

EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1921

MANAGER RICKEY SEES IN YOUNG TOPERCER, DESPITE HIS SPECS, A 1921 ACE FOR THE CARDS

# CONNIE MACK THINKS HIS TEAM OF YOUNG PLAYERS IS DUE TO VACATE BASEMENT THIS SEASON

### By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

### Lake Charles, March 14.

**CONNIE MACK** is spending an enjoyable spring down U here and has allowed his usual stern grim countenance to relax into a smile. In fact, he is developing wrinkles around the eves instead of over them. He is screne and happy, for he has an idea that the old cellar will vacated this season and his ball club will be out in the open making things interesting for the other pennant contenders.

For six years, the Athletics were unable to finish first in the American Lengue because they were stymied by the seven other clubs. They made history, however, broke world's records, and their deeds of daring can be found in the six best cellars published by the league from 1915 to 1920 inclusive.

Strange as it may seem, the public still has confidence in Connie Mack. True, he finished last six times, but it also must be remembered that he finished first six times. Sort of a fifty-fifty proposition as 'twere. No other manager has been able to pull that stunt. Pennants are shoe polish for Connie. He either was shining at the head or at the foot

His ball club this year is one which might cause some trouble. By that I mean it should win more games than last year and probably climb out of eighth place. It is doubtful if it staggers into the first division, but every body will be satisfied in Philadelphia if it plays such a dashing, daring game of ball that it comes under the wire a snappy six or seventh. Nothing could be fairer than . . .

T IS necessary to let one's imagination run loose I when doping out the chances of the 1921 edition of the Athletics. This is because the same ball club which finished last in 1920 will start the 1921 derby. Therefore, it can be argued that there can be no im provement, and for that reason, no hope for the coming year

## Why Connie Smiles

BUT Connie thinks differently and that's the reason he s wearing the sunny smile.

"I have a young ball club." he said. "and it is improving every year. Since 1915 I have been experimenting. trying out hundreds of players and trying to get together what I believe to be a winning combination. I did this because it was necessary to build from the bottom. could have purchased old players, but in that case. I would have had to begin all over again in a couple of years. Therefore, I made up my mind to get a young ball club which could stick together for some years, and I believe I have almost done it.

By that I mean I have some pretty good ball players and instead of having seven or eight weak positions to fill, this year I have but two. Perhaps I might have to find stronger men for shortstop and first base, but the other positions are well taken care of. Joe Dugan is the best third baseman in the league, Jimmy Dykes is a corking second sacker and Tilly and Frank Walker and Welsh are high-class outfielders. The pitching staff is one of the best I ever have had and Perkins is a sweet catcher.

When you figure it out, you will find that the American League is shy of young ball players. There hasn't been a youngster of prominence break into the league since George Sisler. Just figure it out for yourself and you will find that I am right. The older players are getting older every year and perhaps not so effective. They must crack some time, and when they do, the young ball elub will step out in front.

"The White Sox are in bad shape this season and I can't see where any of the other clubs have been strengthened materially with the exception of the We have a good chance to do something, and unless I miss my guess, we will have a mighty interesting ball club.

"My youngsters are showing more confidence this year are playing better ball and look more like finished players. The days of experimenting are over for me, but I will not overlook an opportunity to get the best players on the market

tutor has been in his shell, working quietly toward one certain thing, took a lot of abuse and slams in silence and labored harder and more faithfully than any other manager in the big leagues. To hear him say that the outlook is brighter means a whole lot. Connie seldom orates through his Mackin.

## Good Flinging Staff

**DUT** this is the first year since I have been coming down B south that Mack virtually is standing pat on his team of the year before. In the past he shipped players below the Mason and Dixon line by the carload, and once the squad numbered forty five men. In seven years, meaning from 1915 to date, he has tried out 328 players, and of this number only thirty remain. That is the size of the present squad.

The pitching staff impressed me most after watching the practice for a week. To my mind, the Athletics have the best balanced bunch of flingers in the league, and many clubs will be surprised. It is the same as last year, but the boys have had a year's experience under their belts

Ed Rommell, twenty three years old, should be a star This kid has improved wonderfully and has developed a knuckle ball which is said to be more effective than the one used by Cicotte. He did well last year, but is better than that now. Rollie Navlor, Scott Perry, Bryan Harris, Bob Hasty. Dave Keefe, Roy Moore, Lyle Bigby and 'Slim'' Slappy are the left-overs from last year, and are in excellent condition. Charlie Eckert, a Philadelphia semi-pro.; Heimach, of Camden, N. J.; Barrett, of Cambridge, Mass., and Wilbur Ray, of Stillwater, Okla., are the recruits, but Eckert is the only one who will survive the training trip.

lvy Griffin is playing first: Dykes, second: Galloway, short: Dugan, third; Tilly Walker, left field; Frank Walker, center field, and Welsh, right field. In addition. Connie has Frank Brazill, McCann, Shannon and Witt as infielders, and Myaft and a kid named Johnson, from Worcester. Mass., to sit in when the outfield goes flooie.

C PERKINS is regarded as one of the best catchers in the league, and will take care of most of the work behind the plate. He will be assisted by Johnny Walker and Bill Styles, youngsters who were with the club last year, but sent out for further polishing.

## Brazill's Good Record

T IS possible that Brazill will be tried at first base. This young man is but twenty one years, but has had quite a He was picked up by Brooklyn in 1919 and Career. armed to Hartford, where he led the league in hitting. In midseason he was shipped to Winnipeg, where he finished first in that circuit. Last year he was tried out by Connie Mack and at the end of the training trip was left in Atlanta. He was there a couple of months and was the champion batter of the Southern Association. Near the end of the year he was sent to St. Paul, where he led that league.

Quite a record for a youngster, and Connie intends to ise him this season. He has a grand average of about 340, which is good in any circuit

Brazill played first base for Brooklyn in the training rip games in 1919 and did very well. Since then he has been working at second and third. He has the earmarks of a star and might born into the line-up of the Athletics.

What this ball club needs more than anything else is confidence. So many games have been lost and the team has finished in last place so many times, that it is possible that the players have lost the old fight and will go into the race with the idea of taking a beating and do the high dive.

## THE players are here, the manager is one of the most efficient in the business, and it looks as if

and morale-to pull the team out of the mud.

was up to the well-known twins-psychology



# Springy Divots From the Golf Links

By SANDY MCNIBLICK

ANY a dusty bag of golf clubs has H B Swoope, H D Herring and S. K. Phillips.

put in action these last few days. Saturday was a regular gala day at the clubs, for instance. Anybody wan-dering overcoatless along the ronds might have thought he was witnessing some inside stuff at some of the south-ern spring training camps, for play at some of the clubs was actually held up, so clogged were the courses with inksmen. They were freeing limbs from winter kinks, like flannel pants which submer south a south of the south-some the clubs was actually held up. so clogged were the courses with inksmen. They were freeing limbs from winter kinks, like flannel pants

White Sulphur Springs promises a sizaling spring tourgey April 12 to 18. Outmet. Kirkby, Gardner, Dean, Newton, Wood, Adair and Schlotman haye all accepted in-vitations to play, it is said. from winter kinks, like flannel pants slaking out the moth-halls. Whitemarsh looked like an overflow

meeting of an invitation tournament. was estimated that nearly 150 play reed off there.

The course was a little soft for snappy scoring, though "Bill" Baude blushingly tore up a card because it wusn't quite as good as his now fa-mous S2 made a couple of weeks ago. J. Wood Platt, city champion, got in bluck makes up practice with his CAGE TOURNEY AT PENN

a little tuning-up practice with his brother "Zimmer" Platt, Roxborough's latest benedict.

High and Preparatory Schools Start 1916. latest benedict. The "winter union" golfers at other clubs were also joined by many "sum-mer only" golfers who were unable to resist the call of the screaming iron Championship Series Tonight The University of Pennsylvania basketball tourney for high and pre-paratory schools to decide the cham-plenship of the district within a radius

and the bouncing brassie. Now begins the turf to brighten up. Tall you what-you'll gobb have a standing engagement of a Sunday. Monday. Tuesday. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday on the links, and the parsword is-''ff i hadn't taken four putts on three greens-'' inght on the half hour, concluding at

Thirty-seven schools from three states, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and It must have been a highly entertaining off match Saturday in the Paim Beach nais when Hugh L. Willoughby, Merion let Al Mender, Siwanoy, who will give nathematically perfect odds for himself. Delaware, have entered the tourney, which promises from the caliber of the es from the calibe

## PENN FIVE FACES RUTH VERSUS SISLER PROBLEM IN FIGGERS

Ruth Led in Homers, 54-19; Sisler in Triples, 18-9, and

Doubles, 49-36-He Fanned 19 Times to the Babe's 80-Is Pass Better Than Homer?

## INTERCOLLEGIATE LEAGUE

We ARE now dwelling in the reign measure for the keen zip that marks of the two Georges-Sister and Yale's spring training. And, inasmuch as they promise the two foremost figures in the Blue machine will need a running start. Ruth.

realm of swat this season, a comparison and it is now getting this impetus from of their last records might not be Tad Jones, who is leaving as little as amiss.

miss. In the way of total bases, for ex-mple, you may not have known that between October 1 and November 25 ample, you may not have known that between October 1 and November 23 Sisler last season led Ruth by 300 to can't be done unless a coach has ex-288, and this in spite of the fact that Ruth gathered 216 bases by his home Copyright. 1921. All rights rest Copyright, 1921. All rights reserved

runs alone. Ruth led in home runs by 54 to 19. But Sisler led in three-base hits by a span of 18 to 9 and in doubles by 49 Olympic Championship Falcon Team to 36.

## **Two Peculiar Features**

SISLER, with 10 home runs and 49 doubles, was quite a slugger on his own hook, yet rival pitchers fanned him ice sport here will open at the Ice Palace tonight when the Falcons world's champions, oppose a team of but 19 times, while they booked Ruth for 80. All Stars in the Olympic kings' first

A still more peculiar feature is that of a three-game series. while pitchers walked Ruth 148 times they only "issued 46 passes to Sisler. Speaker drew 97 passes, many of them Some wonderful hockey is about to be served. The All Stars team that will play tonight surprised by defeating intentional walks. Winnipeg last Wednesday night. There

Just why pitchers refused to walk Sisler, when he was capable of batting .407. a hard, dangerous hitter in a pinch, is one of the mysteries of the

Sisler was a harder, more dangerous hitter than Speaker, yet Speaker was walked more than twice as often. Scoring Values

THERE used to be an old slogan to this effect-"A base on balls is as good as a hit."

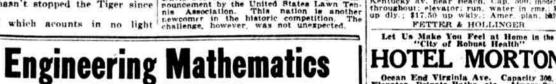
This series to have been proved in the case of Sisler and Ruth. Sisler, with 257 base bits and 466 passes, scored 137 runs. Ruth, with 172 base hits and 148 passes, scored 158 runs. One statis-ti tician has figured it out that Ruth won 11 games by his home guns and 13 games by his 148 passes. Which is about the correct ratio. Many a pitcher passed Ruth last sea-ti for said sawe a ball game and lost the son to save a ball game and lost the first 303 times, this in spite of the fact through base hits and passes, reached first 303 times, this in spite of the fact through base hits and passes hits than the passe and Southworth Repo

Ruth did. The carnival between these two emi-

Neuritis from which he is said to have suffered intermittently for many seasons. Is now advanced as the main reason Chick Evans will not make the trip abroad. It is also rumored that Bobby Jones has en-countered parental objection to his proposed voyage. Prospects for the amateur team look darker as the evenings get lighter.

YALE has won only one football

I game from Harvard since 1909-and this happens to be in 1921. The Buildog hasn't stopped the Tiger since L game from Harvard since 1909-Ind this happens to be in 1921. The Buildog hasn't stopped the Tiger since 1916. All of which acounts in no light







TEST THIS WEFK Red and Blue Must Defeat Dartmouth and Princeton to

Win Cage Title

HOCKEY KINGS HERE

Meets All-Stars Tonight

By GRANTLAND RICE 7 1. P.C. 7 1. 815 Princeton. 3 5 377 7 2. 778 Columbia 3 7 39 8 4.600 Yate. 1 8.11

The University of Pennsylvania bas-ketball team faces the acid test this week, the last of the Intercollegists League. Captain Danny McNichol and his rehorts, to win the championship, must humble Dartmouth at Hanaver Wednesday night and Princeton at Tigertown Saturday night. For the league race to end in a tie Dartmouth must win against the Red and Blue and Penn must defeat the Princeton five. A double defeat and the title goes to Coach George Zahn's five. The advan-tage is with the home teams, and Penn followers are anything but optimistic.

tage is with the home teams, and Penn followers are anything but optimistic. Princeton and Dartmouth have both succumbed to the power of the Red and Blue here, but what will happen when they meet abroad remains to be seen. Penn has been a good away team all year, losing but a single game, that to Cornell by the margin of a point. Dartmouth, with a team that her

Dartmouth, with a team that has made rapid strides from the start of the season, until today it is regarded as Winnipeg last Wednesday night. Inere the season, until today it is regarded as is plenty of power in this comination and that last game did much to bring about some real teamwork. Hill, Schnarr and Huntington are a trio of stars, who in individual play are the

equals of anything in the sport. Bierwirth and Henriques, on the line, they are the best team in the league by playing Penn a series of three games to decide the championship. have been going brilliantly, while Smart gave one of the best goal-tending exhi-

bitions of the year against Winnipeg He allowed only one goal out of thirty-WINTER RESORTS ATLANTIC CITY, N. J

THE BREAKERS Atlantic City, N. J.

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American and European plans.



ATLANTIC CITY.N.J. An American Plan Hotel Nicholson and Southworth Report Boston, March 14.—Fred Nicholson an Billy Southworth, players acquired by th Boston Nationals from Pittsburnh, have ri ported for training at the Braves' camp i Galveston. Tex. it was reported here today The squad now is virtually complete. of Distinction and Real Comfort

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latter having won the first, a fifteen-round referee's decision, and Dan re-

round referees decision, and Dan re-ently winning a ten-rounder. Joe Tiplitz and Gene Delmont, of Memphis, Tenn, a pair of sluggers, meet in the second setto, while the opener will be between Harry (Kid) Brown and Ralph Breds, of Science

Brown and Ralph Brady, of Syracuse.

Scraps About Scrappers

Genie Deimont was all confident last might when he arrived here from New York pre-pared for his bout with George Chancy at the Otympia tonight. 'So there is some doubt as to whether I will be able to go the limit with Chaney, is there' queried Gene with a smile. 'Well, there are going to be a lot of surprised Gans then. Why this Chaney match will put me right on edge for the Whittle Hotel. New York avenue hear the Maistesia was, will be a meeting place for sportsmon from all over the coun-tri.' Louistana, local veteran boxer recently made a successful comesback up the state has i times for 124-pound competition there are letters in the sports department of the Ecsive Ptall. Landsan for Hoby

Eddle Hayes, who is billed on the Orymmu program tonight is a Shenandowh light heavyweight. He weighs in the neighborhood of 165 pounds. Hayre was a member of the Shenandowh football tream that won the charmyonship of the coal resitois last measure. "If he can box as well as he plays foot-ball," said Schert W. Maxwell, who referred two of the Shensudiah games. "Hayes ought to develop into a top-notch puncher."

Rerman Taylor is figuring on breaking. Marty Burns into big-club curries next Mon-



PRODUCTS

Cut-of-Town Opponents Thursday One side of the special St. Patrick Diang Kramer, Joe Killainas, Thursday night consists of Philadeb Diang Kramer, Joe Killainas, Thursday night one State of this your to heaving a set to will construct the farmer will appear in the state of the state of

Joe Christiana is getting Eddie Wagond in fit fettie for his set-to with Darby Casher at the Tuxedo A. C. (National A. A.) on Wedneeday night. Five other bouts in addition to a hattle royal also have been arranged by lack Horgan. as follows Young beinan vs Toimmy Wilson, Harry Leonard is Johnny Smiler, Jack Howell vs. Pat Marter Harry Burke vs. Danny Buck and Jack West vs. Patay Brown.

Jack Scoodles, local trainer of boxers in-uding Lew Tendler, Danny Kramer, Kid Williams Joe Tiplits, Harry (Kid) Brown, Rilly Devine and Cliff Ber, has opened a shillard parlor at Third and Monroe streets

John S. Smith, New Jersey state boxing commissioner and formar owner of the Mala-testa Hotel, Atlantic City, has taken over the Whitle Hotel, New York avenue has the Boardwalk for the season. The Whitle, as the Malatesta was, will be a meeting place for sportsmen from all over the coun-

There are letters in the sports department of the Ergansa Public Labors for Bobby Burman Little Bear and Charley Goodman

Johnny Willette has Johnny Plazzi work-ing daily. Plazzi is unglous for a meeting with Harry Tracev. of Tloga and they may usen at the Cambria in two weeks.

Another match is the making is a return this hetween Al Fox and Philadelphia Joe Medica Fox recently stowed away Welling a forty-two seconds Welling's augoorters ave been crying Turky punch." or some-thing filse that "Marky" Williame may rue Philadelphia Joe another chance against





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William H. Wanamaker 1217-19 Chestnut Street

on any golf match. Mendes won, 3 and 2. I teams entered to be one of the best held Willoughby's soif is a matter of a short swing and stout wrists. In his erratic apells he has nothing on Mendes, who is "Old Man Takan Iron" bimeif.

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