

NOW THAT BAN HAS TOLD THE NATIONAL WHAT TO DO, WE CAN PREPARE FOR THE 1919 SEASON

JOHNSON, VICTOR IN OWN LEAGUE, TELLS RIVALS WHAT TO DO

Battling Ban Shows Old-Time Pep and Insists on 140-Game Schedule for 1919—Whitted May Be Sold to Cubs or Giants

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL, Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

There will be no lengthy conference or under squabbling when the committee of the American League meets the National League body in the near future to discuss the future of the great national game.

Yesterday the American League held a meeting in Chicago and several things were accomplished. Virtually ignoring the senior circuit, the magnates agreed on a schedule of 140 games, a player limit of twenty-one men to go into effect fifteen days after the season starts, made provision for the middle and smaller athletes who were likely to return from the big fust, and last, but not least, handed Garry Herrmann a vote of confidence for his long and faithful service on the National Commission.

Ban Johnson evidently has recovered from the wallpops he received in the opening rounds of the baseball controversy. He had taken the count, was groggy and hanging on the ropes, but after stalling a couple of rounds he regained his strength and now has all of his old-time pep and pugnacity. Johnson still is boss, and he certainly handed it to the National yesterday.

The 140-game schedule, which evidently will be accepted, is a good thing for baseball. The season will open about May 1, when the weather is good, and it not only will cut down the expenses, but also do away with a flock of double-headers later in the summer. It's a good move for every one concerned.

But that vote of confidence for Herrmann looks like a back-handed slap. Garry's brother magnates had him on the pan a few days ago and could see him with a telescope when the National Commission was considered. Incidentally, the one-man "commish" was shot in its tracks, for there ain't going to be no one-man commish.

EVERYTHING now looks nice and lovely in Chicago and baseball should get off to a flying start. No trouble is expected from Heydler and his pals.

Watchful Waiting Now Magnates' Watchword

BIG-LEAGUE managers are worried over the approaching season, for they still are up in the air in regard to future plans. They do not know how many new players will be on hand for a tryout, nor have they any idea of the number of the former stars who will be back from the regular service and the paint and putty leagues. Until something definite is done they must indulge in some watchful waiting.

The principal trouble of the pilots under the big top is the spring training trip. At present no one knows whether it will be held. Ball players must get into condition before the season opens, for they are not in the best of shape after an easy winter, and the surplus weight must be worked off. The managers also need the annual jaunt to the southland, for the preliminary workouts give them an opportunity to look over the saw material and size up the players for the various positions. In three weeks more work can be accomplished in the South than three months in the North.

There is one thing certain, however, and that is the Phillies will not go back to St. Petersburg, Fla., next spring. President Baker said he had notified Mayor Lang and other authorities not to expect his ball club in 1919, and the chances are the new manager will have to work in some other town. Both Baker and Bill Shettsline are strong for Southern Pines, N. C., and the team probably will work there. Connie Mack also is believed to be considering a new training spot, as Jacksonville was far from satisfactory.

Magnates large and small are strongly in favor of retrenching as much as possible and the training trips will not be elaborate affairs. If it were possible, one of the local teams would go as far South as Wilmington, Del., and the other would be perfectly satisfied with conditions at Willow Grove or Port Indian, Pa. However, the training trips are highly essential and other clubs soon will announce their plans.

THERE will be plenty of fuel for the hot stove league this winter and the fans will have their fill of baseball before the initial games are played. Many new deals are in prospect, new managers are to be appointed and perhaps a club or two will change hands. It sure looks like a busy off season.

Baker About to Hand Whitted a "Pat Moran"

THE Phils are not through with the limelight as yet, if any credence can be placed in a report which drifted in from New York last night. According to the dope, George Whitted, the star outfielder who now is in the army, will be sold or traded either to New York or Chicago in the near future. Nothing can be learned from any of the parties concerned, so there is no chance for verification. However, everything goes at this season of the year, so Whitted might as well be placed on the auction block and shipped down the river.

Gavage is a mighty sweet ball player and an asset to any ball club. He is a swell fielder, a good batter and plays an excellent game at first base in a pinch. Moran thought highly of him and made special efforts every year to induce him to sign a contract. It will be remembered that Whitted was one of our most consistent holdouts and never agreed to terms until after the team had left for the South. In 1916 he did not sign until the club was ready to leave St. Petersburg, and last year he joined Moran in Columbia, S. C., on the trip North. If the deal is being contemplated it is because of this annual salary scrap and nothing else. George's ability as a ball player cannot be questioned.

Pat Moran is sitting tight at present and looking over several offers to manage major league ball clubs. It is said he has a good chance to break into the American League in a town not far from the old homestead at Fitchburg, Mass. Pat will not act hastily and probably will not do anything until after the first of the year.

We all know that Moran's dismissal was a big surprise at the annual meeting and for hours no one would believe it. Charley Herzog first thought it was a joke, but when told it was truth he smiled and said: "And they say I should be shot for getting real money for my services and selling myself to different ball clubs! Now, can you blame me for what I have done? Look at the deal handed to Moran. Winning the pennant, finishing second twice and delivering the goods for four years at only a fair salary and being rewarded with the tinware.

"If THAT'S gratitude, I want to shake hands with myself every time I look at my contract. You've got to throw a base ahead to catch those magnates."

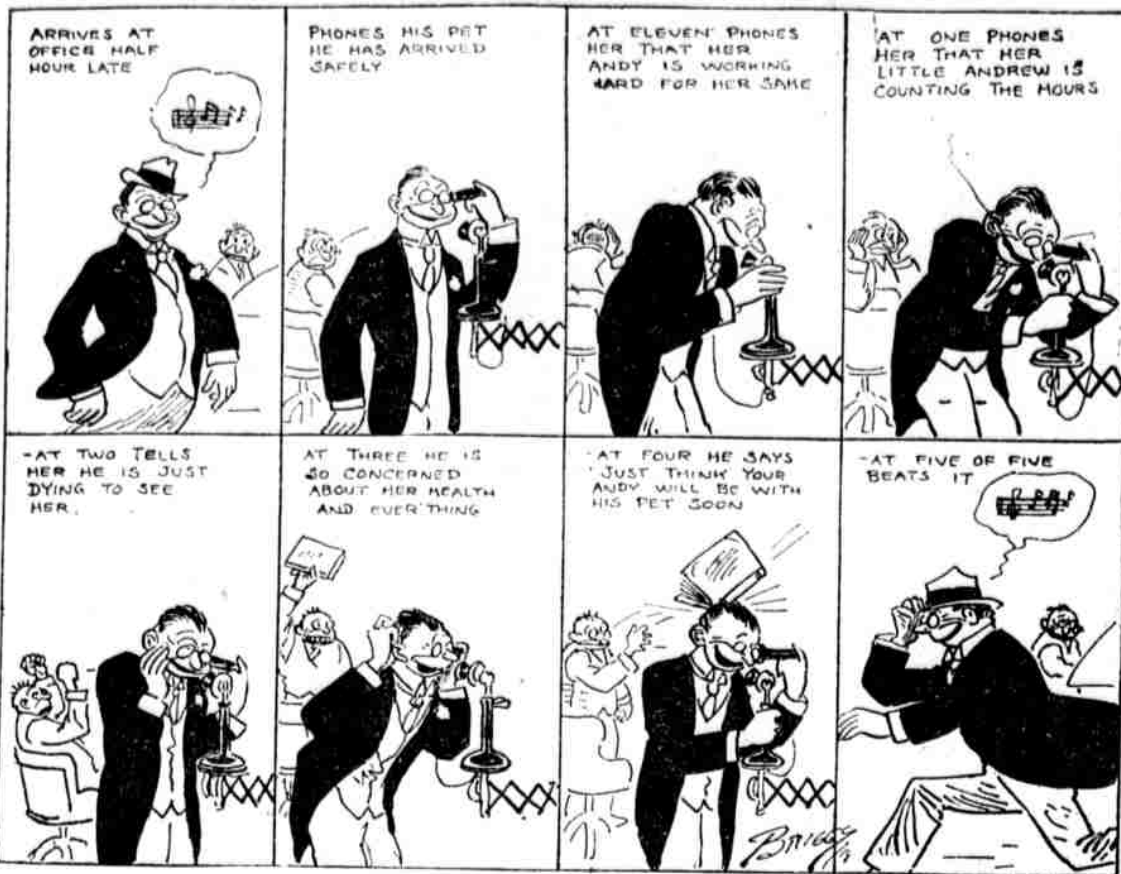
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PENN SQUAD EARNED FOOTBALL LETTERS

Rules Must Be Changed Before Quaker Gridiron Players Can Be Awarded Varsity Insignia

MAKE DECISION SOON

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK

THE most coveted thing in a college career in the eyes of the average student is the varsity letter. There are various ways of earning it from winning an intercollegiate gymnastic championship to battering oneself on the gridiron.

There is no harder way of earning the varsity insignia than fighting for it on the football field. There were a lot of black eyes, bruised ribs, scraped elbows, twisted ankles and swollen knees distributed at Franklin Field and Pittsburgh this season, but it isn't at all certain that the members of the Penn squad will be awarded the varsity letter.

Most Change Rules The students army training corps at the University has turned things topsy-turvy. The book of rules issued by the University Council on Athletics states that only those players who get into the Dartmouth, Michigan and Cornell games shall be awarded the varsity letter for football.

Penn didn't play Michigan nor Cornell, and furthermore Penn didn't play Dartmouth, but the S. A. T. C. defeated the Green on Thanksgiving. The team that played through the season represented the army corps and not the University. The question arises, therefore, as to whether or not these players are entitled to the varsity letter from the University.

No Dartmouth Awards It is understood that Dartmouth did not reward its players with the regulation "D" and there is some talk around the Penn campus that the Red and Blue warriors will not get their "D". The fact that Dartmouth did not award its letter, however, should have nothing to do with the action of the Quaker authorities.

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LISSE SCORES KNOCKOUT

Stops Parker in Hog Island Show; Hayes Beaten

Hog Island Athletic Association held its weekly boxing show last night at their new clubhouse, Ninety-fourth street and Thirteenth avenue, before a large crowd. In the opening bout Young Jimmy McCabe shaded Young Fattling Mendel.

Joe Jackson substituted in the second bout for Joe Leonard. Kid Wagner also acted as a substitute for Young Ketchell. Wagner put up a game fight but in the fifth round Wagner fell through the ropes and refused to continue.

Willie Burke surprised the veteran Grover Hayes. In the wind-up Johnny Lisse dropped Leo Parker in the first round and stopped him in the second.

Scraps About Scrappers

GUSSIE LEWIS will have no easy time in handling Tommy Tuohy, the sore-ripped batter from Paterson, N. J. They meet tonight in the final bout at the Cambria A. C. Tuohy, in his last battle here, was knocked out in four rounds by Lew Tondley, but he came back recently by outpointing Johnny Dundee in an eight-round battle at Jersey City.

The windup is supported by an excellent preliminary card. Joe Bowinkle, former amateur champion of Ohio, and now of the United States navy, will have Willie McCloskey, of Port Richmond, as his opponent. Paddy Coyle and Bobby Harkins, Marty Campbell and Terry Hanlon and Nell Brown and Joe Langston will complete the program.

Jack Hanson, the new matchmaker of the Ketchikan Theatre, Fortieth and Market streets, plans to have an all-star program of five bouts for the opening show on Christmas afternoon. Kid Williams, the former heavyweight ruler, may be seen in one of the bouts. In addition to the boxing contests, two high-class vaudeville acts also will be seen.

There will be no boxing contests at Pennycroft tonight. The club has been closed for the winter.

Jeff Smith, the Bayonne middleweight, and Tommy Robinson will come together in a twelve-round bout at Boston Monday night.

Frankie (Young) Britt, of New Bedford, and Rocky Kansas, of Buffalo, have been signed to clash in a twelve-round bout at the Artery A. C., of Boston, on next Tuesday night.

Joe Rivers, the Boston middleweight, who defeated Joe Guler at the Olympia last Monday night, may be seen in action at one of the local clubs in the near future.

CAMBRIA A. CLUB, Burns & Fenney, Mgrs., Kensington Ave. and Somerset St., PHILADELPHIA, DEC. 15TH. TOMMY TUOHY vs. GUS LEWIS. Four Other Crackjack Bouts

Amateur Cage Comment

Western Club has all dates open from December 14 to 21, with the exception of the 27th, for second and third class teams having halls and paying expenses for seven players. L. W. Fox, manager, 739 South Cecil street, or call Woodland 1021, after 6 p. m.

Hone B. C., a fast thirteen-to-fifteen-year-old home team, would like to hear from all traveling boys of that class. Fred Levy, manager, 5239 Greenwood avenue.

Avon Juniors, a fourteen-and-fifteen-year-old home team, would like to hear from all traveling boys of that class. Fred Levy, manager, 5239 Greenwood avenue.

Ardenes Club wants to arrange games with first and second class home teams offering guarantees. St. Drogin, manager, 878 North Fortieth street.

Columbia B. C. would like to hear from all fourth and fifth class home teams offering guarantees. Albert Davidson, manager, 11 South Second street.

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Lewis Throws Doctor Roller

Montreal, Dec. 13.—Bergant "Strangler" Lewis, of the American army, scored a decisive victory over Doctor Roller, last night by winning two straight falls in a catch-as-catch-can bout. Lewis, who is an aspirant for the heavyweight title, was forced to go the limit.

The first fall took more than an hour, the second less than two minutes.

Bahian Notre Dame Captain South Bend, Ind., Dec. 12.—At the annual football banquet the monogram most of South Bend's football team elected Leonard Bahian captain for the 1919 season. Bahian played first in the line-up and has been a star for the last two years.

Otto Knabe Signed by Cubs Chicago, Dec. 13.—Word was received from Otto Knabe, who has been signed by the Chicago National League team next season by President Mitchell.

Veteran Athletic Director Dead Concord, N. H., Dec. 13.—Lester C. DeP. Paul School, died last night at his residence. His pupils had included many famous athletes.

SWEENEY'S GOAL WINS

Dropkick Gives Naval Unit Penn Service Title

A field goal kicked by Mike Sweeney, the basketball star, decided a keen contest for the football championship of the naval unit of the University of Pennsylvania on Franklin Field yesterday. Sweeney, playing fullback for the "gobs" from Barracks No. 1, lifted the oval over the crossbar from the 30-yard mark. No other score was made in the game, which was between Barracks No. 1 and Barracks No. 5.

With Pinney and Graves, members of the Penn varsity team in its line-up, Barracks No. 5 put up a stiff battle. Andy Kiviat, star freshman miler for Penn last year, played in the backfield for Barracks No. 5. Bud Myers, who formerly played for Washington and Jefferson, played in the line-up for Barracks No. 1. Sweeney, who was umpire, and Walker, the other Penn end, was head linesman.

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