

AFTER GLANCING OVER ROSTER, YANKEES CAN'T BE OVERLOOKED AS PENNANT POSSIBILITIES

MILLER HUGGINS HAS HEAVY HITTERS, BUT PLAYERS LACK SPEED

Yankees Look Good on Paper, but Move Like Truck Horses on Base Paths—Seven Pitchers Shape Up as Dependable Hurlers

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor, Evening Public Ledger (Copyright, 1919, Public Ledger Co.) Jacksonville, Fla., April 1. BASEBALL players employed by Cap. Huston, Miller Huggins and other bosses of the New York Yankees are not enjoying a comfortable vacation in the Sunny South this year. They are indulging in the hardest kind of labor twice a day and stick so close to the job that lunch is served on the ball field. Every member of the squad—and there are thirty-one—has it not a cinch to train for a big-league club, for M. Huggins is giving no mercy.

The midgest manager has the makings of a good team this year, but it will require lots of hard work to bring it out in front. With high-class clubs in Boston, Chicago and Cleveland, to say nothing of Detroit, St. Louis, Washington and the Athletics, the Yankees will have to step some to keep up with the procession.

This does not mean the Tanks are up against it or anything like that. The team looks mighty good on paper, but it is a question how it will unfold as last year, a flock of excellent pitchers, a new outfielder and catcher, there should be something doing in the pennant race from a baseball viewpoint—and this should be considered seriously—the players can develop some speed, pep and aggressiveness.

For years the Tanks have been the slowest-moving team in the league. Most of the old men still are with the club and show no signs of improvement, and for that very reason M. Huggins is doing the Simon Legree act, disregarding union hours and working the men so long that they could belong to two labor unions. On bases they resemble one of Charley Heeb's tractors trying to climb a fence, and no split-second watch is required to time them.

THIS falling is noticeable even at this early stage and it is a serious one. It might be impossible to speed up the players, and it is such in the case it will take some hefty slugging to drive in the scores. That is the principal weakness of the Tanks at present.

Lack of Speed Nipping Pennant Hopes WHEN one looks over the list of players on the Huston payroll one cannot help but figure the Yankees as a pennant possibility. The pitchers look like world-beaters, with Mogridge, Thormahlen, Shore, Leonard, Schneider, Shawkey and Quinn on the job. The infield, which consists of Pipp at first, Pratt second, Peckinpaugh shortstop and Frank Baker third, is a heavy-hitting and strong defensive outfit, and the outfield, with such sluggers as Ping Bode, Duffy Lewis and another man to be selected from four candidates, should give the opposing moundmen many anxious moments.

But the speed is lacking. Neither Bode nor Lewis can break any records, and in the infield there isn't a man who could run fast enough to overtake a steamroller. No matter how you figure it, you must return to the speed stuff and cancel most of the pennant hopes.

It will be remembered that last year the Tanks established a record for hitting into double plays. Truck-horse tactics on the bases were responsible. Now, with virtually the same crowd, why can't it happen again? It can. This year it is safe to predict that the New York club will hit into more double plays than any other team in the league. Just wait and see.

Two years ago Bill Donovan used to complain about the slowness of the men and said he never was able to score a man from second on a single. There was a chance to win the pennant then—the same as now—but that one weakness kept him from it.

So after dopping everything from an impartial angle we find a high-class club with good fielding, pitching and batting, but lacking the necessary speed to shine on the footpaths.

WALTER PIPP is about the fastest man on the team, and he is no speed-leader. Therefore, it will take a heap of pill-edged pitching, accompanied by wonderful batting, to finish first in the pennant race.

Fighting Spirit Needs Development MILLER HUGGINS knows he has a fighting chance to win the flag, but is not kidding himself at this stage of the game. He realizes what he is up against and is not sparing himself or his men in getting a team together.

"I will not make any predictions," he said, as we were leaving the ball park across the river. "I don't believe in them because of the uncertainty. Right now I can say I have a hard-hitting ball club and a bunch of good pitchers. But how can I prove it? They SHOULD be good, but how do I know? Thormahlen, Leonard, Shore and Shawkey have excellent records and should have good seasons, according to the dope. But it must be considered they did not pitch much last year and must regain their old form. Sometimes a year's layoff is beneficial, but not always.

"For example, take the 'big four' of the Red Sox. Ruth, Mays, Bush and Sam Jones went through the season and delivered the goods. They should do the same this year. I cannot predict anything for my pitchers until I see them in action after April 23.

"That's how I stack up in the pitching department. As for the rest of the club, I am fairly well fixed. The infield will be the same as last year. Yes, Frank Baker will play again; but he has been excused from the training trip and will join the club on April 15. For substitutes, I have Fewster, the youngster from Baltimore, who looks like a real find; Ward, a good third baseman, and Johnny Jones and Eddie Moores, shortstops. Defensively, they are fine; but they need more speed and aggressiveness."

"But they played a remarkably fast game in practice today," I interrupted.

"Yes," replied Huggins, "but it was more than that. There must be that aggressiveness, fighting spirit, lots of pep and that determination to win every ball game, no matter how many runs the other fellow gets. I don't say my players lack those qualities, but they must be developed to a greater extent."

BEFORE the season opens I must find out how different combinations work together. You need quick thinking, good pitching and good batting. Speed also is necessary. I hope to have all four in my ball club."

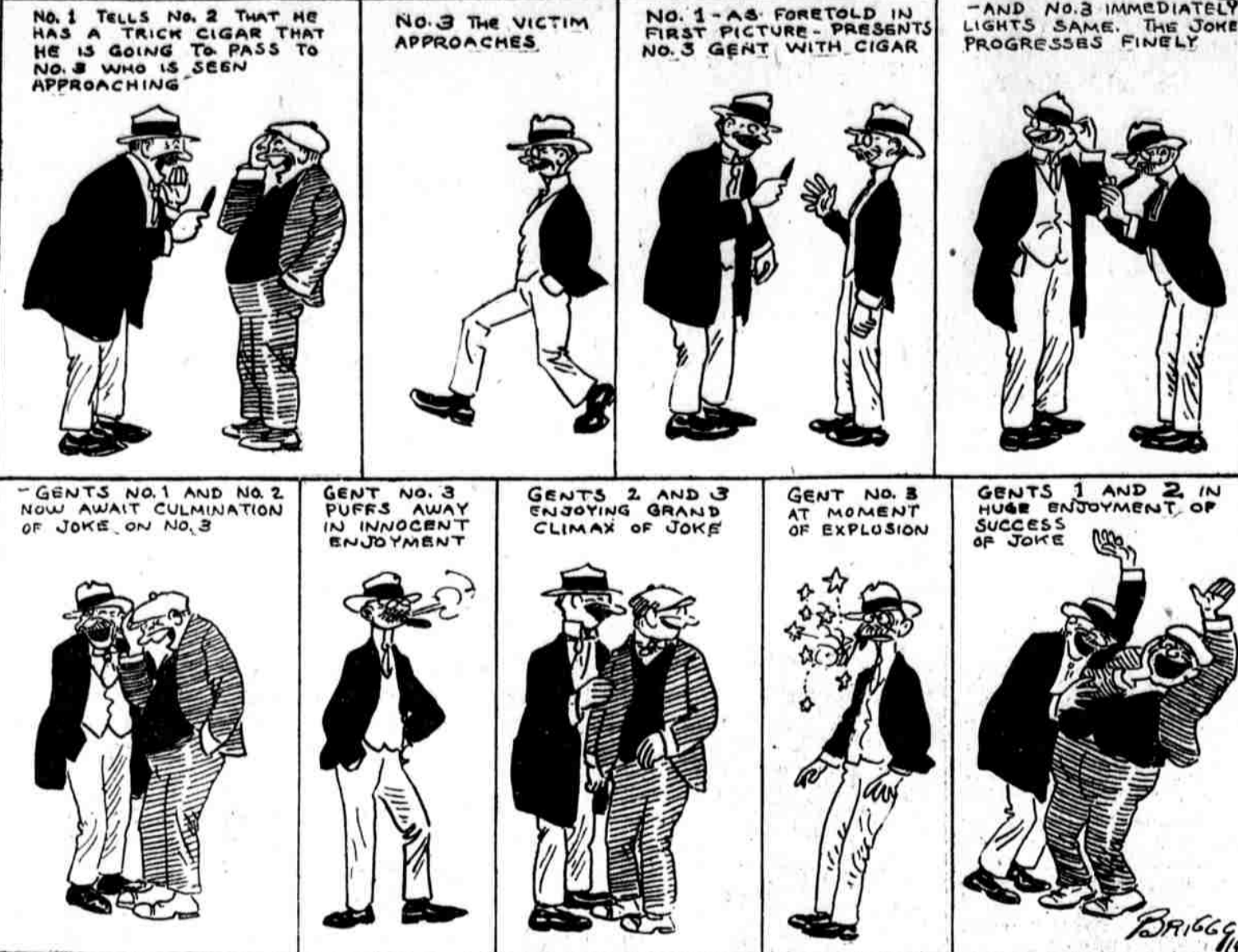
Halas, Great Lakes Athlete, May Get Berth HUGGINS has been up against it for outfielders in the past and still needs another to complete his team. Bode and Lewis are virtually sure of their jobs, but the third man still is to be selected. The manager wants a fast man, one who can hit the ball and bat left-handed. Those are the specifications, and it will be difficult to find one unless he is in the squad. George Halas, of Chicago, looks good to Huggins at present and will be given a chance to show what he can do.

Halas is quite an athlete. He was a member of the Great Lakes football team which defeated Rutgers and the Navy and All-Western end on the University of Illinois. He also plays a good game of baseball and bats left-handed. Other candidates for the job are Kane, who was drafted from Providence, and Vick, who came from Memphis two years ago.

With so many players on hand and the player limit of twenty-three men soon to go into effect, the Tanks should be in a position to trade off some of the excess talent advantageously. Another catcher might be needed, but Huggins believes he has two good men in Truck Hannah and Muddy Ruel.

To sum up, the Tanks look good in the pitching department, the infield is high class defensively, but the outfield needs one more good man. Perhaps the catchers will come through, but that still is a question.

SOMEBODY IS ALWAYS TAKING THE JOY OUT OF LIFE



LONDON SCRIBES FAVOR JOE LYNCH

English Sports Writers Call Decision for Jimmie Wilde Unfair REFEREE IS SCORED

London, April 1.—None of the sporting reporters on London morning papers frankly indorses the decision by which "Jimmie" Wilde, the British flyweight champion defeated Joe Lynch, an American boxer, on points, last night. While some are content to say that the bout was very closely contested, others do not disguise their surprise and mention sympathetically the astonishment with which the decision was received by a large part of the spectators.

The Mall's expert says he scored the rounds carefully and in the final privately decided that Lynch had won seven and Wilde four. He wants to know, he says, upon what the referee's verdict was based.

The Daily Sketch says: "Many experts will quarrel with the decision for Wilde got a worse grueling than he did on the only occasion he has been beaten in a real contest."

(This is a reference to the defeat administered to Wilde by Paul Moore, of Memphis, Tenn., in the inter-club boxing tournament held in London on December 11 and 12.)

The Sportsman declared Wilde was the victor by a very narrow margin and the Sporting Life suggests that the ruling was due to the fact that Lynch held a good deal and was warned in almost every round, but the newspaper admits that "it was thought Lynch had just about got there."

ANDY BURNS WINS Local Boy Defeats Willie Spencer at Trenton A. A.

Trenton, N. J., April 1.—In the eight-round bout of the first all-star show at the Trenton A. A. last night, Frankie Daley, of New York, 115 pounds, defeated Young Morris, of Brooklyn, 120 pounds.

Landing a right hook to the jaw with ease, Johnny Buff, of Jersey City, 115, defeated Mickey Russell, also of Brooklyn, 115 pounds. The latter went to the floor for counts of nine on two occasions, but managed to get up the first time.

In the second six-round bout, Andy Burns, of Philadelphia, 117, downed Willie Spencer, of Camden, 118.

Wins Bout With Broken Bone Birmingham, N. Y., April 1.—Mickey O'Brien, of Wilkes-Barre, was returned a winner over Sammy Baker, of Binghamton, in an eight-round fight. O'Brien had to fight his last four rounds with one hand, having his broken bone in his left hand in the fourth round.

Scranton Boy Wins in France Scranton, Pa., April 1.—Willie Ritchie, lightweight champion of Lackawanna County, knocked out Bill McGee, of Philadelphia, in a ten-round slugfest, according to information received here.

Harry Greb Outpoints Mike Pittsburgh, April 1.—Harry Greb, the Pittsburgh middleweight, was given the decision over Mike Miller, of Philadelphia, in a ten-round slugfest match here last night.

Latzo Wallops Al Dewey Wilkes-Barre, Pa., April 1.—Steve Latzo, of Hazleton, gave Al Dewey, of Edgewater, N. J., a lesson in ten rounds here last night.

Britton-Loughlin Bout Off Trenton, N. J., April 1.—The boxing contest between Jack Britton, waterweight champion, and Willie Loughlin, scheduled for tonight, was cancelled because of the illness of Britton.

Wilmington Boxer Killed Wilmington, Del., April 1.—Walter Early, a local boxer, was killed aboard the United States steamship Texas in a boxing bout, according to word received by his relatives here yesterday. The young man was a sailor aboard the vessel.

McCoy Easy for Houck Lancaster, Pa., April 1.—In the wind-up of the "Red Hot" series, Leo Houck, of this city, gave Al McCoy a severe lashing. In the final round Houck, by a knockout, broke the bones out of the ring.

KILBANE'S CRUSHING RIGHT TO JAW STOPS MEALY IN 2D ROUND

One Punch Early in Fray at Olympia Again Places Feather Monarch on Top FRANKIE CLARKE WINS

By JAMES S. CAROLAN WILD BILL DONOVAN, Otto Knabe and Big Bill Hollenback and scores of other athletic headliners of other days saw a wonderful little fighting machine of two seasons ago come back with a bang and a crack that reverberated to all parts of this good old U. S. A. Displaying form and confidence so sadly missing in his comeback appearance here just three weeks ago, Johnny Kilbane, the autocrat of the feather division, leaped to the front, regained the support of his many followers and shattered the dope to shreds when he sent Johnny Mealy, the hard-hitting Quaker City entry, down and out for the count in the second round of their scheduled six-round fray at the Olympia A. A. last night.

That terrific right smash to the jaw was the decisive blow. Kilbane proved beyond doubt that he is a one-punch fighter. Mealy took no punishment. He was unharmed, strong and willing up until the time he carelessly advanced into the evasive, crafty, waiting Kilbane.

A rapid-fire shift, a left felt, then a right, which just grazed Mealy's left shoulder, landed flush on the jaw, and Mealy crumpled helplessly to the canvas.

Some Right Crash Kilbane got so much behind this smash that he never questioned the outcome. The moment Mealy hit the floor with a crash, Kilbane rushed to his corner and was prepared for a dash through the ropes, then to his dressing room for a hurried getaway.

Manager Jimmy Dunn, however, saw Mealy halt at the five count and beckoned Johnny to return to the fray.

When Referee Grimson reached the eighth count Mealy tried desperately to rise, but the moment he reached his left knee he wilted, collapsed and fell helplessly on his face. He was assisted to his corner, where restoratives were applied.

The champion was unmarked. Only three blows filtered through his guard and he left the ring with a clean conscience. He never displayed so much dash and ginger, and looked like the king of 1919. It was a spectacular finish to a battle that held and gripped.

Regal Reception More than 6000 enthusiastic fans cheered the little Clevelandian when he entered the arena and the same gathering thundered their appreciation when he made his triumphant departure through the crowded aisles.

This was decidedly in contrast to the hissing reception accorded him when he failed before Frankie Brown on February 10.

Nothing succeeds like a winner. Kilbane was on the right end and drew down the applause.

It has been a long time since Kilbane sent a boy into the land of nod in this city. According to the dope, Willie Jackson was the last to pass out before the regulation limit at the hands of the fighting king. It seemed strange that Jackson, just back from his tour of the coast, managed to arrange his schedule to be present at last night's session.

A Real Champion The Kilbane of last night was a different Kilbane from the one who performed so heroically in his comeback defeat at the hands of Johnny Murray, showed that he hadn't lost heart by out-fighting Freddy Tesse, of New York, in the six-round semi-windup.

Clarke fought so valiantly in the fourth round that it looked very sad for the Auburn-beatified victor, Clarke showed some beautiful lefts to the face and a quantity of rights to the body that even made Soodies and Jakey Friedman smile.

Joe Dorsey and Young Coster also entertained. This was a bloody slugfest session, with Dorsey the winner. Both boys slugged willingly and never let down during the six rounds.

In the other bouts Jimmy Myson won over Al Moore and Mike Connors stopped Willie (Kis) Wolfe in the fourth.

Donovan Signs Scranton Star Scranton, Pa., April 1.—Benson McGouldrick, aged twenty, crack 70-lb ball player, for the city, has been signed by manager Bill Donovan of the Jersey City team, of the International League.

GERSON TO LEAD PENN WRESTLERS

Veteran 115 Wrestler Honored by Team-mates HAD SUCCESSFUL SEASON

Bill Gerson, the star 115-pound wrestler of the University of Pennsylvania, was elected captain of the Red and Blue wrestling team for next year at a meeting of the grapplers last night in Weightman Hall.

The new leader is a member of the junior class and a veteran of two years. It is a peculiar fact that each year Gerson has won his preliminary bouts in the intercollegiate, only to fall down in the final round.

The intercollegiate closed what has been one of the Red and Blue's most successful wrestling seasons. In no other year have so many men represented Penn in the finals as this year.

Three men out of the six went to State figured in the final bouts.

To Coach Riggs, who volunteered to coach the Red and Blue matmen when it was found that the budget which is appropriated each year did not allow the hiring of one goes the honor of bringing out one of the best teams Penn has had in years.

But two men graduate next year—Captain Rhodes and Ketterer. Rhodes grapples at 125 pounds, while Ketterer is in the 145-pound class. With Gerson, Ashby, Armstrong and Pendleton as a nucleus, the outlook for a real team next year looks very promising.

HOWARD VOSHELL WINS Indoor Champion to Meet Bill Tilden Today

New York, April 1.—Four players won places in the third round of the national indoor tennis championship singles when play was resumed at the Seventh Regiment Armory.

Howard Vosshell, the "playing" through" champion, while not in his best form, had an easy time defeating Cory M. Amerman in straight sets, 6-2, 6-0, Frank C. Anderson, the junior of the Kings County Club, showed his speed again in beating Henry S. Parker after three furious sets. The score was 6-1, 11-12, 6-2.

ELECT MORTON DELEGATE Union League Billiard Star to Represent Middle States

New York, April 1.—Applications for amateur billiard championship tournaments were referred for action to the executive committee of the National Association of Amateur Billiard Players after consideration at a meeting of the association here last night.

Among the national delegates elected was J. E. Cope Morton, Union League, Philadelphia, to represent the Middle States.

SHORE GUNNERS TIE Pardee and Voelke Make Perfect Score at Pier

Atlantic City, April 1.—Morton Pardee, of Atlantic City, and E. P. Voelke, of South Orange, topped the field in the regular weekly shoot ending yesterday on the Million Dollar Pier.

They turned in the only perfect scores of twenty-five targets during the week. Miss S. Washburn, of Minneapolis, won the ladies' tourney, chipping 20.

GOLFERS STILL EVEN Mrs. Barlow and Mrs. Hurd Unable to Break Tie

Pinehurst, N. C., April 1.—Mrs. Rutherford Barlow, of the North and South champion, and Mrs. Dorothy Campbell Hurd, who tied for the qualifying medal in the women's North and South tournament last week, attempted to determine the award by playing a medal-score round on championship course here yesterday, but tied again. A second play-off is scheduled for today.

BENDER RATED AMONG DISTINCTIVE TYPES ON BALDOM'S LIST

Grantland Rice in His Spotlight Almost Overlooked Eccentric Chippewa in Enumerating Few of the Stars That Added Color to the Diamond Pastime

By GRANTLAND RICE A Few Lines to April So this is April—how are you? And all the little Aprils, too?

April where the Mossosa first— April of the two-base hit— April where the wild fantastic Rites with exultant scream When the shortstop groves erratic— If he's on the Other Team.

April where the song birds toll— April of the sand-filled pit— April where the raging Duffer, Planted in some bunkered spot, Starts to suffer and to suffer As the niblick blade groves hot.

April where the sunbeams sit— Where all nature throws a fit— April where the singing swallows And the far winds of the moors, April where the hills and hollows Beckon to the Great Outdoors.

So this is April—how are you? And how is Mr. April, too?

Chief Bender an Added Entry IN ENUMERATING a few of the distinctive types drawn from baldom's roster a day or so ago we overlooked one of the noblest Romans—or Indians—of them all, viz., Mr. Charles Albert Bender, the Chippewa chief.

Bender is another who belongs with the elect, as any other, and more than one expert as the greatest one-game pitcher of all time—when that one game meant a championship. But he was something more than a star pitcher, a good golfer and a first-class shot. The Chief had a rare type of humor in a subdued and almost melancholy way.

ASK Stuffy McInnis or Eddie Collins, of old world-series days, when the Chief persisted in throwing them curve balls to retire a runner at first or second merely to hear their race.

Chicago vs. Boston in Baseball and Golf BOSTON and Chicago fought out a world series in 1918. They are quite likely to become hooked up in another this fall. The Cubs will be leading favorites in the National League and the Red Sox have another good club to carry on their pennant propaganda.

These two cities have still another sportive duel under way. In this latter instance it will be between Chick Evans and Francis Ouimet at Brae-burn and Oakmont, when the open and amateur golf championships are played. These two will not be the entire collection, by several lengths. But they will be two of the select, with as good a chance as any other, and a better chance than most. So far they have never met in a championship match. In the East-West affair at Detroit in 1915 Ouimet retired Evans in an extra hole contest, but this meeting was not precisely a championship test.

A MEETING between this pair, both at their best, should be one of the most spectacular features of the budding campaign.

ANOTHER golf world series—so far as Chicago and Boston are concerned.

The Melancholy Epoch The melancholy days are here, Wherein I sit and sigh To hear some star has hurt his arm Or lost his batting eye.

But sadder still than even such, It is to hear the lot Of one who's lost his putting touch, Or tops his masher shot.

April First Headlines "National Commission Reorganized." "All Wrestling Matches to Be on the Square." "Willard Will Take Part in Next War." "Lewis Will Not Demand Return Match With Zbyszko." "Boston to Release Hank Gowdy."

IN THIS meantime, what expert writer of popular songs will step forward later July 1 to peep off a substitute for Yale's waning melody entitled, "Here's to Good Old Yale—Drink Her Down"?

FOR that matter, the baritone who starts singing a drinking song around August 12, or thereabouts, is pretty likely to get mobbed. Only a fiend in human form could offer a more cruel or unusual atrocity. (Copyright, 1919, all rights reserved.)

"BUCK" HANRATTY SIGNS Former Trades School Star to Play With Petersburg

Philadelphia, April 1.—"Buck" Hanratty, the former Philadelphia Trades School star and late of the Corley C. C. and R. G. Dun & Co. of the Main Line League, has come to terms with Petersburg, Va., of the Virginia State League.

Last season he played with Hagerstown, Md., of the Blue Ridge League, until the league disbanded due to war conditions. He was later signed by the Petersburg club.

Aviator Elected Harvard Captain Cambridge, Mass., April 1.—Willard W. McLeod, of Maiden, who resigned the captaincy of the Harvard University baseball team last season to enter the aviation service, has been re-elected to leadership of the nine. McLeod, who plays second base, is a senior.

Indianapolis Wins First Game Bloomington, Ind., April 1.—In the opening game of the baseball season here yesterday the Indianapolis (American Association) club defeated the Indiana University team 9 to 0.

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