

GLEASON BELIEVES PAIR OF PITCHING ACES IS BETTER THAN FOUR-FLUSH CURVING CORPS

GLEASON FINDS TWO PITCHERS ENOUGH TO KEEP TEAM IN LEAD

Stallions Used Three Moundsmen. Sufficient to Capture Pennant, but White Sox Boss Has Only Cicotte and Williams, Who Have Won 35, Lost 10

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1919, by Public Ledger Co. WHEN George Stallions depended upon three pitchers to win the National League pennant and the world's championship in 1914 he was acclaimed the wonder of the ages and labeled the Miracle Man of baseball.

No one can figure how they have done it, but figures speak for themselves. The Sox have won fifty-four games and thirty-five victories have been turned in by the pair of peacocks. Cicotte won his nineteenth game on Thursday and Williams has amassed a total of sixteen. That's pretty good work for so early in the season, and it looks as if the pair of stars will establish a record.

It also proves that Gleason is a regular manager and knows how to handle his hired men. To get by with only two pitchers is quite an accomplishment, and if you look hard you will find that no one else is doing it. Kerr and Faber turn in a victory now and then, but cannot be depended upon. Cicotte and Williams are the aces, and if they continue to deliver the goods Gleason will be entitled to wear the Miracle Man's crown.

With one more good pitcher like Scott Perry or Carl Mays the Chicago club would have an easy time in coping the flag. At present they are being annoyed by Cleveland and Detroit, the latter being the most dangerous. Hugh Jennings has a good ball club this year—far better than it looked early in the season. The pitchers are performing well, which is strange and unusual, and the sluggers are slugging better than ever before.

The poor A's continue to struggle along, losing battles by close scores and making great records for the opposing clubs. Jing Johnson has captured five conflicts in some way or other and Perry and Rogers are next with three each. Jack Naylor is the losing champion of the universe, having dropped his last nine games, which exceeds the National record, held by Elmer Jacobs, by one.

Allen Sotheron, of the Browns, was on the verge of starting the circuit when he won nine games in a row, but flopped and took the count on Thursday when Eddie Cicotte grabbed a ten-inning fust in the narrow margin of 1 to 0. Sotheron is a bear for work and the best hurler on Jimmy Burke's payroll. He has been going exceptionally well, but has a bad habit of taking things easy when the game apparently is on ice.

Good hurlers are mighty scarce this year and big league clubs are willing to pay any amount of coin for likely looking prospects. If a seasoned veteran is placed on the market he can write his own ticket. John McGraw will dig deep into the bankroll for a high-class flinger. He has offered everything, including the Polo Grounds, for Eppa Rixey, but there is nothing doing. Big Eppa remains with us.

HOWEVER, Jason Jay put up a ten-strike when he got Phil Douglas from the Cubs in exchange for Dary Robertson. McGraw got all the best of the transaction, because Dary was of no use to him and wouldn't play anyway. Douglas, on the other hand, is a good flinger and will win many games for his new boss and may cop the pennant for New York. Robertson will be a great help to Mitchell, because Fred needs a hard-hitting outfielder.

Alien Scribe Condoles With Connie THE terrible work of our A's is getting to be a joke in the large circuit and causing considerable comment on the outside. Every one knows Connie is doing his best to get a team together, is spending money and giving trophies to every athlete who can wear spiked shoes, and are wondering why something doesn't happen.

The following editorial in the current issue of Sporting News throws some light on the subject: "Since baseball conditions in Philadelphia are for the moment the subject of much discussion, let us take up briefly the case of the lowly Athletics— even more lowly than the Phillies—and their puzzled and distressed manager and mentor, Connie Mack. Connie may say he is not distressed, that he is hopeful and all that, but since he must have some human element in his make-up we have a right to believe he is, whether he will admit it or not.

"Connie's situation furnishes a quite positive answer to those who prattle that anybody can build up a winning ball club if he will just spend the money for players. Connie has been spending money, or the equivalent of it, for four or five years now, and he hasn't built up any winner, so far as you can notice it. His ball club is a worse aggregation today by far than it was when he started all over again after the break up of his champions.

"His admission is plain that the colleges and lots are bare when he holds on to players who are not of major league class and have shown it, or make swaps to get his former players back, or takes discards from rival clubs. For it cannot be said Mack does not know, as well as any man can, a ball player in the making when he sees one, even if he is fooled now and then.

"Mack's sad experience proves that neither money nor brains can guarantee a winner if the builder doesn't have a good share of the breaks. Probably no manager ever had such bunched luck as Mack had when he picked up Collins, Baker, Barry, McInnis et al., but that sort of luck in bunches, like lightning, doesn't strike twice in the same place, not in the lifetime of even as old a man as Mack.

"Mack may put on a semblance of optimism if he will, but to even his best well wishers there's mighty little silver lining to the situation. "ALL the luck he seems to have these days is that past reputation saves him from the blasts of the critics who can spend money and build up winning ball teams between puff—that and the fact that the other fellow in Philadelphia has been selected as target."

May Lure Wilde From England DOC CUTCH, manager of Patsy Wallace, believes he has a chance to lure Jimmy Wilde from the old homestead in England and exhibit him in Philadelphia against his protegee. He has cabled his challenge to the flyweight champion and expects an early reply. "If Wilde accepts my offer of \$5000 and two round-trip tickets," says Doc, "the bout will be held in Philadelphia and will be promoted and managed by Leon Raina. Mr. Raina has had great success in the boxing game and knows how to stage shows properly. He will be the man to take care of the match."

Boston Not Anxious to Lose Mays HARRY FRAZEE evidently isn't very anxious to relieve the Red Sox of the burden of carrying Carl Mays. If he really wanted to get rid of the under-hand pitcher, he would have no trouble in doing it. Mays is a high-grade performer and his services would be appreciated by any club in either circuit. But Frazee wants the New York Yanks to give him either Bob Shawkey, the ex-Athletic hurler, or Herb Thornathlen, plus a fortune. That doesn't suit the New Yorkers. They want Mays, but they don't want to part with a pitcher whom they consider better and slip the Red Sox a big sum besides. It looks as though the proposed, or rather the rumored, deal was off.

SINCE THEY CLOSED THE NINETEENTH



COBB REGAINS LEAD IN AMERICAN LEAGUE; THORPE KEEPS IN FRONT WITH .375 MARK

Georgian Displaces Jackson and Shows Way With .354 Rating—Sisler Is Third Best Batter

Table with columns: Club, G, AB, R, H, SR, P.C. listing batting averages for various clubs in the American League.

COBB has regained the lead in the race for batting honors in the American. For a time hopelessly outclassed by Roger Peckinpah, of the Yankees, the sensational Georgian maintained his own while Peckinpah was slumping and he now shows the way with .354.

Joe Jackson, on the last week's leader, slipped to second place, but still has an attractive .346, Sisler, of the Browns, has found himself and is in third place, only two points behind Jackson.

Bobby Veach has lost ground and is fourth with .338. Rice, of the Senators, tops the major leagues in safe hits with 110. Joe Jackson is second with 107 and Sisler third with 106.

The averages, including the games played Wednesday, follow:

Table titled 'AMERICAN LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL BATTING AVERAGES' listing player names, clubs, and batting statistics.

Jess Barnes, With 13 Conquests, Leads National League Pitchers in Games Won

Table titled 'Games Won by Pitchers From These Clubs' listing pitcher names, clubs, and win/loss records.

Cicotte and Williams Have Won 34 Games, Lost 10, This Season

Table titled 'Games Won by Pitchers From These Clubs' listing pitcher names, clubs, and win/loss records.

Versatile Indian, Though Limited in Service, Tops Field—Gavy Has .354 Average for Second Place

WILLIAMS IN SELECT Club Batting Averages in National League

Table titled 'Club Batting Averages in National League' listing club names and batting statistics.

JIM THORPE is at the top in National League batting circles. Gavy Cravath is the real leader with his .375 average, but the redskin during his limited service has pounded the pill for a .375 rating, represented by thirty-three hits out of eighty-eight times at bat.

Young, of the New York Giants, heads the circuit in safeties with ninety-eight, just two more than Zach Wheat, of the Dodgers. Young has an average of .323, which is two points higher than Wheat's mark.

Hi Myers, of the Dodgers, is third in the list with his .322. He has made ninety-one hits. Williams, with .310 and Meusel with .300 complete the list of Philis in the select.

The averages, including the games played Wednesday, follow:

Table titled 'NATIONAL LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL BATTING AVERAGES' listing player names, clubs, and batting statistics.

NELSON AND WOLGAST STAGED RING'S MOST GRUESOME ENCOUNTER

For Sustained Fury and Unadulterated Fighting This Lightweight Battle Furnishes One of Bloodiest Chapters in Annals of Pugilism

IN THE SPOTLIGHT—BY GRANTLAND RICE Copyright, 1919, All rights reserved. SIX HIGH SPOTS OF AMERICAN SPORT No. 5—The Passing of Battling Nelson

THERE may have been more dramatic ring battles where championships passed, but for sustained fury and unadulterated fighting the battle at Point Richmond, Calif., where Battling Nelson lost the lightweight championship to Ad Wolgast, furnishes one of the bloodiest and most strenuous chapters in the annals of pugilism.

Technically, Wolgast won in the fourth round by a knockout. But the Hegewisch Dane never was down once during the fight. He was pressing forward, blindly, instinctively, with both of his eyes closed and his face beaten into the semblance of a pounded raw befeaten, when Referee Eddie Smith stepped between the struggling men, pushed Nelson back to his corner and raised Wolgast's hands.

Nelson sprang up from the stool which his seconds had placed in the corner for him and tried to protest. As he tried to speak the blood gushed from his mouth. He was so badly battered that he could not frame a word. All that he could do was glare from the slit of one eye and growl like a wolf mortally hurt. There were five rounds more to go, for in those days they permitted forty-five-round bouts in California, but even the hard losers who had bet on Nelson did not want it to go any further. Long before the referee had decided upon his act of mercy the fight crowd was clamoring that it be stopped.

The passing of Nelson as a champion was characteristic of the fighter. His method of fighting was simple. He took all that the other man could give. Then when his antagonist became bewildered because the Dane did not drop under blows that would have battered down a dozen others, Nelson waded in and finished him.

NELSON always moved forward, never backward. He was pressing forward when he lost his title. He was a fighter, pure and simple. He took a dozen punches to land one. He took them on the jaw and on his scuffed face.

IT HAS been said by Jack Grace, a former second of Nelson, that the Battler's defeat was brought about through his last bout with Joe Gans. You will recall that Nelson and Gans fought three times. In the first battle, at Goldfield, Nev., Gans won on a foul. In their second meeting, at San Francisco, Nelson knocked the negro boxer out.

A third fight was arranged, though the backers of Gans knew that the negro had developed tuberculosis. Despite the fact that he was rapidly wasting away, Gans kept Nelson away for twenty rounds and dropped exhausted in the twenty-first.

It was in the seventeenth round of this fight that the negro landed the blow which is said to have been the beginning of the end for Nelson. Just a second before the bell rang Gans stepped back. Nelson's left arm was upraised. Gans shot a short jolting punch, the sort of punch with which he had knocked out many a lightweight, into Nelson's ribs. Those near the ring say that the "Durable Dane" squealed with agony.

When the Dane went back to his corner it is claimed that for once in his life he felt himself beaten. His seconds had to tell him that the negro was in far worse condition in order to get him to go back—so the story goes.

NELSON afterward admitted that that punch broke several of his ribs and that it hurt more than any beating he had ever received in his life.

Nelson Meets His Master WHEN the fight at Point Richmond was under way Nelson began to receive the usual punishment. His face was chopped raw and one of his eyes closed. But those who had watched the "Durable Dane" would not believe that he was to be beaten down at last. His face began to become more unrecognizably and Wolgast kept claving at him like a young wildcat, for it was more like a jungle battle, that fight, than an encounter between humans.

Sometimes about the twentieth round Nelson rasped a punch across Wolgast's kidneys and the contender fell to the mat. It looked as though Wolgast, like the others, had become tired of beating the "Durable Dane" and that he was about to drop. But in the next round Wolgast came back as vigorous as ever and the crowd began to wonder whether or not Nelson had found his match at the game of slugging.

The crimson rounds went on, Nelson always pressing forward, with Wolgast planting those fired fists into the battered face. It became impossible, tragic, and the most hardened of fight followers, the believers in battles to the finish, began to moan, "Stop it!"

EVEN to this day Nelson protests: "He did not hurt me. He never could hurt me. Gans is the only man that ever really hurt me. He was the greatest lightweight of them all."

BEALS BECKER THIRD Syracuse Star to Return

Former Phillie Trails Hendryx and Good in American Association

Snare and Trilist Club Wants Gans

Here Phillies' Park, Monday Night

PT. BREEZE VELDROME

NATIONAL LEAGUE PARK

PHILLIES vs. BROOKLYN

One-Legged Pigeon Wins

PHILA. JACK O'BRIEN'S \$15

GILBERT STILL LEADS New Orleans Star Shows Way in Batting and Stolen Bases

Other leading batters for thirty or more games: Christenburg, Memphis, .332; McDonald, Nashville, .325; Grinnin, Little Rock, .318; Duncan, Birmingham, .315; Peters, Birmingham, .305; Sullivan, New Orleans, .304; Mayer, Atlanta, .298; Carroll, Memphis, .297; McMillin, Mobile, .290.

BARNES RETAINS TITLE Equals Own Record in Winning Western Open Golf Championship

Barnes equaled his own world's record of 283 strokes for an open golf championship, Leo Diegel, Detroit, was the runner-up, finishing three strokes behind the champion.

Bennett Breaks Cycle Record

Tennis Doubles Tomorrow

Hilldale Wins in First

Advertisement for FLOR DE MANUEL Super Quality cigars, featuring a large image of a cigar and the text 'A Puff will convince you'.