

# NOW THAT MINOR LEAGUE OFFICIALS HAVE WHAT THEY WANT, THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT

## FREEDOM SO EASY SOME MINORS FEAR BIG LEAGUE TRICK

**Unanimous Vote to Cast Little Fellows Adrift, After Al Tierney Makes Regular Patrick Henry Speech, Looked Upon With Suspicion**

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL  
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

New York, Jan. 18.

THE major leagues knocked off work last night, the magnates and scribes departed for their native boroughs, leaving nothing but a bunch of bewildered minor leaguers having their first taste of freedom and not knowing what to do with it. This minor league situation is getting better every day and worthy of some illumination.

Late Thursday night the magnanimous magnates, out of pure kindness, conceded every point to the smaller fellows, and even gave them more than they asked. This caused such consternation and surprise that no one can think coherently on the subject, while every one is seeking a colored gentleman in the woodpile. It was too good to be true, and thereby hangs this tale.

Al Tierney, pilot of the late Three I League, made a thrilling address to the magnates in joint session Thursday night. Al was in great shape and put on a regular Patrick Henry oration. He almost brought tears to the eyes of his audience as he told how the minor leagues have been struggling for years, limping along and bearing their losses in silence. He showed how some of the circuits sank for the third time never to arise and others that should have taken the count. He made a plea for the abolition of the draft and asked the magnates to please pay \$1500 for players they desired, and if they failed to make good they could be returned for \$2500 each. Al didn't give the minors the worst of it, providing a sure profit of \$500 on each sale.

Tierney was interrupted by one of the magnates, who said:

"Suppose the major leagues divorce themselves from the minors and allow you to go your way alone? We would respect your contracts, territorial rights and things like that, but everything else will be in your own hands."

Tierney was astounded. "If you do that, gentlemen," he said, "you will send us away the happiest men in New York. We want our freedom. That's what we want. Please give it to us and make us happy."

Before the delegation left the room sixteen big league moguls had voted unanimously to make the boys happy. The suggestion made in a joking way was adopted and the minor league delegates notified a few minutes later.

**THIS was too much for the followers of Tierney. The action was too sudden.**

"What's the trick?" asked one. "Are you going to start a minor league of your own? There's something funny about this deal. What's the idea? Will you please put that stuff in writing, so we know where we stand? Then we will take action; but in the meantime let things go along as they are."

**National League Adopts New Plan to Handle Salaries**

IT TOOK four hours of labor behind closed doors for the National League magnates to step on that \$10,000 salary limit and reach a new agreement on 1919 expenditures. The salary limit was a joke from the start, but no action was taken to correct it until every one began to ridicule the idea. Then a new deal was asked for and the cards shuffled again.

No one knows what happened in that secret session, but it is believed a retirement policy was passed and the various club owners asked to be as careful as possible in handing out contracts. It is the idea to cut down salaries to the 1912 standard before the Federal League started to bid for the stars. Salaries are bound to drop, but it will take several years to accomplish it. Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker, Eddie Collins, Walter Johnson, Grover Alexander and others are near the end of their strings, and the new men will not have an opportunity to grab overfigured salaries. That's what the magnates are working for, but they must wait until an opportune time comes to put it through.

It is known that all of the National Leaguers are satisfied with the new deal, and even New York and Chicago believe they can pull through without paying fines—if there are any fines to pay. Thus the best of feeling prevailed when the bosses adjourned.

Had the National League adhered to the salary limit it would have been a great thing for the American League. The Johnson circuit has more individual stars, more money is paid in salaries, and the old league would suffer. The fans will not stand for cheap baseball in one league when they can see high-salaried, sensational players in the other. Strange as it may seem, every American League team has a star. In Detroit there is Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker in Cleveland, Eddie Collins in Chicago, George Sisler in St. Louis, Walter Johnson in Washington, Frank Baker in New York, Babe Ruth in Boston and Scott Perry and George Burns, Athletics.

**ALEXANDER, Knauft, Herzig and Conaway are about all the Nationals can offer, but when Hank Gowdy returns Boston will have the greatest drawing card in the country.**

**All Clubs Benefit by Three-Cornered Deal**

THESE were few deals at the meeting, but the biggest one was held until the adjournment. The Red Sox, Washington and Detroit engrossed a three-cornered trade with all details secret. The three clubs benefited by the transaction, for Vitt of Detroit, and Gene Dumont of Washington, go to the Red Sox; Janvrin to Washington, and Chick Shorten of Boston; Slim Love and Eddie Ainsmith to Detroit.

Vitt will be a welcome addition to the Red Sox, for Frazer's team has been weak at third base since the departure of Larry Gardner. The former Tiger will give Boston a good infield, with McInnis on first, Barry or Sheean at second and Scott at third. The New Englanders stand out as possible pennant winners at this writing.

Janvrin will strengthen the Washington club as Johnny Lavan still is in the navy and says he intends to stick. That left a big hole at shortstop, and Janvrin will fill it satisfactorily.

Detroit gets three men for its third baseman, and they should come in handy. Shorten is a great outfielder, but his arm is a trifle weak. He runs the bases well, is an excellent hitter and fields his position like an expert. Eddie Ainsmith still is a good catcher—something Hughey Jennings has needed for a long time. Slim Love is doubtful. He looks good one day, but always has a relapse. He is an in-and-outer—mostly out.

Connie Mack horned in on one of the transactions, getting a young person named Kinney, who is said to be a pitcher. Nothing much is known of the newcomer, but he throws with his left hand, is a husky guy and strong as a horse. Perhaps he will deliver for the A's. Let's hope he does, any way.

**SOME of the dastards said last night that Dumont probably would join the Athletics in a short time. Frazer has enough pitchers and Connie Mack always has been sweet on the Washington hurler. As Connie never talks, we are forced to make a guess on this deal.**

**Phils and Cards May Map Out Trades**

THE Phils probably will have some news to divulge in a short time, for President Baker, several of his brother magnates had some confidential talks in the corridors of the Waldorf and Biltmore. Baker and Branch Rickey were there quite a little, and it might be that some trade will be put through.

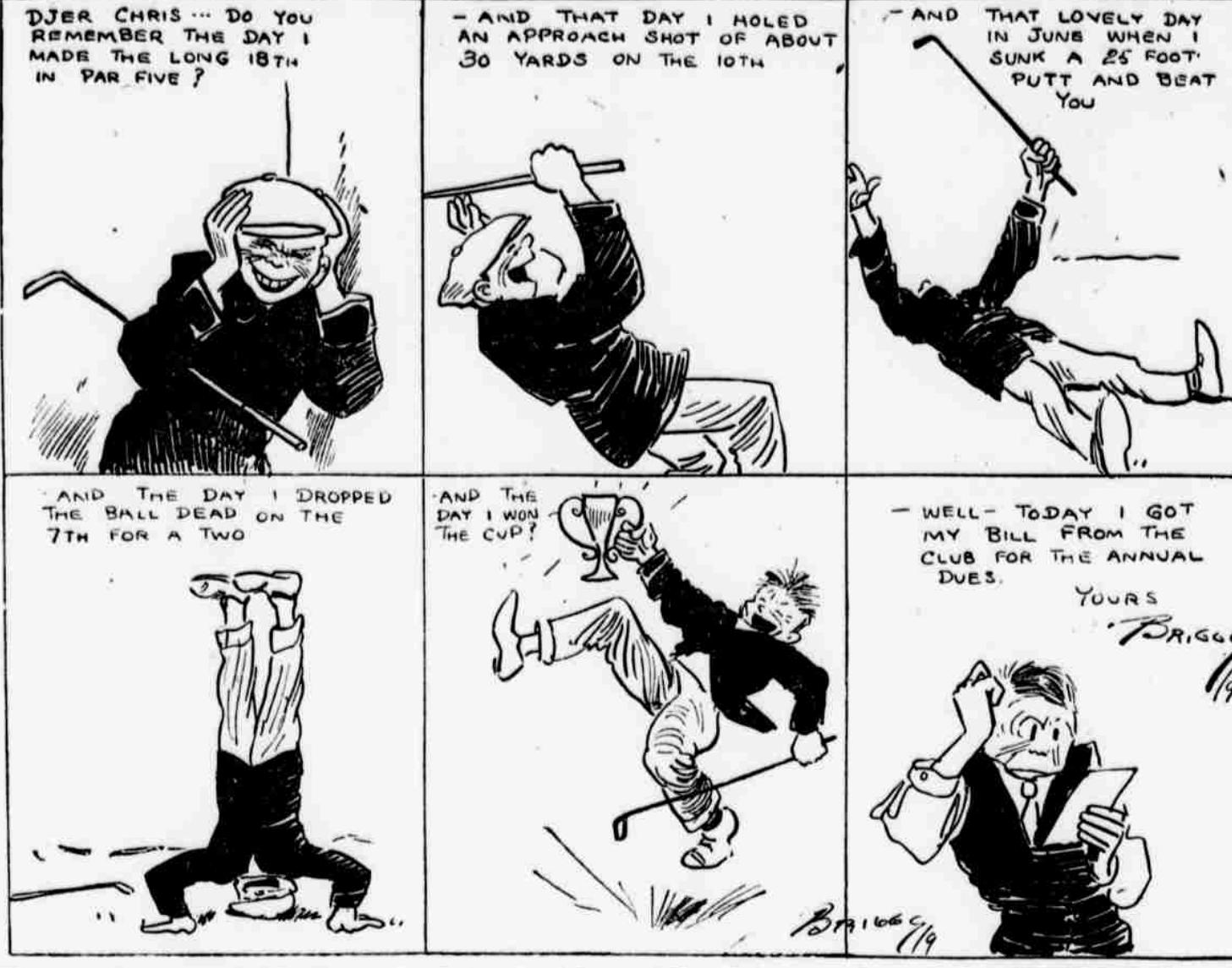
It is known that there will be several new faces on the Phillips this year, but no announcement will be made until after Jack Coombs gets on the job. Jack is expected here Monday and it will be up to him to select his ball club. President Baker has done some missionary work, but nothing will be done unless it is approved by the new manager.

Coombs is a pretty shrewd baseball man and the chances are that he has done some deep thinking at his home in Palestine, Tex.—wherever that is. He may have some suggestions which will help the club, and Baker will give him free rein. The Phils need some new players, especially in the pitching department, and many applicants are being considered.

Miller Huggins failed to put through anything startling, although he conferred several times with Lee Fohl, of Cleveland. Bobby Roth was not disposed of and the chances are he will remain with the Indians. He and Manager Pohl do not agree on anything, but Bobby is too good a player to be kept on the bench, so he will be in the line-up until some deal is made to send him away.

**THE magnates seemed worried about the report that a heavier war tax would be inflicted this summer. If such is the case, the only thing left is to raise the price of admission, and the owners are loath to take this step. Everything else has advanced, however, so why not baseball? A committee is working on the problem and will confer with the officials in Washington.**

## SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



## LITTLE LEAGUES Golt Now Is in Reach of All Sport Lovers

Managers of Many Minor League Clubs Planning for Coming Season

**DELAWARE CO. TO PLAY YOUNG PEOPLE PLAY**

BY CHARLES (CHICK) EVANS

WHEN golf was first introduced into this country the number of persons who enjoyed it were few, and because of their high membership it was truly enough "a rich man's game." The early days of golf were the days of the schoolboy games in the flush time of 1850-55. The other stars are McMullen, of Trenton, from whom the game spread east and west, and Weiler, of Edgewood, McMullen was the half-mile champion who won the quadrangular title in the quadrangular title.

So the financial handicap under which golf labored brought in its wake another popular misconception which was that "golf is an old man's game." And the young men who essayed to play it found themselves popularly labeled "a snob." The game was popularly known as a rich man's game and an old man's game a young man could play it for no other reason than a desire to belong to the "upper crust."

They claim the sport is coming back with all the vigor of before the war, and while there were only about a half dozen organizations in the field last season, fully three times that number will be seen in action by April 1. The fans are anxious to let loose their enthusiasm for the national pastime, and as a big majority of the American troops will be home by that time there is every reason to believe that this locality will be the scene once more of lively baseball games.

They claim the sport is coming back with all the vigor of before the war, and while there were only about a half dozen organizations in the field last season, fully three times that number will be seen in action by April 1. The fans are anxious to let loose their enthusiasm for the national pastime, and as a big majority of the American troops will be home by that time there is every reason to believe that this locality will be the scene once more of lively baseball games.

Individual Expense Decreases

The idea that golf is a rich man's game has been shattered now for some years. Time enough at the inception golf was a rich man's game because the total expense had to be divided among a few players, but the amateur game began to grow rapidly and the capital required to play golf fell almost in direct ratio with the increase of players, so that today golf is the most widely played game in this country.

So the financial handicap under which golf labored brought in its wake another popular misconception which was that "golf is an old man's game." And the young men who essayed to play it found themselves popularly labeled "a snob."

The game was popularly known as a rich man's game and an old man's game a young man could play it for no other reason than a desire to belong to the "upper crust."

They are putting golf not because they have to, but because they wish to. And six-hole holes of golf will be quite ample to convince any man, however inexperienced, that golf is a man's game and a yard wide.

ANOTHER FOR CAMDEN

Captain Stewart's Band Subdues Millville Passers, 15 to 22

Camden High easily defeated Millville High on the former's door yesterday afternoon, the final score being 15 to 22. With a good crowd present the teams did not even attempt to play fast ball, and the play was simple and straightforward. So the only expense to players was five cents, a bag and a hat.

A very satisfactory engagement can be neared at a total investment of about \$100, and from this many months of pleasure may be had. Show me any other sport which is so inexpensive.

**Delaware County to Start**

J. Burton Weeks, the founder and president of the Delaware County League, has sounded the call for a meeting of that organization to be held on Saturday, January 25, at Chester. It will be preceded by a dinner to be held by the Pennsauken, with managers of former clubs and league officials as guests. At this gathering the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.

The Interborough League, another which halted activities temporarily owing to the war, will also spring to life again.

President E. G. Steveng will call the managers together in the near future and a big meeting will be formed.

At this meeting the outlook for the coming season will be discussed.

Arrangements will also be made for the presentation of the McMullen trophy to the winning club, which will be determined by a draw.