Mitchell was chased out of the meeting and not allowed to take part in the deliberations, all of which made

bly hit with Chicago, with reverse English. So when Veeck returned, he knew what to do "After what happened to Mitchell this morning," he said, "I am afraid

everything is off. If we gave you a banquet there might be poison in the So President Heydler gave a dinner to President Heydler and his as-

ates. A pleasant time was had by all. The famous Hal Chase case was ed for the time being and other important stuff held over until the next whenever that is. The spring training trips also will be taken up en an opening day for baseball has been decided upon,

Pat Moran will not be without a job very long. John McGraw, of the ants, wants him and has given him thirty days to consider an offer. t night, it was reported that Garry Herrmann was willing to sign him his own figure if he knew that Matthewson would not be back. In addito that three American League clubs are after his services and it would ot be at all surprising to see an announcement from Chicago in the near A man of Moran's ability will not be idle for any length of time. so many ball clubs need high-class managers.

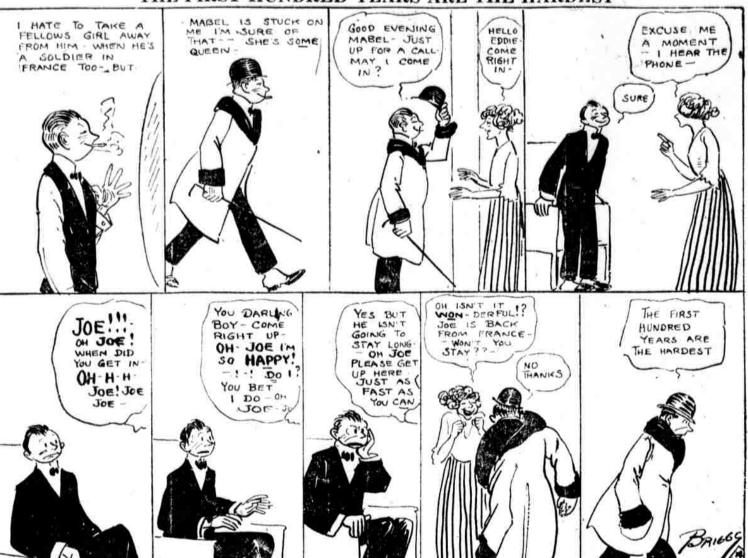
WAS stated that Jake Daubert had been traded to the Giants for George Smith, a pitcher, and Waiter Holke. That was the only trade pulled in the meeting.

McGraw Reported Seeking Red Franchise is reported here that John McGraw may be the next owner of the Cin-

tt Reds. It has been known for a long time that McGraw is anxious in as a real big league club owner. He now is said to hold stock in so but it is only a few shares.

ration that Garry Herrmann is about to dispuse of his in-

THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS ARE THE HARDEST



O'DOWD-M'GOORTY Raycroft Lauds Boxing as Big Aid in Service QUITS BASEBALL LONDON WINNERS

Representatives Triumph in First Bouts

HARRY GREB DEFEATED

There was good news and bad news for America in the Angle-American boxing tournament in progress here today Some of the best of the Yankee boxers have been eliminated, but in the later

bouts today Eddie McGoorty and Mike

O'Dowd came through with victories. and they are counted upon to go to the

McGoorty in the bouts here.

Another American hope was topled when Harry Greb, the Pittsburgh sailor, was beaten by Sergeant Ring, of the British army. Greb previously won two bouts in the light heavyweight division. Greb was considered a championship consibility and was considered a championship consibility and was considered a championship. was beaten by Sergeant Ring, of the British army. Greb previously won two bouts in the light heavyweight division. Greb was considered a championship possibility and was counted upon to annex honors in the lightweight division. Ring won on points. He proved sion. Ring won on points. He proved to be a superior boxer, but lacked the to be a superior boxer, but lacked the and control in giving a thrust and an aggressiveness that breaks down or to be a superior boxer, but lacked the angest openings for the beat superior boxer, but lacked the angest openings for the managers failed to show how to be a superior boxer, but lacked the angest openings for the beat throwing arm in the shown he was engaged with and declared and control in giving a thrust and an aggressiveness that breaks down or that the managers failed to show how that the managers failed to show how that the managers form deep center to the plate every day in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way in practice. He had the respect of the base runners, and few ventured far way with the Wolfenden Shorg some rean owings.

Ish army.

In the bantamweight class semiduals
Johnny Hughes, of the British army,
lost to Pal Moore of the American navy.

Good talent now is scarce. At least,
all the promoters are making it known comes from Memphis, Tenn. In the semifinals of the featherweight class Eddie Coulon, of the American army beat Private Peals, of Australia. Coulon comes from New Orlenss, La, King George, Vice Admiral Sims, Admiral Beatty and General Biddle were attendance to present the servi

teams and individuals. M'GRAW AFTER SHAFER

and emblems to the winning

Temperamental Star May Return to the Giants

to the Giants

New York, Dec. 12.—Arthur Shafer—
"Temperamental Tillie" they called him—may return to the Glants next season. The former third baseman of the Polo Grounders is being sought once more by Manager McGraw, who has written to Shafer on the Pacific coast inviting him to play third base for the Giants in 1918, and "ever after."

Shafer is at present at the University of Washington Naval Training Station, and up to the signing of the armistice was learning to drive a hydroalriplane. He enlisted in this section of the service last August, and expects to be mustered out before the new year.

Scraps About Scrappers

Jack Hagan and "Spider" Kelly will be the contestants in the final bout at the United Service Club to night. These men have been partners for many years and have a wonderful boxing act. Hagan is at League Island, while Kelly is boxing instructor at the Princeton University.

Tommy Sheeran, winner in the Pittsburgh amsteur tourney, will oppose Gym Fagley in one of the other bouts. Joe Welling and Jack Warner, Buzz Grant and Tuff Rufus, Whitey Fitzgerald and Danny Heagan, Joe Burman. JACK HAGAN and "Spider" Kelly

gerald and Danny Reagan, Joe Burman and Frankle Cline and Vally Hinkle and Otto Hughes also will give boxing ex-

Young Ketchell and Joe Leonard are in shape for their six-round hattle which is to be staged at the Hog leiand A. A. tonight. Grover Hayes and Willie Burke Johnny Lisse and Leo Parker, Benny Goldie and Sammy Freedman and Young Jimmy McCabe and Battling Mendell will feature the rest the program.

Tommy Tuckey, the Paterson, N. J., lightweight, and Gussie Lewis are putting the finishing touches on their training for their coming six-round scrap, which is to staged in the final bout at the Cambria A. C. tomorrow night. An all-star pre-liminary program has been arranged by Matchmaker Johnny Turns.

Lew Tendler resumed training for his attle with Ever Hammer, of Chicago, hay meet in the final bout at the Civanpia A on Monday night. Battling Aurray and Battling Leonard, who has been mowing own his opponents with regularity, will be a contestants in the main preliminary.

American Navy and Army Head of Training Camp | Champion Leonard Even Activities Says Ring Game Valuable in Army

DEVELOP NEW TALENT

By JAMES S. CAROLAN

THAT boxing is recognized in the service as a valuable asset in training fighting men is found in a recent pamphlet distributed in camps here and abroad, Joseph E. Raycroft, chairman of the athletic division of the War Department commission on training camp activities, has written the introductory chapter for this pamphlet. Here is an extract:

The object of teaching boxing in the Champion Scores Court Decision Mike O'bowd, American middleweight champlon, from St. Louis, beat-Harold Ralph, of Canada, on points, and Eddle McGoorty, a soldier from Oshkosh, Mich., tary training is to develop in men willdefeated Chorrocks, of South Africa, on linguess and ability to fight at close points. It was the first appearance of range,
McGoorty in the bouts here. "Physical aggressiveness to be effective pair, who gave Willard the opposition of the control of the control

the representatives of the British army in front. Previous to this battle the British army was tied with the British Royal Air Forces, each having twenty-one points.

In the semifinals in the flyweight's class. K. O. Erowa, of the American army, defeated J. Percival, of the British Royal Air Forces, each having twenty-one points.

In the semifinals in the flyweight's class instructors have been at work, and before long we will have a chance to see a few of the products developed in the service appearing in the professional ring. Also many boys who thought they were through doubtless will gate a new control of the products developed in the professional ring.

that the pronounced shortage is causing trouble. Soon, however, it will be here

in abundance. Boxers Busy Here

There is still plenty of boxing in this ty. Tonight two clubs will have shows. and another is due to exhibit talent tomorrow night. The Service Club shows return always attract. Philadelphia Jack O'Brien is helping the Racquet Club here. the members arrange their weekly card for the benefit of the boys in uniform.

Hog Island has broken into fightdom, and now every week regular.

How week regular will be the shipper of the five that plant will put in the Shippard League.

and now every week regular programs are staged at the Hog Island A. A. Matchmaker McTaggart is making good with his shows.

The Cambria always packs them in. The mere fact that Johnny Burns has one of his own fighters in the wind-up always brings over a flock of rooters from Richmond, just to root against Johnny, For tomorrow night Gussle Lewis, Burns's protege, takes on the veteran but crafty Tommy Tuofiey. This is no soft job for Gussle.

ROTH MAY BE TRADED

Four Clubs Said to Be After Indian Outfielder

The White Sox. Vankees, Browns and Tigers may make strong bids for Roth.

Jenkintown High Wins Jenkintown High School opened its basketball scason by overwhelming Huntingdon Valley, 50 to 23. Captain Hilberber starred.

FRINGS Met Golfers to Resume Title Play New York, Dec. 12.—The Metropolita-Golf Association decided at its annual meet-ing last night to resume the champlonshi-matches which were suspended when th-United States went into the war. Ulster Challenges U. S. Yachtsmen

Befast, Ireland, Dec. 12.—The Royal Ul-ster Yacht Club has sent a cablegram to the New York Yacht Club containing a chal-lenge for the America's Cup.

CIGARS

cents Three for 20c

"TILLY" WALKER

Scores Victory in Court Home Town

New York, Dec. 12.—The machinery of the Bronx Supreme Court halted momentarily yesterday while Justice Finch took occasion to tell Benny Leonard, army boxing instructor at Camp Lee, Petersburg, Va., and lightweight champion of the world, what a "clean-cut, manly young fellow" the champion appears to be.

LOSS WILL BE FELT

which the League Island team made during the season.

Speeches also were made by Coach Dickson, Ensign Weich, the assistant manager of the team; the Rev. A. H. Haughey, the assistant head of the recomprising a dispatch from Bristol, Va..

The navy yard eleven won six conceptained the information that Clarence.

The navy yard eleven won six conceptained the information that Clarence.

to be.

Leonard had Just won a sult against an automobile company for the recovery of an automobile, but had to pay \$390 to the company before he got his property back.

WILLARD WINS SUIT

Over Curley and Jones

LEARY MAY PLAY HERE

Basketball Star Likely to Join

Hog Island

Dick Leary, the former York State Bas-

cetball League star, who played with the

on as a member of the five that is

Leary has announced that if Plymouth

decides to put a team in the field he will

return to that town, where he was cap-

tain of the State quintet before he came

NO RACES AT HAVANA

Havana, Dec. 12.-Races have

Jumped to Ship League

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Baseball players of the American League who deserted their clubs last season for positions in shippards would be barred from playing in the league if a resolution to be introduced at the annual meetings of the league today should be adopted.

be adopted.

Radical retrenchment will be the policy adopted for the 1919 season, President Johnson said that while the club owners did not favor reducing the present player limit of twenty-five, they would not carry any more players than absolutely necessary on the road trips and that the club train-

rs probably will be left at home.

Invincible

Full 51/4-inch size

been declared off today on account

of the street railway strike.

May Bar Players Who

Mountaineers in the Pennsylvania State League last season and was counted

being organized here for this winter.

Hazleton, Dec. 12.—Hazleton has lost

Walker has been a star ever since he broke into the big league. He played with the St. Louis Browns for a couple of seasons until traded to the Boston Red Sox. He came to the Athletics in the big trade whereby Bush. Schaug and Strunk went to the Red Sox.

that the managers failed to show how nuch Willard carned during the period he gave his mentors the cold shoulder. 'urley and Jones announced they would appeal the decision.

contained the information that Charence (Tilly) Walker, star outfielder on the payroll of the Athletics last season, had amounced his retirement from the game to enter the real estate business at Lime Stone, Tenn., his home.

see arrey and Tom Jones in a bout held in the Supreme Court yesterday. The latter pair, who gave Willard the optoper trunity to become world's champion, a sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, a sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, as sued the title-holder for \$25,000 for trunity to become world's champion, along with George Burns, he helped to break up more than one game with his timely extra base smashes. Before the Burns combination became just as popular as the old Crayath-Luderus duo of home-run smashers of the Phils.

Everything ran along smoothly until June 11 last, when Willard bought the show he was suggested.

Mack had a speedy outneted at the close of the past season. The Walker-Kopp-Jamieson combination was a high-class one. Walker's loss will force Mack to work overtime to replace him.

| Mack had a speedy outneted at the close of the walker season. The Walker Se

Gold Footballs by Officers at Banquet

LEAGUE ISLAND

Football Selections for All-Interacademic

Eleven for 1918 Season

Following are the selections for the All-Interacademic football team for 1918. Penn Charter has five men

a the team, while Germantoica and

Episcopal each managed to have three:

Statzell . . . left end . Penn Charter Neidleh . . left tackle . . Episcopai Dier . . . left guard . Penn Charter

"BY" RECEIVES WATCH

big naval officers at League Island. Cap- was fairly started. tain Leiper praised the work of the team and the coach as well. Commander Ringe Star Center Smith pointed with pride to the record Ringe, the Episco

The navy yard eleven won six con-secutive games and was not defeated during the season. Lehigh, Swarthmore, Brown, Georgetown, Charleston and Camp Hancock were beaten in a row.

om the bags when the ball was hit in is territority.

Muck had a speedy outfield at the method of the with the Wolfenden Shore soccer team owing to being scheduled in a cup competition on next Saturday.

Quintet of Champions Awarded Berths on All-Interacademic Eleven. Episcopal Given Three

FIVE PENN CHARTER

BOYS ON STAR TEAM

TRIO FOR GERMANTOWN

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK

FOR the sixth consecutive season Penn Charter proved its superiority in the Interacademic Football League when Dick Merritt's boys overwhelmed Episcopal in the closing game of the season. The Penn Charter eleven was well-rounded and balanced with games won on team merit and not through the efforts of any particular individual.

Individually, however, Penn Charter possessed more men eligible for the allinteracademic team than any other school in the league, and it is therefore TEAM REWARDED school in the league, and it is therefore no surprise that the Quakers have been awarded five of the eleven posts on the

mythical honor team. Episcopal Academy has been given Dickson's Players Given three places, and the same number has been awarded to Germantown Academy Friends' Central did not/have a man who could class with those in line for

Statzell at End

Statzell, of Penn Charter, and Mockridge, of Episcopal, were the two best The League Island football players were tendered a banquet last night by the navy yard officers at the Adelphia, and each member of the squad was awarded a gold football with his name break down the squad was wrecking interference. Not only did he awarded a gold football with his name break down the wall of protection built

awarded a gold football with his name engraved on one side and "League Island. 1918." on the other.

Every player who helped raise the team to football supremacy was remembered. Even the sallor who was not good enough to make the second eleven or the third eleven, but who turned out daily for practice was rewarded. In all, forty-one footballs were given out.

By Dickson, the coach, was the recipient of a beautiful gold wrist watch, the gift of the players. The speech of age to advantage.

Mack Outfielder to Retire

and Enter Business in

diplent of it be players. The speech of presentation was made by Lleutenant Boyd Newcomb, the capitalin of the team, who said that Dickson was "the best guards to ach in the country."

Speeches were made by several of the line and stopping the play before it was fairly started.

Smith pointed with pride to the record Ringe, the Episcopal captain, was by which the League Island team made far the class of the centers. He was an during the season.

Speches also were made by Couch aggressive, fighting leader, who drove his players on not only with words, but with examples of personal ability that

urged his teammates to their utmost.

The Penn Charter backfield was the class of the league and three of the members of the offensive combination. members of the offensive combination have been picked for all-interacademic. They are Roney, quarterback; Grove, halfback, and Mitchell, fullback. Grove and Mitchell not only were good with the ball, but they played excellent defensive games. Roney ran his team well and was good in the open field.

well and was good in the open field.

Dinsmore, of Germantown, was the
best of the interacademic players in an open field. He went back under punts, handled the ball well and was as fast as the proverbial rabbit once he started down the field.

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