HOOPER, RUTH AND M'INNIS HOLD-OUTS? THEY'RE HOLD-UPS, ACCORDING TO HARRY FRAZEE

BIG THREE ATTEMPTS SHAKE-DOWN ACT ON FRAZEE POCKETBOOK

Babe Ruth, Harry Hooper and Stuffy McInnis Refuse to Struggle Along on $1000 a Month and Unsigned Contracts Are Returned to Red Sox

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

DON'T even whisper a word about this, but there is some skulduggery going on up in Bawston. It's a fact. A new combination has been formed, an exclusive organization known as the "Big Three." No, it isn't Yale, Harvard, Princeton or any other high-brow things like that, but an out-and-out professional move to shake many shekels out of the jeans of a guy who will not allow himself to be shaken. In other words, it is a hold-up by three hold-outs, and the plot thickens, as they say at the National.

Gather closely and grab an eyefull. Three high-class gents who are known from coast to coast and from border to border have combined to make things more pleasant while spending a vacation on a big league ball club. Instead of struggling along on a measly $1000 a month or something like that, they are heartily in favor of increasing the stipend so they can laugh at the high cost of refreshments. They refuse—ABSOLUTELY refuse—to do a lick of work until their demands or whatever they are have been accepted.

The heroes in the cast are Babe Ruth, a well-known ball player; Stuffy McInnis, another well-known ball player, and Harry Hooper, who is said to have the same social standing as Mr. Ruth and Mr. McInnis. They are welded together in one Big Three, and if you don't believe it, just ask Harry Frazee.

According to the dope gathered by your correspondent at an enormous expense, Ruth is the headliner in the act. One day he received a contract calling for the modest sum of $5000 for less than six months' work.

"Ha, ha!" he laughed. "See the funny paper. There are funny figures on the paper and it's a bum joke. I'll send it back."

* * *

HARRY FRAZEE, seated in his palatial offices, scowled when he opened a bulky envelope. The $5000 contract dropped out. Also a card from Mr. Ruth which read: "Dear Harry—Forgive me. I opened this by mistake."

Babe Willing to Consider $15,000 Contract

TIME passed, as only time can pass, and there was no friendly exchange of letters between Mr. Frazee and Mr. Ruth. Finally the owner of the Red Sox asked his star player what he wanted.

"Oh, I will consider a contract calling for $15,000," said Mr. Ruth with becoming modesty.

"Shades of Dave Belasco and Connie Mack!" shouted Frazee. "I wouldn't pay that much money if you went on three times a day! You might get one-half as much, but that's the limit. Are you going to be a hold-up?"

"No, just a hold-out," replied the temperamental Babe as he departed to read another chapter of Frenzied Finance.

Then appeared our own Stuffy McInnis, who, it is said, suffered an amputation in his 1919 salary. Now Stuffy is a swell ball player, but a sweller financier. He has a pretty collection of bonds with gilt edges and everything and wants more of the same. Therefore, he shouted defiance in the ear of frazzled and flustered Frazee and cast his lot with Babe Ruth.

Harry Hooper came next, according to dope gathered by your correspondent at an enormous expense. (See expense account.) Harry looked over the vast acreage on his farm or ranch or whatever it is out on the coast and decided to pass the rest of his days among the alfalfa. However, he would consider an offer to play ball, provided the offer was worth considering. While Frazee was in strict training to send a reply, Hooper joined Ruth and McInnis, and thus the Big Three came into existence.

Perhaps there are more members in the hold-out lodge and perhaps there aren't. Anyway, the boys haven't signed as yet and will be firm in their demands until March 22, when the spring training trip begins. Then they will sign, tell each other funny stories and figure on what will happen to this country after July 1.

* * *

BUT why should we worry about this stuff? The skulduggery is going on up in Bawston, so let it happen there. We have troubles of our own right here in our little village. Bawston isn't the only place where they have hold-outs.

Red Sox Pulled Bone by Letting Wagner Out

THE Red Sox cannot afford to let Ruth go this season and probably will meet the big slugger part way in the salary question. A terrible boner was pulled when Heinie Wagner, the veteran coach, was handed the blue ticket, and that's enough for one season.

Heinie was one of the brainiest men in the American League, had the confidence and respect of the players, and it's hard to figure how Barrow happened to turn him loose. Ring Lardner says Wagner is an asset to any club, and it won't be long before some smart manager grabs him. It is said that Cleveland will sign him up this year, and if such is the case it will be a very wise move.

'Way back in 1907 the Red Sox perpetrated another boner, when Owen Bush, the great little shortstop, was given the cold shoulder. Bush then was a kid and worked on the South Bend club in the Central League. His work was so good that George Huff, of the University of Illinois, who did some scouting for the Boston Americans, made a trip to see the youthful phenom in action.

Huff sat in the grandstand the day Bush made three hits batting left-handed, three batting right-handed and did some sensational fielding in an extra-inning game. Ownie showed real big league form and Huff wired to John I. Taylor, who then owned the club, that he had discovered the greatest shortstop of the age.

"Forget about that shortstop," wired Taylor, "because we have Heinie Wagner. Get a couple of pitchers and an outfielder."

Comiskey then was tipped off, but nobody took the trouble to follow it up and Bush went to Detroit in the draft. Now comes one of the funny angles to the story. Detroit did not give Bush a trial, but turned him over to the Indianapolis club in 1908. Nobody seemed to want the kid and in midseason he could have been purchased for $900. Near the end of the season Jennings had some hard luck and Bush was recalled.

* * *

HE PLAYED such a marvelous game that he became a fixture in the Tiger infield and never has been removed. Jennings had a lucky break and the Red Sox passed up one of the best little shortstops in the game. To carry it further, Bush still holds his job and Heinie Wagner has been fired.

Phils Ask Waivers on Bender, Tincup and Burns

RIGHT on the heels of Eddie Burns's announcement that he had given up the game of baseball to sell shirts, collars, etc., in Monterey, Cal., comes the news that the Phillies have asked waivers on Edward. The robust catcher left the club last July to go to his home on the coast, and left Moran and Baker flat. Burns, however, had a good excuse, but got in bad just the same.

Waivers also have been asked on the only remaining Indians in the league, Chief Bender and Ben Tincup. Bender was a hold-out last year and afterward was sold to the New York Yankees. The Chief failed to report and reverted to the Phils. He has been working in the Merchants Shipyard all winter, is in wonderful physical condition and believes he can pitch good ball this year.

* * *

TINCUP has been in the army since last year. He did not do so very well with the Phils and Coombs says he needs more experience.

Penn Closes Successful Season Too Early

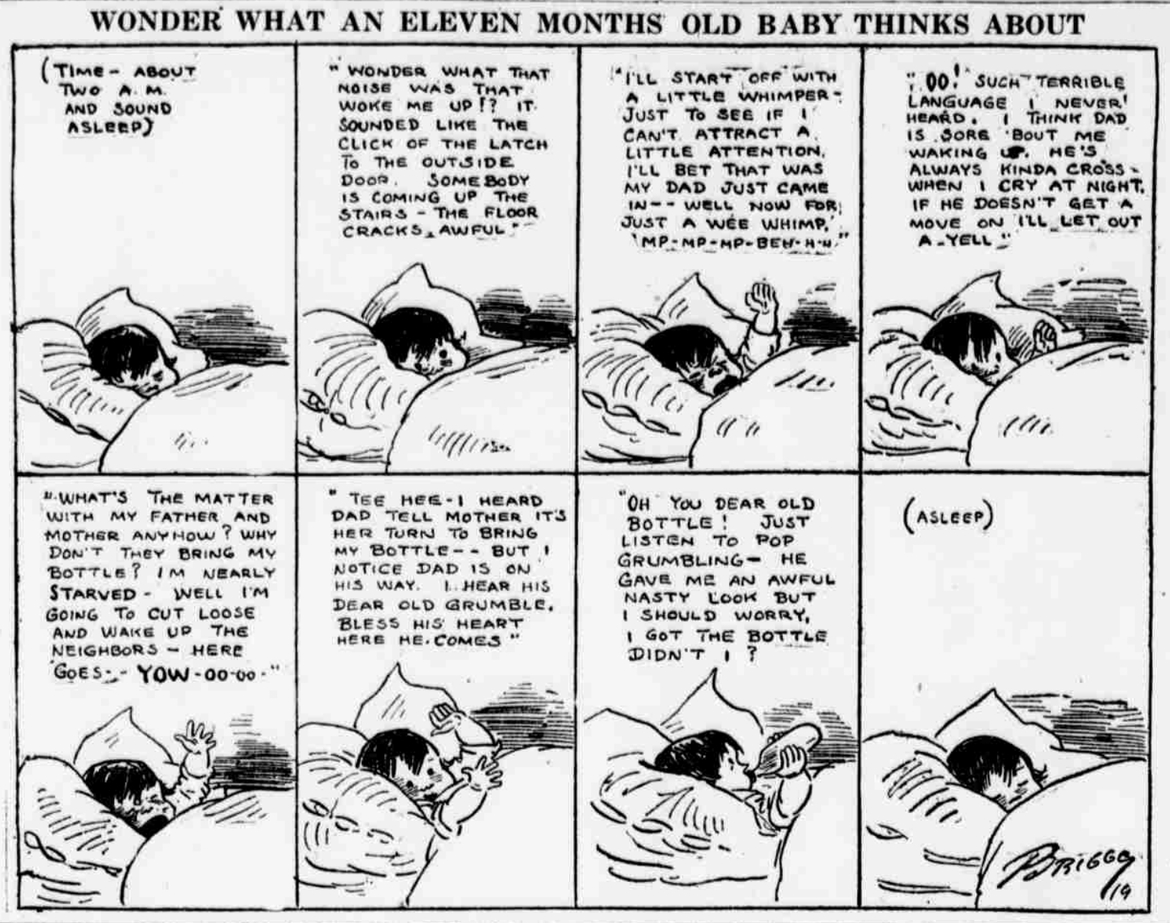
PENN closed its 1919 home basketball season by beating Columbia, and the books were totaled on one of the best court years the Quakers have had in some time. Not only was every home game won, but big crowds turned out to each encounter, so that the season was a success both athletically and financially. Usually the basketball season runs on to the latter part of March. With basketball in such high favor among local fans, it is not a wise move to close Weightman Hall so early.

There is no reason why post-season games cannot be arranged with college teams both in and out of the league circuit. There is no game scheduled until March 7, when the team travels to Ithaca for a battle with Cornell. The next game slated is with Princeton at Princeton on March 14. It would be well for the Penn basketball management to add a couple of Saturday or midweek games to the post-season schedule.

* * *

PENN certainly can use any extra funds that are turned into the coffers of the athletic association. Basketball is one of the new money-makers, and there is no reason why the Quakers shouldn't take advantage of the opportunity.

WONDER WHAT AN ELEVEN MONTHS OLD BABY THINKS ABOUT



Brown and Powell Tied for Cage Scoring Honors in American Basketball League

St. Columba and Hancock Entries Tally 135 Points Each, According to Final Averages

TRAUTWEIN IS THIRD

THE great race for scoring honors in the American Basketball League has ended in a tie between Jimmy Brown, of St. Columba, and Powell, of Hancock. Each player scored 135 points in fourteen games, although Brown technically leads the league, as he made fifty-five field goals against fifty-two for his opponent. The St. Columba captain also has the largest number of assists to his credit, twenty-eight in all.

Howard Wood, of Hancock, is next with twenty-two and Lou Schniederman, of S. P. H. A., third with twenty-one.

The last couple of weeks saw several other players adding rapidly to their total. They were Trautwein, who finished third with 127, and Bunnin, fourth with 124.

When a single player tossed the fouls Bunnin was considered the best one-point tosser since the days of "Kid" Kernath. "Mocky" got way to a bad start, but gradually recovered his bearings and has demonstrated his ability as a champion foul shooter.

The Hancock five has only one team record to its credit. Mitch Hopkins and his aggregation have been scored upon less times than any other team in the league. The Saints have come through with the most points, including field goals and assists, but the champion foul tossers are the S. P. H. A. aggregation of downtown schoolboys.

The former Southern High aggregation appears to better advantage each time out. In the closing games it ran up fairly large totals. In fact, it came through with such a rush that it finished only three points in the rear of Dobson for third place in number of points.

During the season there was only one change in the circuit, Wilbar replacing Naval Aircraft after the first game. Wilbar rarely, if ever, appeared with the same combination twice in succession and managed to lose all thirteen games played. St. Columba had the best winning streak, twelve in number, as against its record of thirteen last season.

Final Averages of Players in American Basketball League

Final averages of players in American Basketball League:

	Games	Field goals	Foul goals	Assists	T'l pts
Brown, St. Columba	14	55	25	28	135
Powell, Hancock	14	52	31	21	135
Trautwein, Hancock	14	45	36	16	127
Bunnin, S.P.H.A.	14	31	62	10	124
Calhoun, Victrix	14	35	37	7	107
Franckle, Dobson	14	33	30	9	96
Black, Young Truly	14	34	22	16	90
Lawrence, St. Col.	11	37	14	7	88
Gallagher, St. Col.	14	29	47	17	87
Wood, Hancock	14	29	14	23	77
Disher, Young Truly	11	23	25	4	71
Schwartz, Y. Truly	14	20	30	4	70
Schneiderman, S. P. H. A.	14	24	22	22	70
Moorehead, Dobson	14	15	32	11	62
Klotz, S. P. H. A.	11	18	23	9	59
W. Miller, Dobson	9	22	12	3	56
Meinhart, Victrix	8	17	16	1	50
Engle, S. P. H. A.	12	10	17	3	49
Armstrong, Hancock	14	17	14	17	48
Doc Newman, Midvale	6	14	17	0	45
Ruhart, Wilbar	9	13	18	7	44
Martin, St. Col.	10	12	19	8	43
Bertolet, S.P.H.A.	12	16	9	9	41
Hargreaves, St. Col.	5	13	10	6	40
Dunlevy, St. Col.	5	16	7	9	39
Black, S. P. H. A.	14	10	18	4	38
Lennox, Victrix	7	16	6	1	38
Landis, Wilbar	7	13	12	3	38
Haggerty, Midvale	7	13	7	0	33
Kerr, Midvale	13	15	6	6	36
Newman, S.P.H.A.	14	9	16	6	34
Graff, Dobson	12	13	8	11	34
Gauker, Wilbar	7	11	11	2	33
R. Miller, Dobson	7	11	11	2	33
Watson, Victrix	8	9	14	4	32
Owens, Hancock	8	9	11	3	29
Herzog, Y. Truly	11	16	16	0	28
Lees, Dobson	5	11	6	5	27
Hugg, Hancock	7	9	7	10	25
Longstreet, Hanck.	7	5	14	2	24
Hoffman, Dobson	4	9	6	2	24
McCarter, Midvale	5	6	11	4	23
Eppleitt, Wilbar	10	10	3	1	23
Cross, Wilbar	7	7	9	1	23
Park, Midvale	5	4	14	6	22
Dienes, Midvale	4	9	3	5	21
C. Passon, S.P.H.A.	9	7	7	3	21
Davies, Victrix	5	5	10	1	20
Hyde, Victrix	4	8	3	3	17
Perry, Midvale	4	7	1	4	15
Tarr, Wilbar	3	5	2	1	12
Zahn, Midvale	3	3	5	0	11
Dondero, Victrix	6	3	4	0	10
Ross, Victrix	7	3	4	1	10
Detrich, St. Col.	4	3	3	0	9
Kilpatrick, Dobson	5	3	3	0	9
Williams, Y. Truly	2	3	1	1	7
H.Passon, S.P.H.A.	3	3	1	0	7
Pike, Victrix	1	3	0	0	6
Hartzell, Wilbar	1	2	0	1	5
McMahon, Y. Truly	2	1	0	0	2
Hopkins, Hancock	1	0	2	0	2
Sugarman, Midvale	1	0	0	2	0

TEAM RECORDS

	Games	Field goals	Foul goals	Assists	T'l pts	Opp.
St. Columba	14	167	133	95	467	327
Hancock	14	162	124	91	448	292
Dobson	14	127	116	47	370	348
S. P. H. A.	14	106	155	54	367	364
Yours Truly	14	122	118	40	362	331
Victrix	14	116	108	26	340	393
Midvale	14	92	93	31	277	373
Wilbar	13	84	97	36	265	450
Aircraft	1	7	3	0	17	35
Totals	112	983	947	420	2913	2913

WILLIE GORDON RETIRES

New York Athlete to Sail for France as War Worker

New York, Feb. 28.—William F. Gordon, the local one-mile champion, will sail for France next week to assume the duties of a war worker, according to a statement made by James J. Lee, coach of the Hollywood Inn Club, of Yonkers, yesterday. According to Lee, it is likely that Gordon has ended his career on the cinders.

Gordon has been the mile champion for the past four years, winning the senior Metropolitan Association honors in 1915, 1916 and 1918. However, his greatest achievement, and a feat he looks back upon with pride, was his defeat of sixty-eight rivals from scratch in a 1000-yard run at Celtic Park back in 1914 in 2:14, only six months after his entry into athletics. When this country entered the war Gordon enlisted at Pelham Bay Naval Training Station.

Swarthmore Plays Rutgers Tonight

New Brunswick, N. J., Feb. 28.—Princeton and Swarthmore will furnish the opposition for Rutgers in a double-header athletic carnival tonight. The Tigers will meet the Rutgers swimmers in the local tank and Swarthmore's basketball five will try conclusions with the Scarlet quintet.

154 GAMES FOR MINORS

International League Votes for Longer Schedule

New York, Feb. 28.—The International League changed its plans over night and yesterday adopted a schedule of 154 games in place of the 140-game program decided upon Wednesday. The opening and closing dates, April 30 and September 14, will remain the same, unless David Fultz, president of the league, finds it necessary to stretch out the season to a later date. The decision has been left to him.

The league took no action on the question of awarding a new franchise in Newark and selecting an eighth city in place of Hamilton, Ont. Representatives of one of the Newark interests appeared before the league and submitted their plan.

A representative of the Montreal syndicate telegraphed he would be in New York tomorrow to discuss with the league the purchase of the Hamilton franchise.

Barnes Signs With Giants

New York, Feb. 28.—Manager John McGraw was assured of the services of another pitcher yesterday when Jess Barnes, the young hurler obtained from Boston, sent in his signed contract.

Red Sox-Detroit Deal Pending

New York, Feb. 28.—Handsome Harry Frazee, the Red Sox owner, left last night for Detroit, and another deal between the world's champions and the Tigers may be announced ere long.

Walker Elected Harvard Captain

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 28.—Norman S. Walker, of New York, was elected captain of the Harvard 1919-20 ice hockey team last night. He played cover point on this year's seven and previously was a member of the Harvard freshman and St. Paul School teams.

Waldo Has Low Gross Score

Belleair Heights, Fla., Feb. 28.—C. G. Waldo, of Bridgeport, Conn., won the low gross score prize in the annual senior golf tournament here yesterday. His score was 85 for the round, with a 43 going and a 42 coming in. He had a handicap of 3.

YOUNG MYERS ON TOP

Defeats Johnny Root in Service Club Feature Bout

Several hundred "Jackies" crowded the roof garden arena of the United Service Club last night to witness the weekly boxing bouts. Young Myers, of the navy, beat Johnny Root, brother of Artie. Five three-round contests were staged. Eddie Hanigan and Kid Creto boxed a draw; Johnny Flanigan and Jack Ryan went through three fast rounds to a draw. Kid Wolfe and Charlie Green boxed a draw. Kid Denning defeated Billy Hurley. One of the best bouts of the evening was that between Mike Murphy and Young Ketchel. The judges gave the bout to Murphy.

Braves Cable Money to Gowdy

Boston, Feb. 28.—The Boston National League Club cabled $250 to Hank Gowdy yesterday in answer to a request from the catcher. Gowdy is with the American army of occupation and his cable encouraged officials of the Boston Club to believe that he might be released from service at an early date.

COLUMBIA TEST FOR PENN'S SWIM TEAM

Quaker Tankmen in First and Last Home Dual Meet Tomorrow Night Against New Yorkers

WEAK IN FANCY DIVE

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK

PENN'S swimming team gets its first test of the season in the Weightman Hall tank tomorrow night when the Red and Blue mermen oppose Columbia in a dual meet, with a water polo match as an added attraction.

Coach George Kistler is anxious to see what his relay team is capable of doing in competition. The quartet has been going along fairly well in practice, but the Quaker instructor believes that his boys will be able to beat their practice times when they get into real competition.

Two of the members of the relay team are veterans from last year, but the other two are newcomers in varsity sports. The veterans are Bill Bringhurst and Don Leopold, both of whom are good sprint men. George Allen and Charles Marris make up the rest of the team.

Leopold Anchor

Leopold probably will be the anchor man, as he is counted upon as the fastest man of the quartet for the 200 feet. The former Central High boy was the last man in 1918 and did well. He should be able to beat last season's time.

Coach Kistler believes that the relay team will beat the Columbia four and a victory in the relay goes a long way toward winning a meet. A relay triumph counts eight points. The Quaker four also should trim C. C. N. Y. in New York next Friday, but victory over Princeton in Tigertown on March 15 is very doubtful.

Bringhurst and Marris will race in the fifty-yard event and Leopold will be the main entry in the hundred. Bringhurst also will have to carry the brunt of the Red and Blue work in the furlong swim. Elderkin and Ryan will take care of the plunging and Marris and Small will be the fancy divers.

Weak in Dive

The Quakers are not strong in the dive and plunge. Elderkin, who is the captain of the team, is the best plunger and he should be able to win the Columbia and C. C. N. Y. events. Kinnard, of Princeton, is favored over him in the Tiger engagement.

If Penn could use freshmen this season the dive and plunge entries would be strengthened considerably. Mifflin Armstrong, one of the first-year men, was one of the best fancy divers in scholastic ranks while at Central High, and Kohler and Burske are showing great form in plunging.

The meet tomorrow will be the first and last of the swimming season at home unless Rutgers decides to come here on March 14. The Rutgers meet is pending. The C. C. N. Y., Princeton and return meet with Columbia in New York are the only other dual engagements on the Penn slate. The individual championships will be staged in New York on March 22.

After the swimming match the water polo battle with the Blue and White will be held. Coach Kistler has picked the following for the contest against the Morningside Heights aggregation: Fisher, goal; Fairies, center forward; Haldeman and Waterhouse, forwards; Murdock and Tandy, backs.

Intercollegiate Title Track Carnival Slated to Go to Harvard Field

The place and date of the intercollegiate outdoor track and field championships for 1919 will be selected at a meeting to be held in New York tomorrow night, and it is very likely that the classic will be awarded to Harvard on May 30 and 31. Penn and Harvard have bids in for the annual games, but it is said that Penn will withdraw in favor of Soldiers' Field. The Red and Blue authorities staged the events on Franklin Field last year and it is now Harvard's turn. The last time the intercollegiates were held in Cambridge was in May, 1916.

A. A. U. Drops Fred Niles

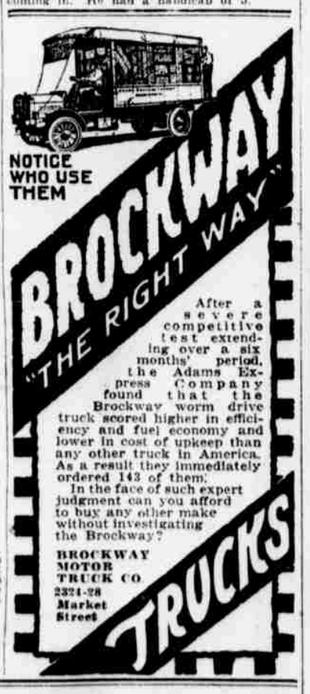
New York, Feb. 28.—Fred A. Niles has been dropped as chairman of the registration committee and Martin L. Kline was named as his successor yesterday by Frederick W. Rubien, president of the Metropolitan Association.

Quaker Five Wants Games

Quaker Reserves, a first-class home team, want a game for tomorrow evening. Phone Germantown 4922 between 6 and 7:30 tonight.

Merchant Team Leaves for Pawtucket

It was announced by the management of Merchant Team A. of Harriman, Pa., that the players had left Bristol, Pa., today on the 12:52 train for Pawtucket, R. I., where they are due to tackle the J. & P. Coats team tomorrow afternoon in the replay of the third round of the American Cup competition.



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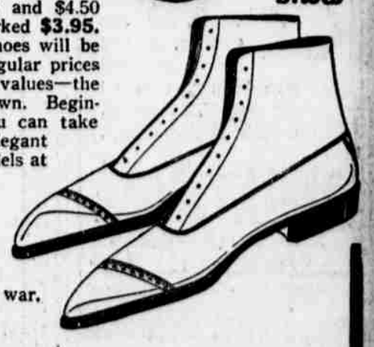
This is what we are going to do in this sale: Our $5.50, $5 and $4.50 NEWARK Shoes will be marked **$3.95.** Our $7 and $6 NEWARK Shoes will be marked **$5.85.** At their regular prices these shoes were wonder values—the biggest money's worth in town. Beginning tomorrow morning you can take your choice of these elegant custom bench-made models at **$3.95** and **$5.85.** This is absolutely the biggest value in shoes for men since Uncle Sam went to war.



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422 South St., near Fourth St.
424 Market St., bet. 4th and 5th Sts.
106 South 52nd St.
4535 Frankford Ave., near Orthodox St.
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JACK RUSSO vs. OSCAR GARDNER
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MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 3
Willie Kohler vs. Young Johnny Duffy
Victor Ritchie vs. Jimmy Mendo
Mike Burns vs. Joe Mooney
Jamaica Kid vs. Panama Joe Gans
JOHNNY MEALEY vs. JOHNNY DUNDEE

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