## EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1920

# ONE STRIKE PLENTY ON RAILROAD, BUT THEY'LL TAKE THREE IN BASEBALL CIRCLES TODAY

# "WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR" QUIBBLE **USHERED IN TODAY BY EIGHT BIG** LEAGUE HEADS AS SEASON BEGINS

## By ROBERT W. MAXWELL

FIHIS is the day which will usher in that famous mosscovered giggle which has been pulled by our leading ball clubs for the last half century, entitled, "Wait till next year !!

18

Four managers in each league will spring that ancient line before nightfall, if there happens to be a winner and a loser in the opening combats. This always is done on opening day, because it is the first opportunity to test their memories.

Today sixteen major ball clubs start out even Stephen. with hope springing eternal in the breasts of their pilots. In a short time there will be a few principals in the penmant act, with the majority standing in the back row carrying spears. The chorus is necessary, however, for it furnishes scenery, local color and things like that. It also makes the performances intensely interesting, as it hands out a lot of laughs to the leaders, to say nothing of the audiences.

Opening days always are interesting. Shivering fans like to gaze upon the sunburned athletes just back from the sunny South, and wonder why they weren't shot instead of handed that swell vacation and lovely sunburn. It must be remembered that April baseball always is played in April. The players are conscious of earlyseason hardships and act accordingly. They nurse their arms, which is slang for sulary wings; refuse to extend themselves, and while the managers are handing out that "wait-until-next-year" alibi they are coming back with conversation which sounds like "wait till the weather gets warm.

But we should not be annoyed by little things like that. There is that competition, that desire to win, which keeps the athletes all keyed up, as much as an athlete can be keyed up in April. There will be lots of errors. the bean work will be exceedingly burn, but the boys will be out there trying as hard as the boys always try in April. Therefore, it's all even. Remember, every egg was a good egg-once.

PHILADELPHIA fans are lucky because they have the first apportunity to gaze upon the 1920 edition of the New York Yankers, which has been edited at an enormous cost. Minus Carl Mays, who has had a run-in with the Law Terrible, these Yanks will combat our A's for a strategic position in the won and lost volumn. However, Babe Ruth, who was sold on the hoof far \$657.50 per pound last winter, will be on the jub, and the Babe is worth the price of adminion

## First Appearance of Ruth as a Yank

**RUTH** has been bippedroming in the South this year with more or less success as a slugger, with the scent on the less. He was advertised so extensively in the hot biscuit belt that the customers, who parted with real cash after a terribic struggle, declared they were swindled if he didn't knock the cover off the ball every time he stepped up to the plate. They did not realize it took some time for a slugger to get his opties on the bulb and the pitchers occasionally improved more rapidly than the hitters. They would cheer him as he stepped up to the plate and hand him the real rawsherry when he whiffed. And Babe whiffed many times on the yam circuit.

Today he makes his first appearance in a championship contest as a member of the Yanks in good standing. He also has a contract which calls for \$20,000 a year. but we will not mention that because one might imagine there is commercialism in baseball. The Babe is expected to get something like forty home runs this year, and many hope to see him begin today, if his wallops do not interfere with the success of the Mackmen, Ruth always has been backy on opening days. In the

olden times, when he was nothing but a lot-hunded pitcher, he came through with victories in his debut, Finstance, in 1916 he was Bill Carrigan's choice for the pioneer fray of the year, and, assisted by George Foster, walloped the A's by the score of 2 to 1. He didn't get a blow that afternoon, but pitchers never worry about things like that.

In 1917 he again opened the season for the Red Sox and trimmed the Yankees 10 to 3. The batted four times

flict he batted .333, connecting with the slants of Elmer Myers and Adams, who are gone but not forgotten. Last year Ruth was not a pitcher. He was a slugger. and in the game against the Yankees had a swatting average of .400. On his first trip to the plate he socked a homer off Mogridge. It was a long drive to center, which evaded Duffy Lewis, and the ball probably is going yet. He also got a single and a free pass during the game

JUDGING from the dape. Rube has been a hoodus to any N's. He beat them every time he fueld them in opening battles, and has a desire to enatinue his work of destruction today. Still, a \$20,000 star has a tangler raw to have than a \$3000 left-handed pitcher.

## Johnson Lost Two Openers

ONE of the best things Walter Perry Johnson does is start Washington teams off with a percentage of 1.000. The Fire Ball King has been used in nine open ers and failed only twice to subdue his opponents. Once, pitching well, he tossed his own game away with a wild heave which gave the Athletics a pair of tallies, these proving enough to win; and once, when in bum condition, he was badly battered by the Yankees. The blow-off games lost by Johnsen were those of 1912 and 1918, the Mackmen and New York being successful then by scores of 4 to 2 and 6 to 3 respectively, Ever since Clark Griffith has been manager of the

Washington club he has led off at the start of the penant pursuit with his pitching ace, and said nee, as was said before, has failed him only twice. Walter hurled 'one lid-lifting tussle for Jim McAleer and almost got into the Hall of Fame. One blow, a double by Frank Baker, which cluded the Washington right fielder because the spectators had spilled over on the playing green, was all the Athletics got on April 14, 1910, off Johnson. The score was 3 to 0.

In 1912, when Griffith took hold of the Nationals, Johnson booked up in battle No. 1 with John Wesley Coombs, now coaching the Tiger twirlers, and the decision went to the Mackmen 4 to 2. Walter beat himself by a fervid heave in the fifth which handed the A's two TILLE

The next five sensous found Johnson on the pitching peak on opening day and produced five victories. In 1913 he conquered New York 2 to 1, in 1914 he defeated Boston ii to 0, and in 1915 New York was subdued 7 to 0.

**T**HE Yarks dopped again in 1916, 3 to 2, in eleven innings, Ray Caldwell losing the desi-sion, and in 1917 be blue-penciled the A's 3 to 0, Joe Bush against bim.

## Ty Cobb Is Early Starter

TRNIE LANNIGAN has due up some interesting dope Labout Ty Cobb on opening days. Tyrus the Great has appeared in eleven grand openings and is an accouidished performer. Only fivice has he been shut out without a hit, Frank Smith bamboogling him in 1909 and Willie Mitchell, of Cleveland, coming back with the same stuff three years later.

The dope shows that Cobb is an early starter. In his g taway games he has ripped off sixteen smashes, eleven of them being for extra bases. He missed the opening days in 1906, 1913 and 1918, and the other figgers follow ; A.B. R. H. Year, pitchers and clubs.. PC 1907-Liebhardt, Cleveland. ....... .500 1908-White-Altrock, Chicaga..... 5 .600 1909-Smith, Chivago...... 3 000 .300 1511 912 - Mitchell, Cleveland. . . . . 250 1916-Russell-Faber, Chicago...., 3 ,667 1917-Corricskie, Cleveland..... 1919-Coveleskie-Coumbe, Clevel'd, 5 .590

The Brivon will rest for a day or so he

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cademy. Ridley Park High at Norristown High. Catholie High at Northeast High. Narberth H.gh at Peddle Institute. Media High at Episcopal Academy. TRACK The statistics show that for the Phils. Moorestown High at Collingswood High, Callahan made the first hit, scored the TENNIS first run and received the first walk of the Germantown High at Haverford School. the season. Bancroft connected with rival. VESTERDAY'S RESULTS BASEBALL High School League Germantown High, 5; Northeast High, 1. Frankford High, 9: Southern High, 5. Central High, 10: Catholic High, 6. Catholic League

OTHER RESULTS. Upper Darby High, S: Abiarton High, 6, Germantown F., D: Ambler High, 2, St. Luke's Episcopal, 2: Episcopal

st. Luke's Episcopal. 2: Episcopal Academy, 0. Clayton High, 3: Wenonah Military Academy, 2.

# IN NATIONAL LEAGUE Rice Believes Cincinnati and New York Have Edge With Brooklyn, Chicago and Pittsburgh Close Behind. Thinks Cleveland Has Good Chance in A. L.

PREDICTS CLOSE RACE

## By GRANTLAND RICE

**Prying Off the Lid** Well! Well! Well! Look who's here! Old Man Box Score-Let him have a cheer. Old Man Base Hit, Old Kid Run; Old Professor Alibi, when the scrap is done. All the pals and cronics, that we used to know Back in other Aprils, long and long ago. Let the lid fly open with a Ball or Strike. You can shoot, professor, any time you like.

TN 1918 the Cubs won a pennant. For

IN 1918 the Cubs won a pennant. For 1919 they added Alexander and then finished third. We mention this erratic detail to let you know some of the bizarre eccentricities of the sprightly dope. Certain clubs. This list is larger than "The faming career of the spectacular Ruth will be followed by thousands who will never see him in action. But what he does or doesn't do will add a new

Leading Figures

IN 1918 the Red Sox won a world championship. In the spring of 1919 they looked better than ever. They finally managed to finish sixth. It's a great life—if you cut out guessing.

## TF THINGS break gently for Cleve-I land that club has a chance for forg-ing well ahead in the American League. But if fate persists in assailing the line-TARTING the season the leading Dfigures, through their efforts in past up, New York and Detroit both have a chance.

campaigns, include the following : First. Babe Ruth-champion home The National League race should be run hitter. the closer of the two. Cincinnati and

run hitter. Second. Ty Cobb—champion batsman-of both leagues. Third. Tris Speaker—champion out-fielder and manager. Fourth. Walter Johnson—best pitcher in the American League. Fifth. Grover Alexander — best pitcher in the National League. Sixth. Eddle Roush—champion bats-man of the National League. Seventh. George Sisler and Rosser New York predominate in the early dope, but Brooklyn, Chicago and Pitts-

burgh are no great distance away, where a few sudden turns in the luck Last year both the Phils and the may keep the entire quintet in a sum-

Athletics lost the opening gover while There is no club in the invanced former flopping to New York while League that seems to be as far advanced does

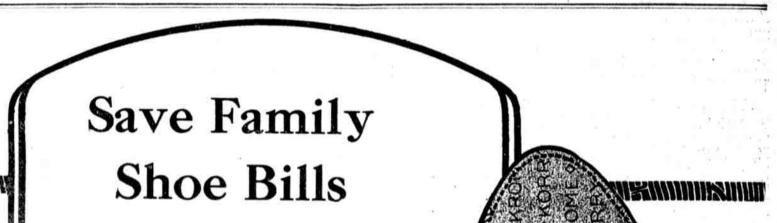
beyond competition as Cleveland does in the American. Seventh. George Sisler and Rogers Hornsby, of St. Louis-runners-up who Cleveland can still win with a shade

may supplant Cobb or Roush. Eighth. Eddie Collins-still baseball's worst of the luck against any one est second baseman.

the first sacrifice. Adams was the first man to strike out. Baird made the first error, Luderus the first putout and Adams the first putout and flag.

Adams the first assist. Of these, Bau-croft is the only wan who will be in the lineup today. For the Athletics, George Burrs reg-istered the first bit and also struck out first. Kopp drew the first walk and also had the first assist. Perkins made the first error and Witt the first putout. Our A's were blanked in that game, which accounts for the missing first run. They also failed to steal any bases or make a sacrifice bit.

in and and a state



Uptown Players Get Another Victory in League, Beating Northeast, 5 to 1

SALLE WINS GAME Up Germantown way there is a big 1a salle Preps, 2: West Catholic, 1. institution working on the "repeatorder" scale. Evidently Conch Lackey

has handed down the edict that this must be another championship year for the Germantown High School baseball

and connected with a single, which was mighty good for a left-handed pitcher. Two years ago, meaning in 1918. Ruth pitched and trimmed the A's 7 to 1. In that con-



too much power for Frinkle and the latter was forced to hold on at almost strength was forced to hold on at almost strength was stored of hold on at almost maker Marcus Williams plans to much for the second other for founds, of the polles, had been the should be allow and the state of the second other the wing of Billy Silvetman by win ning in four rounds the semifland from Joe Richards, of New York. This hout was stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed that the second he can be stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the set of the state of the second he can be stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the second he can be stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the second he can be stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles the the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo punched George Christian to sleed the stopped by the polles the the stopped by the polles. Kid Partillo the stopped by the polles the stopped

## Ten Spitters in American

American i (h) is the Artest i (b) is the Artest Cleveland, O., April 14 (In.S. I., April an League pitchers are julije to treation spitball" during the 1029 scatter, Press rolt Leonard and Avers St. Latin Shares Dan I and Gallia; New York, Uping, and Joston

Another baser whose Cality pose in the same of memory numination, which means that neither the same of these clubs has a pitcher state in the same of these clubs has a pitcher of senario contrast. All Nolaon Nelson, now in the senaring in Chucago.
Schmidt Admits \$8000 Salary
Medesta, Calif., April 14 - Walts Sommid: same for the same sening blacking that his terms had been may him to the series that the sening that has the would leave Thing the in the sening that has a pitcher may have a sening blacking that his terms had been may him to the sening the the sening the sening the sening the sening the sening the sening that has a pitcher base of these days I may have a sening the sening to Schmidt, he is given a two year contrast at \$5000 a year.

Pal Moore Beats Frankle Daty Mentan, April 14 - Menubis Pal Moore pointed Frankle Daty, of New York in le twolve-round hour patter the Armore A, lest math. welve-round bout bafore the Armore last night. Daiv was an willing boser orre was all gloves and beat a fareo Blaten Bland boy's fars and bedy ', by every' round.

oted Trapshooter Dies oter, La. April 14.—Pred Wettleat bier of national reputation, died st Nicroiss, In., perturbar after Noted Trapshooter Dies

His butting average for eleven getaway afternoons is .211. But Spoke should worry. He usually makes up for it but the dope went wrong. La Salla later in the sensor. later in the secon Congright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co.

tage of every play and triumphed, 2 to I. When Feency stole home in the second ioning and Gallaghee repeated the trick in the fourth for the winning run, if was Lu Sulle's game, in spite

LA

league series :

team, for vesterday the uptown boys

won their third consecutive league vic

tory by trouncing Northeast High, 5 to

1., Germantown's record to date in the

Next Friday the High School League

leaders will have a real test when they

line-up against the Penn Freshmen.

The Red and Blue yearlings toyed with

the Atlantic City High players last

week and have a splendid record to date. The game will be played at Franklin Field and should attract con-

siderable attention, as Germantown is

on the way to another league title.

Germantown, 9; Catholic High, 2, Germantown, 12; Central, 4, Germantown, 5; Northeast, 1,



ZRYSZKO, Pole, 18 YOLSKA, Turk LONDOS, Greek, 18 TASLAK, Russian Ldwards 18, Stevens Barns 18, Juliusan

Donaghy's, 33 South 11th St. Herrman's Gymnasium, Keith Bidg,

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