

NOBODY CARES, BUT A'S CAN IMPROVE PERCENTAGE EVEN IF THEY ONLY SPLIT A DOUBLE-HEADER

"GAMS" STAGE FIELD DAY, BUT GET ALL WET WHEN "DEATH RUMOR" IS SPIKED IN TIME TO SAVE SUCKERS

BY ROBERT W. MAXWELL, Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

THE "Gams," which is a way of referring to the gentlemen who risk real money on ball games to win more real money, had a field day yesterday.

They killed Bobby Messel, a poor, inoffensive ball player. They placed a fly in the hands of Del Pratt. They ruined Duffy Lewis and presented Babe Ruth with nothing but a broken leg, a busted shoulder and three cracked ribs. Taken all in all, the Gams were real busy and overlooked nothing. The New York Yankees were all shot to pieces and didn't have as much chance to win the pennant as the Westmoreland Boys' Club on the North Side.

But there's a nasty slip twist the hip and the lip, as they now say in our very best circles. The Gams planned what might be termed a "coup d'etat," which is slang for a general clean-up of dough. Flushed with the success which rewarded their efforts out in Chicago last week when they caused a lot of excitement before the game with fake telegrams, the "Gams" tried the same stunt with variations. Instead of removing a pitcher, they killed off all of the principal actors, hoped to get away with it, and when the dear old public decided the Yankees didn't have a chance and put them on the short end of a 5 to 1 bet, they could step in, lay the kale and cop. That was the big idea.

However, the plot was nipped at the start, so the follow-up never came to light. Quick work proved the entire thing a terrible fake and nobody flopped. All of the brain work was naught.

Betting on ball games never will be stopped, but when the gamblers, those cold-blooded harpies who have ruined everything they ever have been connected with, try to fix ball games and put over stunts like that of yesterday, it's about time to do something. A man who flips a coin and takes an even chance is a sport. The guy who rings in the loaded die and marked cards should be lynched. Baseball is a healthy sport, but there must be a general house cleaning. Every ball player who is seen talking with gamblers should be closely watched and fired off the team if suspicion gets too strong. No more of this official whitewashing like the Hal Chase affair.

THE mere fact that the reported death of Messel and Pratt and the serious injury to Ruth and Lewis caused relatives to send frantic messages to Cleveland and was a severe shock to every one did not mean anything to the Gams. They placed a crooked deal above everything else.

Palace for Real Boxing

THERE has been plenty of scandal in the last couple of days. That thing at the Ice Palace on Wednesday night turned out the way it should, when both McVey and Wills, accused and found guilty of perpetrating a brother act, were chased from the ring and their money held up. If we had more of that, boxing would be in a healthier condition.

Boxers forget that Philadelphia is the greatest boxing city in the world. For the last 100 years the game has flourished here and the fans know what it's all about. But that's not strange. Anybody can get hep in a century.

However, the Philadelphia audiences are critics and can tell a fake without a diagram. They scented something suspicious on Wednesday night and did not hesitate to tell the world. The action of George Pawling in demanding a complete investigation is commendable. You shows that he is on the level and will do all in his power to give the local fans a run for their money.

The match looked good on paper because Wills had just beaten Fulton. He was in line for a match with Dempsey, and a lot of people wanted to see him in action. Judging from his work, he is in shape to meet the champion. A complete investigation is being conducted, but felt satisfied that the boxers were caught in their act and failed to get away with it.

The Ice Palace has taken a stand for real and up boxing. No suspicious matches will be held, and the pub-

lic knows it will not be bunched. George Pawling is willing to go the limit to give his patrons what they want and will profit by the mistake of Wednesday night.

ALL of which shows that no matter how dark the clouds are, there always is a silver lining.

Once Again the Lead Switches

FOR the last three months the Dodgers and the Reds have been playing tag with first place. The Robins are "it" today. They won one game from the Cards, while Pat's champs split even with the Braves. This put Ebbetts' laborers in the lead with an unhealthy margin of one point. The Giants lost and now are two full box scores in the rear of the Reds.

Our Phils almost got a decision yesterday over the Pirates. One thing that topped the Cravathians from at least tying the figures in the ninth was a neat running catch of Paulette's fly by Bigbee. Stengel was on third and two were out at the time. If Bigbee had not been quite so lively on his feet, there would have been a different story to tell or words to that effect. However, our Phils lost. Score, 7-6.

Irish Meusel was in a happy mood after he discovered that the rumor of his brother's death was a lot of hoo. He celebrated in a fitting manner. He slammed out a single, a double and a home run during the p. m. He drove in two runs and scored two himself. He put the Phils in the running by socking a home run in the eighth with Lebourveau on third. His efforts were of no avail in the way of victory getting, but a guy can't win a ball game by himself.

If the plot hatched by the "Gams" really had gone through and they were able to get wads of kale down on the Yanks to win, what a fine trimming they would have received, for the Indians hung it on the Yanks 10-4. Reports are that some of the Yanks believed the story and acted dead. At that, Stanley Coveleski apparently made them all turn over and play dead, for he allowed only six hits. That is all except Babe Ruth, for he it known that the Bustin' Babe connected for his forty-seventh homer of the season.

RUTH has close to twenty games in which to get three more homers to reach the fifty mark. Will he do it? You know our guess.

Benny Leonard Now on Trail of Welterweights

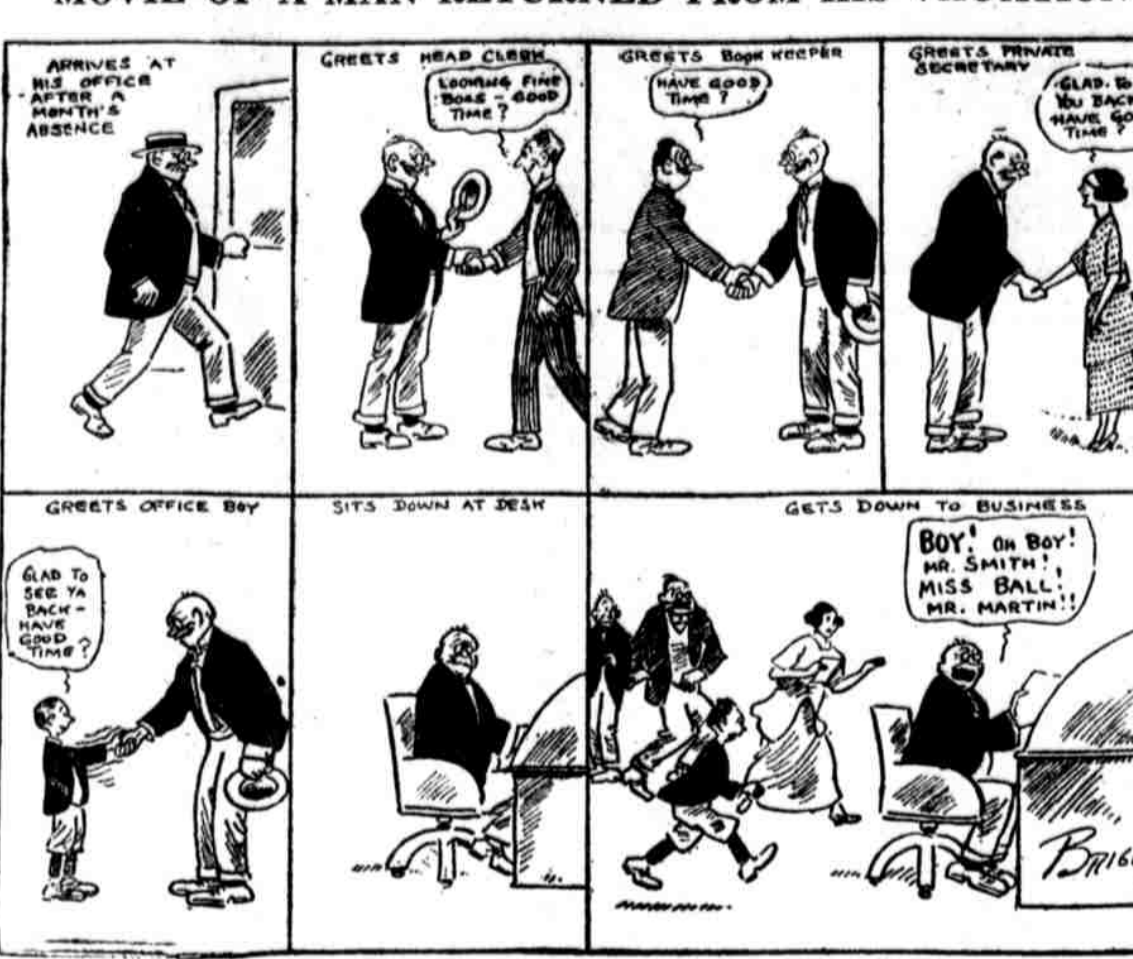
IF BENNY Leonard were to depend on meeting lightweight fights this fall, it would be a cold and cruel winter for the champion. All the stars—Lew Tendler, Willie Jackson, Johnny Dundee and Eddie Fitzsimmons—are passing up Benny, and Bill Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice had nothing on them. It is all about a pound of flesh, or maybe, several pounds. Tex Rickard, of the Madison Square Garden, N. Y., has made efforts to match Leonard with various of the lightweight, but they all say "Nothing doing." One hundred and thirty-five pounds, eight hours before the bout, is entirely too big a handicap in weight to give Leonard.

All of which means that the "lightweight" champion must meet men in the welterweight class in order to get action. It looks as if most of Leonard's future opponents will be boxers who weigh in the 140s, and Herman Taylor, manager, matchmaker, promoter, n'everything, of the Camden Sportsman's Club, gets the honor of being the first man to stack Leonard against a fistman in whose division Benny will appear in the future. Knockout Loughlin, of South Bethlehem, is to be Benny's vis-a-vis tonight over across the river.

THE Leonard-Loughlin bout on the four-bout program arranged for the reopening of the Camden Sportsman's Club is to be a twelve-round affair. Twelve-round matches will be put on throughout the regular season of 1920-21. Matchmaker Taylor says his motto will be "A champion in every show."

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MOVIE OF A MAN RETURNED FROM HIS VACATION



BOXING IN CAMDEN RESUMED TONIGHT

Leonard to Go on in 12-Round Headliner With K. O. Loughlin; Three Other Bouts Scheduled

OTHER RING GOSSIP

By LOUIS H. JAFFE PHILADELPHIA and Camden became related last season, from a boxing standpoint, when a permit was issued for bouts at the Third Regiment Armory, Haddon avenue and Mickle street, under the auspices of the Camden Sportsman's Club, of which Herman Taylor is the man behind the gun. Fans from both cities rubbed elbows at several shows held last year, and, beginning tonight, the fans of Philly and the little burg across the river will resume relationship.

This evening will mark the reopening of the Camden Sportsman's Club, when Herman, whose intimate friends call him "Muggsy," puts on his initial program of the 1920-21 season. Taylor conceived the idea of how to give fans in this vicinity an opportunity to see Champion Benny Leonard after a number of other matchmakers had failed to locate opponents for the titleholder.

It is said that Benny has outgrown the lightweight class, boxers of that division have been passing him up. So "Muggsy" got a welterweight to knock on Leonard, and now everything is ready for the opening of the scheduled twelve-round match this evening.

Knockout Loughlin, of South Bethlehem, is to be the party of the second part. There has been a lot of gossip going the rounds that Loughlin is a middleweight, but K. O. said here this morning that he would dispense this respect, who will step on the scales before entering the ring against Leonard and you can make a little bet that I will not weigh more than 145 pounds.

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HOBART READY TO START PRACTICE

West Philadelphia Football Team Will Work Out at Sherwood Recreation Grounds

The Hobart Football Club, of West Philadelphia, one of the oldest teams in the city, has begun active preparations for the season and will begin practice next week at the Sherwood Recreation grounds. Nearly all of last year's players are expected to answer the first call, and, with the addition of several new candidates, a well-balanced team is assured.

Hobart is arranging a hard schedule and has booked games with Lex, of Washington; Lancaster Professionals and Melrose, of Atlantic City. Several dates are held open for teams that have always appeared on the schedule, and the managers of Holmsburg, Conshohocken, Hridesburg, Frankford, Riverside and Phoenixville are requested to get in touch with Hap Spangler, at 1020 Chestnut street, or phone Walnut 4361 before 4 p. m.

The Wheeling Club, also of West Philadelphia, will hold its first Saturday afternoon at the P. R. Y. M. C. A. grounds, near the University City station, on Wednesday night. "I quit," says Jack, "and George Pawling will tell you the same thing." President Pawling reiterated Hamlin's statement, saying that he had accepted the latter's resignation yesterday at noon.

Football Begins at Rutgers New Brunswick, N. J., Sept. 10.—Football practice for the Rutgers College gridiron warriors begins today in earnest, and Coach George Foster Sanford will for the first time have a chance to look over what is left of the "Big Red" machine of last year and the new stars that must be fitted into the machinery. Thirty-five candidates reported yesterday, but the day was spent only in issuing equipment and in conference between Coach Sanford and the prospective wearers of the Scarlet.

Yale Football Squad Numbers Eighty-five New Haven, Conn., Sept. 10.—Yale's football squad was increased to eighty-five candidates by the arrival of John Acosta and five third-string players. Acosta was Yale's leading guard last season and reported in perfect physical condition. No coaching additions were recorded, but Chief Tad Jones joined Harry Vaughan, who is end rush director. Two of the leading and cashed fighters injured their knees and will be benched for several weeks. Harry Graham opened an old wound in trying quick starts and Jack Gauss wrenched his knee in falling after a tackle.

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1920 PROVING YEAR OF RECORD-WRECKERS

Babe Ruth and Man o' War Setting Marks to Shoot At. Tilden-Johnston Best Tennis Duo Ever. Watch Baseball Crooks

By GRANTLAND RICE Connie Mack's Soliloquy How speed the ages of their way— How old Doc Time must flutter by; How brief, alas! each vanished day; As centuries arise and die; For here I see it jotted down Through history's fast spun intrigue, When Babylon was quite a town— And I—once led the league.

But yesterday J. Caesar cleaned The pennants up in vanished Gaul; But yesterday Kid David beamed Golath with his softest ball; For I remember from the maid— Of things that were—with full fatigue When Cleopatra knocked 'em cold And I—once led the league.

Within my den at night I read Forgotten legends of the years; I trace the path of the sword Of Hector's fall and Helen's tears; Eye—back beyond Time's fading ridge (How swiftly, friends, the laurel sags) When old Horatius held the Bridge And I won all the flags.

Record Tossers WITH "Babe" Ruth safely beyond the last barrier and Man o' War within a paltry \$37,000 of passing Domino's record earnings, 1920 will end as one of the fanciest little record-wreckers we have had in a long time.

The "Babe" adjusted his batting eye upon fifty homers this season, and this mark will be something for the future generation to shoot at, even if he goes no further. We could say now that it will never be broken by any one else, but past prophets doubtless uttered the same words when Perry Werden lifted his forty-fifth home run out of the lot some twenty years ago.

Man o' War up to the present week had won \$155,565. This still leaves him \$30,985 back of Domino's mark of \$186,550. Before he has led his dual field Man o' War, like Ruth, will leave a target for coming generations to tackle.

Which reminds us that for all the millions interested one way or another in sport, the present generation has come upon a lucky draw in having a Ruth and a Man o' War to watch in one season.

Thirty or forty years from now this generation can stroke its thin, gray whiskers and squelch the boasters of 1950 with the following rebuttal: "Yes, 1920 was the present period, but he couldn't hit a lick with old 'Babe' Ruth. Why, thirty years ago I saw the 'Babe' hit one so far," etc., etc.

And the generation of 1950 will be forced to fade out of the argument unless it can offer a slugger with sixty or more home runs or a race horse able to break three or four records and earn \$400,000 or \$500,000.

AND yet we doubt that the "Babe" will ever make a great golfer. In his present profession he has developed the habit of losing entirely too many balls.

"JUST what is a duffer in golf?" asks an exchange. A duffer is any person who doesn't come out bawling with his frontpiece knotted in pain because he got only a 78. He only constitutes 98.2 per cent of the entire field.

L. K. J.—Chandler, Egan, Traver, Quimet and Gardiner all won top championships before they were twenty-one years old.

Tilden and Johnston "HAS this country ever developed two finer tennis players at one time than Tilden and Johnston?" a tennis fan asks.

Not that we know of. Johnston won the championship from a fine field in 1915. In 1916 he and Tilden reached the final round to get together. In 1920 Tilden won the British championship, and on Monday the same pair again reached the final frame.

England has had the two, Doherty rulling together. Australia has had Brookes and Wilding. America some years ago had Larned and McLoughlin. America today has Tilden and Johnston.

What expert can pick the strongest pair from these leading combinations? Johnston won the 1915 title, but Brookes and Wilding were stronger than Tilden and Johnston? Or, is it sufficient to suggest that right now Johnston and Tilden lead the field—and right now is the time along the calendaric chart which means the most?

THE first man to protect his game in connection with any whippersaw suggested scandal in the ball player's field. And the time seems to be about right for each ball player to keep close watch on the actions of any suspected party where, if any crookedness is found, the application of three large bats against any crook's concrete dome should have an instant and highly beneficial effect. The player can guard his own game from the inside better than any magistrate or detective can from the outside. And it might be further suggested that there has been entirely too much smoke from the last two seasons. The smoke is the present period.

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Bodie May Leave Hospital Today Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 10.—"Bing" Bodie, outfielder of the New York American League club, who was injured in an exhibition game with the Pirates here, announced this afternoon that he hoped to go to New York some time today.

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They have just arrived and you have never seen a better combination of smart style and sure service. Made to sell at sixteen dollars. OUR SPECIAL EARLY SEASON PRICE IS ONLY THIRTEEN-EIGHTY-FIVE!

Best quality Brown Shell Cordovan of a smooth finish and a lasting luster. 'TIS A FEAT TO FIT FEET Dalsimer THE BIG SHOE STORE 1204-06-08 Market St. QUALITY AND VALUE

MANY STAR MILERS IN LEGION GAMES

Ray, Shields, Connolly and Curtis Among Competitors; Entries Close Tomorrow

A great field of milers will toe the mark in the first annual American Legion Field Day, which will take place on Franklin field on September 18. Several of the Olympic distance men will be the headliners in the event.

Included among the entries are Joe Ray, the famous Illinois runner; Larry Shields, the Meadowbrook boy who was the first American to finish in the Olympic 1500-meter race; Johnny Connolly and Cutbill, of the Boston A. A.; Mike Devany, of New York, and Curtis, of the navy; Larry Brown, the Penn miler, also is entered.

The marathon also is attracting a large number of star entries. The course is sixteen miles and thirty-six paces are offered in place winners. The runners will start at Villanova and go west two miles on Lancaster pike, back on the pike to Overbrook, over and through the Park by way of the west river drive to Thirty-fourth street and Fairmount avenue, and then down to Franklin field. One lap around the Penn center path will complete the course.

Entries close tomorrow at the American Legion headquarters, 1011 Chestnut street.

Aside from the events already mentioned, the following will be held: National one-mile intercity relay, 100 yards dash, 600 yards run and one-mile run; events closed to legion posts of Pennsylvania, Delaware and South Jersey; Medley race, one-mile relay, 100 yards dash, 75 yards dash for nurses and tug-of-war and tug-of-war, novelty race, bayonet race, bugle competition and wall scaling. Events open to A. A. U. athletes: 100 yards dash, 220 yards dash, 440 yards run, 880 yards run, high jump, pole vault, broad jump, shot-put and one-mile.

STENTON PLAYS SOUDERTON First Game of Interleague Series to Be Played Tomorrow