

TENDLER HANDLED A HAMMER SKILLFULLY, BUT NEVER SERVED AS A CARPENTER'S APPRENTICE

HARRY DAVIS LAUDS COLBY JACK COOMBS, PHILS' NEW MANAGER

Hard, Conscientious Worker, Game Fellow, Ever Willing, Brainy and Man for the Job, Insists Former Tactician of Mack's Winning Athletics

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

"WELL, I see where Jack Coombs has decided to manage the Phils next season," said Harry Davis, former captain and assistant manager of the Athletics, as he dropped into the office this morning.

"Coombs is a great fellow," continued Harry. "He doesn't know the meaning of the word quit, and is always ready to tackle another job. When he broke in with the Athletics he did nothing but ask questions the first two years. We would tell him the strength and weakness of every batter, but that wasn't enough. He would hang around after the game to ask more questions and put the answers in his little dopebook. Jack was a close student of baseball and a deep thinker from the first day. He took nothing for granted, and insisted that everything should be proved. After a couple of years he had all of the inside dope and this helped him considerably from 1909 to 1912.

"I never will forget the first time I saw Jack Coombs. He resembled anything but a pitcher, and had the small-town mark hanging all over him. His long arms flapped at his sides, and he wore a look of bewildered amazement for weeks. He never had traveled far from Colby College and his home at Kennebunk, Me. He was entering a new world.

"CONNIE MACK had heard of him through a friend up in Maine and sent Sam Kennedy to look him over. Sam came back with a big boost, but Connie, to make sure, made a little trip to find out for himself. Connie was convinced, and as soon as Coombs graduated from Colby he was eased into an Athletic uniform and made good from the start.

Scored a Victory in First Game Pitched in American League

"COOMBS got off auspiciously, winning his first game with little difficulty. It was in that game I became convinced Jack was a great pitcher. I forget who we were playing—it was back in 1908—but it was a strong club, and that kid from the backwoods acted as if he was pitching to a mid-lot team up in Kennebunk. Time and again he got into tight holes, but always got out of them.

"Toward the end I was afraid Coombs would get nervous, and I told him that the opposing batters were bums and couldn't hit the ball if one carried it to the plate. Jack really believed it, and poor old Doc Powers, who was catching, helped things along. Coombs blindly followed instructions, refused to get rattled and emerged with a victory.

"It did not take long for Connie Mack to realize he had a wonderful pitcher on his club. Coombs had to learn, but it wasn't hard to teach him. I never saw any one so anxious to absorb knowledge. As the season progressed his effectiveness increased and soon he was like a regular pitcher, appearing in extra-inning games and things like that.

"You probably know that Coombs is called the 'Iron Man,' but do you know where he got that title? It was on September 1, 1906, a few months after he joined the club. We had a double-header in Boston and Jack was selected to pitch the first game. The kid pitcher started out in great shape, but Harris, who twirled for the Red Sox, also had something on the ball. At the end of the ninth the score was 1 to 1 and we kept on playing.

"Tuning after inning passed and I expected Coombs to crack under the strain. Connie thought so, too, but Jack insisted he was all right. Well, sir, that game lasted twenty-four innings and Coombs was going strong at the finish. We scored three runs in the twenty-fourth and won by the score of 4 to 1.

"THAT one game made Jack Coombs, of Colby. It was the longest in major league history and only two pitchers worked. Harris, of Boston, however, ruined his arm and never was any good after that. Incidentally the sobriquet 'Iron Man' has stuck to the pitcher ever since.

Twirled Mack to Pennant in 1910

"COLBY JACK made other records in his nine years with the Athletics. He never was beaten in a world series game, and in 1910 won three straight from the Chicago Cubs. That was Coombs' best year, and he virtually won the pennant for us. For two weeks in midseason, when the going was rough and the other pitchers were in a slump, Coombs was out there pitching every other day. He and Cy Morgan did most of the work, but Cy and his splitter went to get into trouble near the end of a game and Jack would go in and help him out.

"That year he won thirty-one and lost nine and pitched 353 innings. The best part of it was he never complained and was willing to pitch every day if Connie asked him.

"In 1911 Jack had another good year, but suffered an injury which afterward proved to be serious. In one of the world series games he wrenched his leg, but insisted on finishing. He was allowed to continue, and near the end, when he was winding up, he twisted the leg again and also his back. He fell flat on his face and was carried off the field.

"That was the start of Coombs' troubles. He played the next year, but at the close of the season was stricken with typhoid and was not expected to live. In some way his wrenched back became infected and he also suffered from that. When he left the hospital the doctors said his ball-playing days were over, but Jack stuck around for two years and refused to take the count. When he was given his unconditional release in 1914 he got a leather harness which he wore like a corset, went to Brooklyn, where he won fifteen and lost ten in 1915, and followed with thirteen and eight in 1916, when the Dodgers won the pennant.

"COOMBS always had the high sign on the Giants, and it was not until the latter part of 1917 that they were able to beat him. Jack is an earnest, hard-working ball player, a credit to any club and is sure to be successful if it can be accomplished by hard work."

Moran Has Not Signed Yet With Giants

PAT MORAN has not yet signed a contract to coach the pitchers for John McGraw. He can have the job if he wants it, but at present the Fitchburg genius is considering other offers. Pat will not make a decision until after the first of the year.

When he learned of Moran's unlooked for dismissal, McGraw immediately looked up the ex-manager. "Tough luck, Pat," said McGraw, "but don't worry about the loss of your job. You'll get a better one, and if you don't connect, you can have a place with my ball club at \$5000 a year. You can take one or two months to think it over, but remember the job is yours if you want it."

That's how Pat Moran stands with McGraw, despite the battles they used to fight on the diamond. The pair almost came to blows on several occasions, and one season they didn't speak. But it was Jawy Jay who first approached Moran, and you must hand it to him for having a big heart. Moran and McGraw would make an ideal combination. Pat is a genius in his own line, knows how to handle pitchers and discovers weaknesses in the attack of the other side. The pair would get along like ham and eggs. Moran and Dixon and other doubles. With Moran in New York, the Giants will walk in with the pennant.

BUT Pat has not yet signed. It is said he is being considered as Mathewson's successor in Cincinnati.

Johnson and Frazee Battling With Words Again

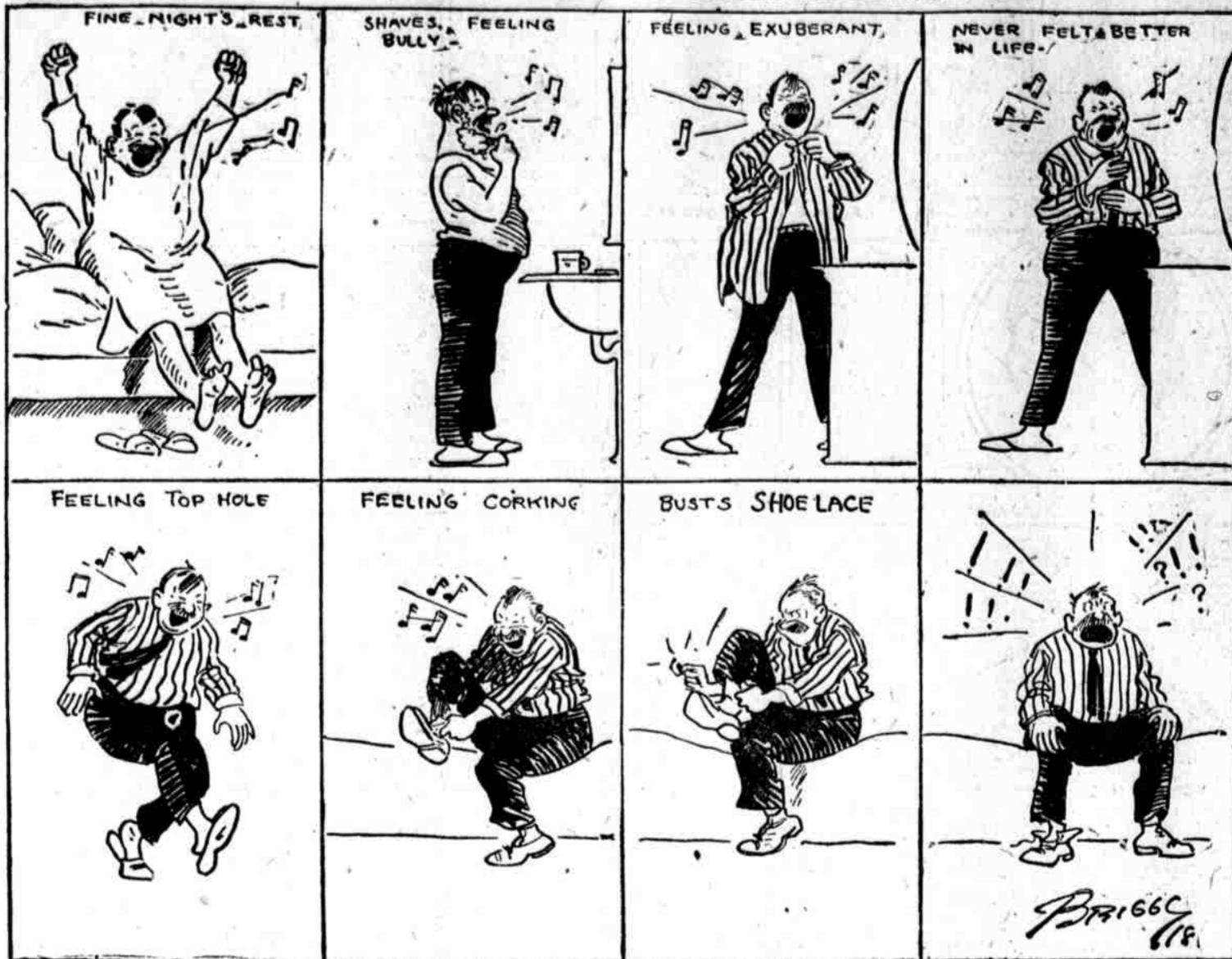
DAN JOHNSON and Harry Frazee are at it again, or rather they still are at it. The Boston owner, aroused by Ban's threat to put him out of baseball, has hurled some verbal broadsides in the general direction of Chicago and aimed directly at the American League head.

He stated yesterday that he telegraphed Johnson demanding an explanation of the stand taken in regard to the ownership of the Boston club. He admitted there was a possibility that he might dispose of the Red Sox to a syndicate headed by former Governor David Walsh, of Massachusetts, but added that Johnson had nothing to do with the affair.

Commenting on Ban's statement charging gambling at Fenway Park, Frazee said:

"I am one of the eight men who employ Johnson, and this statement of an employe would be absolutely ridiculous were it not for the harm done to the league and to baseball. Johnson gave out this statement because he thought I had left Chicago. While I was there he was

MOVIE OF A MAN AND A BUSTED SHOELACE



WITTIG RETURNS TO HANCOCK FIVE

Former Sewells Point Player Re-enters American Cage League

STEELE WITH ROOKWOOD

Charley Wittig, who helped Hancock to the championship in the American Basketball League and who later played for Jaaper in the Eastern, will make his reappearance in a Hancock uniform tomorrow evening against Midvale Street.

The Dobson Athletic Association has sustained a severe loss in the death of John James, president and founder of the A. A. James was the leading figure in all Dobson athletic activities. His funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon.

QUIMET WILL PLAY

Golf Star to Compete in Championships

Boston, Dec. 17.—Lieutenant Francis Quimet, of Boston, the western amateur golf champion, will take part in the national open and national amateur golf championships next year if the United States Golf Association votes to renew these events, according to an announcement made last night by Jack Sullivan, Quimet's former business partner.

Quimet first gained national golf fame by defeating Vardon and Hay, the English professionals, in a playoff for the open championship at Brookline in 1915.

GOALS FROM EVERY ANGLE

Hobby Winkell has stenciled two more big leaguers for his Rookwood team. They are Roy Steele and Willie McGarrett, both of whom need no introduction. Rookwood has nine games in its Christmas schedule, and others making the trip being Doc Leary, Kid Dan, Harry Franckle, Van Osten, and Deal.

With the return of Chick Sells, the College of Osteopathy is assured a fast five-sale was at one time a candidate for Columbia and has just returned from the S. A. T. C.

Jimmy Brown's position is forward, but he does his best work in the backfield and was at his best of the season last night. He landed five goals and his partner, Tray Jones, who made his debut, also did good work.

Charley Macgregor is lost to St. Columbia for the rest of the season. The former Eastern Leaguer finds it necessary to work in the gymnasium for a couple of months and by that time the cage season will be nearly over.

"Babe" Klutz, who played his first game for St. P. H. A. in last year's center of the Girard College five, is a star athlete and in the fall has defeated Bartels in the high jump, was second in the shot-put and also starred in the hurdles.

Charley Hargreaves, of the Merchant Shipyard, started for St. Columbia in his initial appearance. He caught six well-placed goals and played all-round basketball. Hargreaves formerly played for Trenton in the Eastern League.

S. P. H. A. pulled the biggest surprise of the season and walked Witter 48 to 9. All the former schoolboys were in prime fettle and scored at will.

PENN MAY LOSE STARS

McNichol and Stannard, Injured, Remain in Army

Danny McNichol and Andy Stannard, two of the best basketball players at Penn, have failed to pass the physical examination and both have been retained by the Government while the other students are being mustered out of the S. A. T. C. It is likely that neither will be able to practice with the cage team this month, but it is believed that they will be available in January.

An infected knee, a result of a football injury, caused McNichol to be retained. Stannard broke his hand in a fall some time ago and both will be sent to Cape May where they will be retained until they recover.

In the absence of Lon Jourdet, the Red and Blue coach, Lou Martin will have charge of the players. He has called out candidates and will hold three practices weekly until the beginning of the Christmas vacation.

Farrell Back at Columbia

New York, Dec. 17.—Columbia's basketball stock took a leap upward yesterday when Tom Farrell, star of the 1916 and 1917 fives, reported at the university gymnasium to Fred Dawson, coach of the team.

Noted Swimmer War Hero

New York, Dec. 17.—Captain George R. Hodgson, of Montreal, Canada, world's swimming champion, has been awarded the Royal Flying Corps Cross for life-saving while on patrol duty in the North Sea.

PRO INSTRUCTORS NEEDED IN GOLF

Employment of Professional Tutors at Clubs Essential, Says Chick Evans HELPS DEVELOP GAME

By CHARLES (CHICK) EVANS

One of the rather surprising things to me about golf is the number of players who seem to doubt the wisdom of employing professionals at clubs and public courses. There is rather a widely spread idea that the "pro" at a big club makes a lot of money.

The public seems to figure that the professional who the club pays him the professional adds a larger income from lessons given and from the sale of clubs and other golf equipment. The spread of this idea has caused many to feel that the professional is a parasite on the golfing public.

I know a great many professionals, not only in the United States and Canada, but abroad, but I never have met one who by any means could be called more than comfortably well off.

Should Have Pro

I believe it is highly essential to the development of the game that every club of any pretense at all and every public course should have a competent professional available. The professionals have rendered not only golf, but the public in general a big service because through them the interest literally of thousands of men and women has been developed in golf with great benefit to health.

Sharkey Wins From Johnson

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 17.—Jack Sharkey had a short-cut victory over Pat Johnson in the eight-round wind-up at the Trenton A. C. here last night.

PARKWAY CLOAK SHOP 15th & Arch Sts., N. W. Corner. Buy Nationally Advertised Cloaks at Cut Prices for Your Gift. List of items and prices: HENRIETTA, \$4.00; EL TORO, \$4.00; FAVORITAS, \$4.50; GARCIA CORONA SPECIAL, \$3.50; EL KOKANA, \$4.00; FLORE DE MANUELS, \$4.00; HILAN FARGONS, \$2.85; PIPES, \$2.75; COUNSELLORS, \$2.50; FACTORY SMOKERS, \$2.25; EL TORO, \$2.35; PRINCE ALBERT, \$1.25; VELVET, \$1.25; FINEST ASSORTMENT of Pipes in Town at Much More Than \$1.00; ALWAYS O.K. Mail Order Accommodated by P. O. Order Shipments Anywhere. Christmas Boxes of 25 in any above 4 and 5 extra on each box.

COACH JIM RICE KEPT BUSY MAKING DENIALS

Veteran Columbia Crew Instructor Has Signed With Three Colleges Without Knowing It

CREW TUTORS SCARCE

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK

SOME of these days the public is going to be fooled, the coming year. It is scarcely likely that Jim Rice has a press agent at work, but some one in New York town is managing to keep his name in print. So far it has been learned from "reliable sources" that Coach James has signed with three different colleges, and just as many times has it been denied.

Following are headlines which have informed the rowing public of Mr. Rice's prospects for the coming year: November 22—"Jim Rice to Coach Pacific Coast Crews." November 23—"Rice Denies He Will Coach on Coast." December 3—"Rice Will Return as Columbia Coach." December 4—"Rice Denies He Will Return to Columbia." December 13—"Rice Signs to Coach Cornell Crews." December 16—"Rice Denies He Has Signed With Cornell."

Coaches in Demand From the above it can be learned that James Rice is still a free agent and furthermore he is about the only capable and well-known instructor who has no strings attached to him. Right now he should be in demand, for there are several colleges without crew tutors.

If rowing is to be revived, and there is every reason to believe it will be, despite the enormous cost, any college that signs Rice should consider itself fortunate. His contract with Columbia expired last spring and from all appearances he does not intend to return to the Morningside Heights institution.

As far as can be ascertained Princeton, Harvard, Penn and Annapolis are the only colleges which have coaches under contract. Perhaps never before in the history of the sport has such a situation existed. Cornell, Syracuse and Columbia, in the east, and Stanford, Washington and California in the west, are without coaches.

Penn has Joe Wright under contract and said contract embraces a war clause, but it is likely that the Red and Blue authorities will call him even for an informal season. Dick Glendon is at Annapolis and is a fixture; Bill Haines is at Harvard and John Fitzpatrick will care for the Princeton oars. In the absence of Dr. Duncan Spauld who is expected to return to the university shortly.

Plaiated Too Old Fred Plaiated, who was assistant to Rice at Columbia, is still on the job, but he is past the seventy-year mark and cannot do much active coaching. Courtney has retired and his assistant, Jack Collyer, is working at Hog Island and intends to stay there.

Prof. Mather Abbott has been coaching the Yale crews, but he is only filling in until some one can be obtained to

Lieut. Don Lippincott, Former Penn Runner, Now Out of Service

Lieutenant Donald F. Lippincott is just plain Don Lippincott these days. Last fall he was a runner on the Penn team and was returned to his home in this city. Take many of the other boys who are returning from "appointments. Don tends to have a vacation before re-enters the service. He was one of the greatest sprinters Penn ever had. His world's record of 21.1 seconds for the forty-yard dash is the drive of famous runners for more than five years.

Ellis Ward, the former Penn coach, is past seventy, and his coaching days are over. Charley Stevenson, who was coach at the Weld Club at Harvard and later with the University of California, is out of rowing, unless Jim Wray, the ex-Harvard tutor, is brought back, there are no tutors of repute available outside of Rice.

BIG MEETS FOR NEW YORK

Gotham Awarded Indoor Junior and Senior Games

New York, Dec. 17.—New York is to be the scene of both the national junior and senior indoor track and field championships of the Amateur Athletic Union this year, according to an announcement made at A. A. U. headquarters yesterday. The senior meet will be held at the Twenty-second Regiment Armory on the third Saturday of March, the date on which it has taken place for the last four or five years. Neither the date nor the place for the holding of the junior meet has been agreed upon.

Peterson Returns to Columbia New York, Dec. 17.—Gus Peterson, coach of the Columbia wrestling team, who wrenched his knee badly in a practice bout with a student a week ago, returned to the gymnasium yesterday and took charge of the squad.

12,000,000 Physically Unfit in U. S. Body-Building Boxing Courses Will Remedy All Ailments PHILA. JACK O'BRIEN \$15

Cambria A. C. Burns & Feener, Mgrs. FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 20th, 8:30 P.M. JOHN W. WALLEN, EDIE MILLER, FOUR OTHER CRACKBACK BOTS

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SUITS AND OVERCOATS To Your Measure \$18.50. 400 patterns to select from in every want. From mills and pay spot cash is the reason for this low price. Absolute fit. Satisfaction guaranteed or money cheerfully refunded. Value \$30 to \$37.50. Chas. Adams Co. Men's Custom Tailoring 114 South Eleventh Street