

WINTER TRADES HAVE MADE BRAVES THE SPRING MYSTERY OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

STALLINGS'S BRAVES STRONGER NOW THAN ANY TIME SINCE 1914

Mystery Club of National League. Considered 'Lucky' to Remain in Circuit, Shows Real Fight and Is Likely to Cause Surprises

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger
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COMPARING the 1919 edition of the Boston Braves with last year's aggregation is like trying to pan off a fluffer for a twelve-cylinder automobile. It can't be done. Down here in Georgia the hired men employed by Stallings are playing some great baseball, every one is working his head off, and there are evidences of a deep-lead plot to put something over on seven other clubs in the National League. There is a different spirit from that shown in 1918, and if everything goes through as planned, there will be something doing in the senior circuit.

Boston is the mystery club of the National League. According to the dope Stallings and his new owner, George Washington Grant, will be lucky to remain in the league. But that is according to dope. In reality, this mysterious gang looks better than at any time in the last three years and will prove it at any time or place.

There is a vast improvement in the infield, with Holke at first and a kid named Schreiber at short, and an old bird labeled Riggert has added strength to the outfield. In addition, Rabbit Maranville is expected to be among those present about April 15 and Hank Gowdy is looked for around May 1. With that pair of soldier athletes on the job Boston must be considered a first-class club.



GEORGE STALLINGS

"The club looks better to me than at any time since 1915," said George Stallings after the morning workout. "The boys are working harder, are taking their jobs more seriously and act as if they really mean business. I never have seen so much spirit, and right now we are weeks ahead in our training."

"THE pitchers look good, and while I am not predicting a pennant or anything like that, I can say that you have an interesting ball club which will win more games than it loses. If Maranville and Hank Gowdy were with the team I could say without hesitation we had the best-looking squad since I have been in Boston."

Herzog Must Prove Worth to Grant

STALLINGS struck the right note when he spoke about having an interesting ball club. There is speed in the infield and outfield, the pitchers are going good, and the catchers, John Henry, Art Wilson and Walter Traggner, also are in shape. Walter Holke looks like a different player. Herzog is working harder. Schreiber probably will take the shortstop job away from Rawlings until Maranville returns, and Red Smith is just as good as ever.

For the first time in many years Herzog is trying to make good at second base. Heretofore he had the temperament of a high-salaried star, a player much sought for and considered an asset to the ball club. This year it is different. He still has a contract which calls for \$10,000, but it contains the ten-day clause and he must prove his worth. George Grant, the new boss, did not give into a single demand made by Herzog, thus accomplishing something that hasn't been done for several years. The Stormy Petrel has the same social standing as any other player and will be judged on his 1919 efforts—not past performances.

Every day Herzog is the first man on the field. He gets as much batting practice as possible and takes fielding practice around second base until the last batter has departed. He still plays a wonderful game, but it is a question if he is worth \$10,000 to a ball club unless there is a good chance to win the pennant. Grant is a shrewd business man, knows the value of a dollar and is likely to make some sort of a move before the end of next month. In the meantime, Herzog is on trial.

CHUCK MECHAN, the star quarterback of Syracuse in 1917, is a candidate for second base and already has attracted considerable attention. He fields his position well, gets around both on either side and is a fair hitter. He has lots of room for improvement, but one year in the big show should help. Mechan is short and stocky, a good starter and an ideal lead-off man.

Schreiber, War Veteran, Looks Good

HANK SCHREIBER is another kid phenom who has every appearance of a finished ball player. His work at shortstop is gilt-edged and no one can kick on his hitting. In 1917 he led the New England League with a batting average of .350 and was drafted in the fall. Before he could do anything, however, he joined the army and came back wearing two service stripes. This youngster will bear watching, for he also can play second base if that position suddenly becomes vacant.

They say the Braves are too old and too mediocre to do anything startling in the pennant derby. Don't you believe it. That dope is all wrong, and a public demonstration will be given on and after April 23. There are many good players on the team and the pitiful material is exceptionally high class. The infielders, Rawlings, Blackburn and Mehan, can fit in any place, but Blackburn is the most valuable substitute in the league. He has a good arm, fields well at second, third or short and is fast on the bases. He has changed his style of hitting and is doing much better in that department.

The outfield also is well taken care of, with two regulars, Powell and Kelley, on the job. Wickland has been a hold-out, but Powell has taken his place in right field, Rehg, Massey and Bailey have been traded, so it was necessary to find another man to fill in centerfield. Joe Riggert stepped in, made good and looks like a fixture.

This bird has been trying to horn into the fast set since Tris Speaker was a pup and has had many ups and downs—mostly downs. In 1911 he went to the coast with the Red Sox and grabbed a job as a regular. In the opening game, however, at his first time at bat, the first pitched ball hit him between the eyes and knocked him cold. After that he was plate-shy and was sent to St. Paul. Brooklyn gave him a tryout two years later, but he again was returned to St. Paul. At that time Dalton, Wheeler and Stengel were playing at the top of their game and Riggert was not needed.

St. Louis tried him next, for he was gaining fame as a home-run hitter in the sticks. He failed to make an impression and was handed another return ticket to St. Paul. Now he is back again and intends to stick. No longer is he plate-shy, and instead of knocking homers he is pulling out singles. Although thirty-two years old, he is remarkably fast and Stallings says he will stay with the club.

TOM MILLER, an outfielder from Richmond, also is trying for the team. This kid was claimed by the New York Yankees, but was awarded to the Braves by the National Commission. He is a left-handed thrower and batter and very fast. Eddie King, who was traded out by Connie Mack a few years ago, has been signed and looks good.

Jack Scott Rated as Another Babe Ruth

THE pitching staff, which is most important, is shaping up like a formidable bunch. In my travels thus far I have noticed the clubs are exceptionally well fixed in this department, and Boston is no exception. Jack is one of the best left-handers in the league, and Dick Rudolph, who pitches mostly with his left hand, is in great form; Bill James, Al Demaree and Ray Tagan will form the relief squad; six others are shaping up well. Lefty George again is in the big show and Ray Keating is expected to stage a regular come-back. Jack Slattery, chief of the pitchers, says Keating is as good as he ever was and his experience will make him a valuable man.

The Braves say they have another Babe Ruth in Jack Scott, the big right-hander. Last year Jack was all ready to leave on the flying trip when he was injured in an auto accident. His right hand was put out of business and it took a year for a complete recovery.

JANA FILLINGIM, who had six straight victories last year before joining the navy, also shows an improvement. He claims his split ball, but now has a curve which makes him more difficult to hit. Jack Northrup, one of last year's heroes, is in excellent shape.

WONDER WHAT A TWO HUNDRED-YEAR-OLD ELEPHANT THINKS ABOUT

 WELL—HERE I AM ON THE ROAD AGAIN. I'M GLAD TO GET OUT OF WINTER QUARTERS. IT'S AWFUL MONOTONOUS. I'M GETTING ALONG IN YEARS NOW AND NEED RECREATION.	 —LET'S SEE—IT WAS JUST 150 YEARS AGO YESTERDAY THEY CAUGHT ME. I WAS ONLY A KID 52 YEARS OLD—IT SEEMS BUT YESTERDAY.	 THE SAME OLD CROWDS BUT IT SEEMS GOOD TO SEE THEM AGAIN. THERE'S A GIRL WITH A PEANUT—I HOPE SHE SLIPS IT TO ME—I'M AWFUL HUNGRY.	 WELL WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT SHE ATE IT HERSELF—GOSH WE ELEPHANTS LIKE A LITTLE ATTENTION ONCE IN A WHILE.
 MR BARNUM USED TO BE AWFUL NICE TO ME AND SO ARE THE RINGLING BOYS. THEY KNOW HOW TO TREAT US—I GUESS THEY KNOW THEIR OLD CIRCUS WOULDN'T AMOUNT TO MUCH IF IT WASN'T FOR US ELEPHANTS.	 —THOSE LIONS AND TIGERS MAKE ME LAUGH. GEE HOW THEY HATE ME, JEALOUSLY. I LIKE CLOWNS AND THEIR FUNNY STUFF GOSH—THERE'S PAT VALDO—HE'S A DANDY CLOWN YOU BET.	 —AW-W—HERE COMES THE GUY WITH ALL THE FUSSY STUFF TO PUT ON TOP OF ME SO I'LL LOOK PRETTY IN THE GRAND PAGEANT.	 THERE'S THE MUSIC STARTING UP—WELL IT'S A GAY LIFE AFTER ALL—I'VE BEEN WITH THE SHOW BUSINESS FIFTY YEARS AND I'M BEGINNING TO LIKE IT.

BAIRD REJOINS PHILLIES' SQUAD

New Infielder Takes Light Workout—Is Almost Thawed Out
DEFEAT BELMONT, 8 TO 1

Charlotte, N. C., April 3.—Douglas Baird, who has been in drudgery for the last few days because of a heavy cold, returned to the fold today and took a light workout. Doug was almost frozen to death on Monday and forced to take it easy until he was thawed out. He will be doing his regular work tomorrow. The weather here is everything but suitable for spring training. The sun is hot, but there is too much opposition from the cold, penetrating wind which sweeps the playing field. The ball players are suffering and the stadium in the circus, which is packed in the adjoining lot, imagine some one has played a cruel joke on them. The shrieks of the parents and the wailing of the ball players make the life of the workman a hardship.

Record for Cravath
Yesterday Manager Combs worked the men hard, and they were glad of it. It is easier and much warmer to be kept busy, and for that reason no one is kicking about the extra hot. Jack had the pitchers practicing the shortest route to first base to cover on bunts and did their work well. They located the bag every time and scored many puts out on imaginary runners. Gavy Cravath played first, thereby getting a good workout without knowing it. He figured he had 1,000,000 put-outs and 2,000,000 assists in two hours.

Luders on Sidelines
Fred Luders, our ex-captain, is suffering from a frozen foot or frost-bitten fingers, or something like that, and is reclining on the side lines. Mike Dee is studying first aid to the injured in the attic circle and will be able to diagnose Fred's illness in a day or so.

Despite the weather, which is nothing like that in the other training camps, Combs is working his men hard, and, strange as it may seem, they are in good shape. They are a healthy, sturdy lot of fellows, which accounts for their ability to stand up under the strain. If the weather gets cold in the early part of the season they will not be annoyed or worried. After a couple of weeks down here they could go up in the Canadian League and make good.

TILDEN BEATS VOSHELL IN SENSATIONAL MATCH

National Clay Court Champion Downs Indoor Titleholder After Three Hard Sets—Plays Lieutenant Ball, Yale Star, Today

New York, April 3.—Semifinal matches in both singles and doubles are to be decided today in the national indoor tennis championship tournament at the Seventh Regiment Armory here. William T. Tilden, 24, of Philadelphia, who yesterday eliminated the indoor champion, Lieutenant S. Howard Voshell, will meet Frank T. Anderson, of Brooklyn, and Vincent Richards, the boy star, plays Lieutenant Peter Ball, of Yale. In the doubles, Frederick B. Alexander and Dr. William Rosenbaum, conquerors of King Smith and G. C. Shaffer, the titleholders, will oppose the Anderson brothers. Tilden and Richards, turf doubles champions, will face Allen Behr and Harry J. Stimpkamp.

Voshell's airplane service, backed by some wonderful work at the net, had Tilden worried during the entire match. Try as he might, the clay court champion could not solve the Voshell attack in the first set and it was only by varying his game in puzzling fashion, coupled with some wonderful back-handed kills, that he pulled the second set out of the fire. The third set was a corker and Tilden outdid himself in a stunning victory over the outside of the doubles, eventually managing to break through Voshell's service and take the set and

"LANK HANK" GOWDY, BALLDOM'S WAR STAR, LONGS TO JOIN TEAM

Now That the Big Battle Is Over, the Amiable Aggressive Maskman of the Braves Awaits Only for Orders to Sail, Then Report

IN THE SPOTLIGHT—By GRANTLAND RICE
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A YEAR can produce quite a number of changes in a citizen's existence, but there is a vast gap between April, 1918, and April, 1919, for Hank Gowdy. A year ago this April date found Hank a sergeant in the 168th Infantry, Ohio National Guard, of the Rainbow Division, resting at the moment in a fairly quiet sector, but headed for one of the busiest little springs and summers Lank Hank ever will know again.

It was only shortly after this that the Rainbow Division was thrown in with the French to repel the massive German offensive along the Champagne front, where the Tenth assault, wave after wave, was literally cut and blown to pieces—the most effective check any German attack ever had met.

This was only the start. The Rainbow array was tossed back into action late in July just this side of the Oruce. Coming along the road leading into the woods near Ferenc-Tardenois one morning we heard a familiar voice. And there, sloping up the road, was Lank Hank and his famous grin. Some one had said a few hours before that Hank had lost a leg.

"That rumor," said Hank, "is practically unfounded. I think I've walked both my feet off, but my legs are still hanging on."

His regiment had drawn its share of rough work, but the first major league ball player to enlist was still cheerful.

Hank's Reappearance in St. Mihiel Salient

THAT was early in August. Five or six weeks later we happened to be battling around the woods near Lemarches, in the St. Mihiel salient. It was pouring rain and the mud was knee-deep. Just around the turn a bedraggled figure emerged from the underbrush, minus a fresh shave, with two or three inches of mud scattered up and down his person.

It was Lank Hank again. The smile was still there, but a trifle subdued. Hank had been sleeping in this same stretch of woods for five nights with only one blanket. It was little better than a swamp. It was no place to spend a pleasant night if you had ten blankets.

"It's a great war," said Hank. "I hope I'm going to like it, for I think it will be my last one. I wouldn't mind it so much if I thought by next April I'd be pecking one down to second again. How long is it going to last, anyhow?"

"Oh, not over three or four years," we said, to offer all possible cheer. An hour later we told him good-bye again, and the tall catcher drifted back into the woods to see if any one had pilfered his lone blanket during his absence.

NO WONDER Hank had lost a small section of his ancient smile. The woods he happened to be inhabiting were a mixture of thick underbrush and swamp—under heavy rain all day—under heavy rain and heavier shell fire all night.

The Last Stop. Thence Homeward Bound

THE last time we saw Sergeant Gowdy came with a glimpse of pink hair gleaming through the Rhenish fogs. Hank was wired into Coblenz for a two-day visit. This was late December, and Hank was ready to start home. "The war being over," he said, "I'd sure like to get back in time to go South with the bunch next March. I'm no longer a youngster and I've been out two years already. When do we move away from here?"

HE LOOKED to be in fine physical shape. There is no great amount of fun carrying an army pack for eighteen months through French mud, but for all that it's a great conditioner.

Gowdy's Career Has Been Rocky One

HANK was born just thirty years ago this spring in Columbus, O. He opened his professional career in 1908 with Lancaster in the O. and P. League. After two seasons in Lancaster he reported to Dallas in the Texas League in 1910. In 1911 he joined the Giants and was later traded to Boston. In 1913 he was sent to Buffalo, where he batted .317, and was promptly recalled.

In 1914 he rose to his greatest baseball heights when he batted over .500 against the Athletics, pounded the ball all over the lot and drove in enough runs almost unaided to win the series. Hank never has been a great hitter, ranging between .247 and .287. But he has always been a dangerous man at bat and one of the steadiest catchers in the game.

Good for Morale

BEYOND his baseball ability, Gowdy always was considered a good man for the club on account of his cheerful and amiable aggressiveness. He was good for morale. That grin of his alone was a morale maker. Things couldn't break too badly to get Hank's goat. He always has hustled and given his best. In going in when he did, Hank did something more than serve his country. He was one of the very few who helped the game from sinking to disgrace by entering the service early at a time when men were needed most.

THERE are more than a few who will be ready to welcome him home with a reception worth while.

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

JOHNNY TILMAN will make his J-shore debut when he takes on Walter Mohr in the eight-round feature at the Atlantic City Sporting Club tonight. This will be Tilman's first start since his battle with Johnny Griffiths in Akron three weeks ago.

Tilman first was booked to face Young Joe Borrell, but the Italian slugger was unable to fill the engagement. Mohr has fought the best among the lightweight. He is a good hitter and always dangerous.

Max Williamson, the Quaker City entry, who surprised by holding Battling Leonard to a draw in six sensational rounds, opposes Willie Spencer in the eight-round semi-windup. Two other good bouts complete the program.

Johnny Burns has battling Murray in shape for that six-round session with Jack Elbe of New York. These flashy heavyweight mix in the Cambria feature tomorrow night. Murray hopes to get a smash at Jimmy White and is taking to chances on losing to any of the home entries.

Kewpie Callender makes his second appearance in this city when he battles Young Martin in a return bout in the semi-windup. If Callender wins he will meet Murray in a Cambria rematch shortly. The other bouts present Johnny Molony vs. Jimmie Tierney, Walter Kenzie vs. Joe Jackson and Young Buck vs. Young Hooper.

Johnny Wolcott will be seen in the National semi-windup against Salter Eddie Trembley. The sailor boy has the class and is a good puncher. He should make it interesting for his adversary, who weighs 160. In the other bouts Gusie Lewis appears against Dave Meyer, Billy Riley battles Young Buck Fleming and Jack Lester engages Jimmy Mendon.

Joe Tilden will have his chance in the first round of the World Series. It is expected that he will be the first to go down.

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MICKY BUNNIN
Former South Philadelphia High star, who played a great game with S. P. H. A. in the American League this season. Bunnin may enter Penn next fall.

PERCY HAUGHTON QUILTS FOOTBALL

Famous Harvard Coach Announces Retirement Because of Business

Boston, April 3.—The retirement from football activities of Percy D. Haughton, for nine years coach of Harvard eleven, was announced by him yesterday. Mr. Haughton, recently discharged from his commission as major in the army, said that business interests would occupy his time.

No successor named. No statement was available last night as to Haughton's probable successor. The possibility of Harvard appointing a graduate coach to supervise all major athletics, including the women's team, in effect at Yale under Dr. Al Sharpe, was suggested in Crimson athletic circles. A survey of men suitable for such a position has been made for some time, it is said.

Haughton, a good tackle on Harvard eleven in his undergraduate days, served as coach of the football team in 1909. Teams coached by him since that time have won the games with Yale, by which the success of Harvard's football season is annually judged, in five of the nine years, with two Yale victories and two ties.

Dresser Returns to Cornell. The spring training at Harvard, scheduled to start this week, has been delayed because neither Haughton nor other former Crimson coaches were available. Leo Leary, formerly principal assistant, is also in business.

Local Skater Wins by Quarter Lap; Clark Receives Watch. W. H. Jack, of West Philadelphia, defeated Billy McCullough, the Wildwood youth, in the return one-mile roller skating race at the Palace Rink, Thirty-ninth and Market streets, last evening. Jack finished first in Monday night's race, but was disqualified for unsportsmanlike fouling and the race awarded to McCullough. Bohn, a sailor, won the race for skater men.

Bowdoin Opens With Harvard. Brunswick, Me., April 3.—Bowdoin College will open the baseball season with a game against Harvard at the City Hotel, which will close it with a game with the University of Maine at Orono on June 7.

Seton Hall Defeats Army. West Point, N. Y., April 3.—The Seton Hall basketball team defeated the Army nine here yesterday in a first game, 9 to 4.

Middies Lose First Game. Annapolis, Md., April 3.—In the opening game of the national basketball league, the more club of the International League defeated the Middies 8 to 2.

MRS. BARLOW DEFEATED. Loses Qualifying Medal to Mrs. Dorothy Campbell. Pinehurst, S. C., April 3.—Mrs. Dorothy Campbell Hurd defeated Mrs. Ronald H. Barlow, the north and south champion, in the first round of the second play-off of their tie for the qualifying medal in the women's north and south tournament. The first attempt to settle the matter resulted in a second tie, and Mrs. Hurd won yesterday by a single stroke. Barlow was going particularly well. Mrs. Hurd winning with a 93 to Mrs. Barlow's 94.

Temple University Girls Triumph. The women's variety game team of Temple University, Philadelphia, defeated the team of Branch Y. M. C. A. girls, 21 to 15. Misses Von Haasen and Walton starred.

Burns in Form. George Burns had five trips to the plate during the first practice tilt of the season, and in those quinter of chances he collected two singles, a double, a walk and three runs. That's a fair afternoon's work for any big leaguer, even if it is against a college club.

Boy Grover started for practice for the first time yesterday morning, and was inserted into the game at left field

the match. The score was 4-6, 5-6, 13-12. Faced with the alternative of defaulting or showing up, Tilden decided to play. He was the favorite, but he and Vincent Richards, holders of the national doubles crown, easily defeated the pair of Biddle in a third-round doubles contest by 6-3, 6-3.

Young Fred Anderson, of New York, surprised the sharp by taking the first set of his singles match with Vincent Richards, 4-1, but the national boy's champion came right back and won the next two sets and the match, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

Peter Ball, the former Yale star, who has been the surprise of this tournament, kept up his good work by trouncing Walter Toussaint, of the New York Tennis Club, 5-6, 6-2, 6-3, while Frank Anderson, the junior champion, also advanced to the semifinals by virtue of a well-earned victory over L. B. Dalley, Glenwood, 6-0, 6-3.

The Anderson boys, Fred and Frank, staged the big upset by the doubles section today by trouncing Walter Toussaint and Fred H. Letson, New York, 6-2, 6-4. Fred's Alexander and Dr. William Rosenbaum, both of New York, defeated Carlton Shaffer, Philadelphia, and King Smith, Virginia, after a long-drawn-out sets, 5-7, 6-3, in the feature match of the doubles division.