

SALARY-SLASHED CONTRACTS WILL CAUSE MORE THAN ONE TO SUFFER FROM WRITER'S CRAMP

HARD FOR PLAYERS TO TAKE SALARY CUT FOR SHORTER SEASON

Many Contracts Will Be Returned Unsigned and the Sliding Scale Now in Effect Is Likely to Cause an Epidemic of Writer's Cramp

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL, Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

THOSE trick contracts sent out by major league clubs are not getting the warm reception that was anticipated. In a short time flocks of them will be sent back to the home offices—the majority unsigned. While this is the time of year the holdouts do their best work and the annual retirement stories are spilled all over the country, the boys have a regular excuse. Every man has received a cut in salary. The figures on the contract have been revised with a sliding scale, and that has caused the epidemic of writer's cramp.

However, the big league players will discover in a short time that they are not so badly off as they first imagined. There is a little trick in each document, and if studied carefully it will be discovered that starvation wages have not yet been put into effect. True, the figures have shrunk, but only those representing the lump sum for the entire season. In a majority of cases the monthly wage is the same, if not a trifle higher.

Last year the boys worked six months and were paid on that basis. This year it will be five months and one week, and the same system will prevail. For example, take Alexander's salary. He is supposed to receive \$12,000 a season, or \$2000 a month. That was in 1918. This year his contract would call for about \$16,500, for three weeks would be lopped off. This is just a hypothetical case, but it explains the workings of the new scale of wages. The men virtually are paid by the month and the men will get the same money—for a shorter period.

That's the answer for the salary slashes. The retrenchment policy has not yet been put into effect, although it will be going strong in a year or so. A shorter season means shorter pay—this year. In the future, when salaries become normal, the players will imagine they are playing in 1905 or something like that.

FEW holdouts are expected after this month. The players will express their displeasure, wait for a time and then decide to play for one more year.

Baker Doesn't Look for Syndicate Baseball

THERE will be no syndicate baseball in the National League, and not much credence is given to the yarn printed in New York a couple of days ago that Stoneham and Grant were the owners of the Braves, according to William F. Baker, president of the Phils.

"I saw Mr. Grant in New York," said Mr. Baker, "and he told me he was the sole owner of the Boston ball club. He said he had enough money of his own to put through the deal and had a balance large enough to pay expenses. He also stated he could prove it any time he was asked.

There also is a story that Charles Webb Murphy is associated with Grant in the purchase of the club. There is nothing to that. Under existing conditions Murphy never would take a chance. Under existing conditions Murphy would be a partner in a deal which does not include a ball park, as is the case in Boston. Jim Gaffney owns Braves Field and collects a healthy yearly rent. Grant owns only the franchise, and will discover it when the season gets under way.

It was rumored that the acquisition of the Braves by Grant, who is a close friend of McGraw and Stoneham, and the probable purchase of the St. Louis club by another financier from the same lodge, would make things much easier for Garry Herrmann in his fight to retain the chairmanship of the National Commission. That would give him four votes, it was claimed, and if one more club fell into line the pro-Herrmanns would be in control of the league.

However, Herrmann is up against it no matter what happens. The league has gone on record against him by a vote of 6 to 2 and a committee appointed to select his successor. There will not be another meeting until next December unless it is called on a 6-to-2 vote. That is impossible with Baker, Dreyfus and Ebbets on the job. For that reason the committee of the National and American Leagues are busy sleuthing around for a third person to sit in the court of last resort, and the discovery is likely to be announced before the season ends.

THERE is one thing certain—and we have this on good authority—if the American League insists on Herrmann and cannot agree on another, Garry will remain on the commission as the representative of the Johnson circuit. All of which will make it more intricate.

Baird, Phil's New Third Baseman, Modest Athlete

DOUGLAS BAIRD, the new third baseman of the Phils, is a modest chap and is not looking for a brass band to meet him at Broad Street Station when he arrives to begin his season's labors. He wants to enter quietly and does not even care for the cheers of the fans. He told this to Sid Keener, the St. Louis scribe, the other day. According to Keener, Baird wants to be the silent partner in the recent trade engineered between the Cards and the Phils.

"St. Louis agrees with Philadelphia that it is a tough job to replace a third-sacker like Milton Stock," writes Keener, "and Baird, who makes his home here, realizes he is facing a handicap when he walks to the plate at the Phils' clubhouse."

"Baird made the express request not to introduce himself to the Phil fans with any flowery language. He doesn't want it known that he is an excellent base runner and that he may become a rival for Max Carey and George Burns. He simply wants to sneak in to Philadelphia without a wild demonstration. For his part, he'll accept any jeers and sneers, because he wants to start all over in his baseball career."

"When a fellow is rapped on the jaw he'll fight harder than ever," said Baird. "When a fellow is close to a knockout in the ring he'll try to pull himself together. I figure I'm like that fighter today."

"PHILADELPHIA fans are mourning the loss of Stock, so you see what I have in front of me. I have to go out there and relieve a fellow who was an idol with the home boys. I'm not saying what I'm going to do, but I'm more than pleased that they traded me to Philadelphia."

Baird Welcomed His Transfer to Phillies

WHEN I left the club last summer Mr. Riekey said I would not return to the Cardinals. When I heard this I told my friends I would welcome a trade and told them to try to get him to send me to Philadelphia."

"Baird may not be a marvelous ball player. He is not rated with Stock and Helme Groh, but he is a likable fellow and an easy athlete for a manager."

"As Baird has played in the National League for several years, he is not a stranger to the patrons of the Phillies. He is, according to St. Louis, a gem in fielding a slow, twisting, teasing ball down the third-base line. He can come in, pick 'em up on the run and leave right in the first baseman's glove. He covers yards and yards in going to his left and scooping in grounders in front of the shortstopper with his glove."

"When it comes to hitting, Doug is anything but a slouch. He has a free and easy swing, uses a long bat, stands far away from the plate and is of the type which may break up a game any moment with a long drive. Those left field bleachers should be easy for Doug, as that is his favorite spot."

FREQUENTLY last summer he drove to the Cardinals' left field wall on the first and second bound—such a drive would drop in the Phils' bleacher seats."



FAIRS PROTEST AGAINST TAXES

Pennsylvania State Association Wants Legislature to Repeal Bill

BREEDING PROBLEMS

By ROBERT T. PAUL. That the bill which causes the county fairs of this State to be taxed is not in favor with the fair associations was demonstrated to the satisfaction of all at the meeting of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs held yesterday at the Hotel Hanover.

LOUISIANA DELIVERS

Louisiana, after a prolonged absence which bordered upon retirement, came back to the boxing ring yesterday to Jack McLaughlin, the promoter who gave him his chance to make good in the boxing game. Louisiana, always a star in the amateur division during his time, is now a full-fledged featherweight. He didn't murmur when informed that Benny Valger had been selected as his opponent.

Continued Session Today

The session will be continued this morning at 10 o'clock. Matters concerning the Midway and attractions and how to advertise a fair, better sanitary conditions for a fair ground and several other matters will be discussed.

Southern Enters Protest

Southern High School basketball five takes objection to the statement that they were beaten by St. Joseph's on Tuesday afternoon, claiming that it was merely practice, not being allowed to arrange regular games with outside teams without permission.

OTHER SPORTS ON PAGE 18

Boxing Fans Contribute \$2500 at McGuigan Show

Louisiana Put on Best Fight on Program With Benny Valger, Earning a Draw

Rickard to Build Large Arena in New York City

New York, Feb. 6.—Regardless of the Willard-Dempsey contest, or where it will take place, Tex Rickard will erect a large arena here in New York exclusively for sporting entertainments provided the Gibbs boxing bill now before the Legislature becomes a law. He plans a greater and larger Madison Square Garden.

Victory for Cutch

The champion and Benny Valger almost came together. The timely appearance of "Doc" Cutch, manager of Herman, alone deprived the fans of a chance to see this high-class pair in action. This has been a match promoted by Herman, when he found himself in the ring against Valger, was willing to go ahead, but Cutch refused. Cutch was king on this occasion.

Hagen-Kelly Entertain

For a real entertaining act it is difficult to improve upon the boxing number produced by Jack Hagen, billed from the University of Pennsylvania, and Spider Kelly, booked from Princeton. This pair of forty-seven-year-old actors had the audience applauding from the time they went on until they departed.

Camden Downs Haddenfield

Haddenfield, N. J., Feb. 6.—Camden High had little difficulty in defeating the local school on the Camden tracks. Haddenfield was superb and kept Haddenfield continually guessing.

POWELL'S WORK BEATS MIDVALE

Hancock Forward Stars in Victory of His Club Over Eastern Leaguers

DOBSON DROPS ANOTHER

American League W. L. P. C. St. Louis 4 0 1,000 Y. Trub 2 2 300 Detroit 3 1 750 Boston 2 1 500

COLUMBIA OARSMEN REPORT

Three Veterans Answer First Call for Candidates

EDDIE STYLES WINS

North Hills Star Gets Qualifying Medal at Pinchurst

Giants Book More Games

New York, Feb. 6.—The Giants booked two more exhibition games yesterday. They will play the Boston Red Sox at Weymouth, Mass., on April 11.

Yale Calls Baseball Candidates

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 6.—A call for Yale varsity baseball candidates was issued today. A meeting of the candidates will be held tonight.

GERMANTOWN FRIENDS HAS SPORTS FOR ALL

King George Donates Cup for X-Country Race

Through Efforts of Mr. A. A. Smith Virtually Every Student Takes Some Part in Athletics at Suburban School

STANDARD IS HIGHER

By PAUL PREP. GERMANTOWN FRIENDS' SCHOOL has been forcing to the front in the scholastic athletics of this city. Six years ago this institution was hardly of but little in athletics, and then it was usually in the line of defeat.

YOUNG BOXER DIES

Irving Margolies, Finisher of Freddie Reese, Victim of "Flu"

MINNEAPOLIS BARS FULTON

Boxing Commission Suspends Fred for Indefinite Period

QUIMET NAMED CAPTAIN

To Lead Massachusetts State Golf Team This Season

PENN CANCELS MATCH

Wrestlers Not in Shape for Columbia Meet

CENTRAL STARS INELIGIBLE

Six Crimson and Gold Trackmen Under Faculty Ban

SUITS AND OVERCOATS \$11.80

REDUCED FROM \$20, \$25 AND \$30 PETER MORAN & CO. S. E. Cor. 9th & Arch Sts. Open Monday and Saturday evenings with 5 o'clock.

Major A. J. Drexel Biddle

Boxing Tournament for Army and Navy Stars FEBRUARY 8.—Old Watcher & Fob Starline—Early start in body building boxing 3 min. course. Approved by U. S. Government. TAUGHT WITHOUT FINISHMENT \$15 Phila. Jack O'Brien 4th Floor S. E. Cor. 15th & Chestnut

NATIONAL A. A. WALLY NIGHT

MARTY CAMPBELL vs. WALLY BASH vs. JOE BELMAN vs. JIMMY DEWINE vs. PHILIP HARR BULL vs. Oscar Gardner vs. Jack Russo Geo. K. O. Chaney vs. Pete Harley TICKETS AT DONAGHY'S, 23 S. 11TH ST.

BASKET BALL Pennsylvania vs. Yale

Weightman Hall, 33d & Spruce sts., 8:30 p. m., Sat. eve., Feb. 6. Preliminary Free-throw game. Reserved seats (including war tax), 50c, 30c, 25c. General admission, 25c. Dancing after game.

Roller Rink 39th & Market—Dancing and Roller Skating and Dancing. Ladies & Children Adm. FREE Afternoon

WILLARD AND DEMPSEY MAY TOSS A BUNDLE OF PATRIOTISM INTO THEIR FRACAS



DECLARATION OF PATRIOTISM BY TEX RICKARD

HAS BEEN STATED THE BIG TUSS

DEAR GENTLEMEN