Tris Speaker's Indians Look Like Pennant Winners in the American League This Season

CLEVELAND HAS BEST CHANCE TO HORN IN ON WORLD'S SERIES

Anything Likely to Happen in Johnson Circuit This Season, Says Bob Maxwell—Yankees Likely to Slump. Browns and Griffmen in First Division

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

ANYTHING is likely to happen in the American League this season. Two clubs stand out as the pennant contenders in the early dope, but any one of the other six entries might put on a winning streak, show a startling reversal of form, jump out in the lead and cause a lot of excitement. For the first time in years the Johnson circuit is what one might call uncertain. There are dark horses galore and the race should be interesting.

Right now, however, before any games have been played and the training season is still on, Cleveland looks like the best ball club in the league. This probably sounds strange and unusual when the New York Yankees, with their star athletes, also are among those present, but from where we are sitting the Yanks look like second place.

Funny thing about this Gotham aggregation is that the other clubs don't show any fear or trembling when the name is mentioned. Five of the other clubs say they will beat them out, despite the heavy hitters and good pitching.

Still the Yanks cannot be treated lightly. If Baker is at third; Peckinpaugh, short; Ward, second; Pipp or Meusel, first; Schang, catcher, and the outfield consisting of Bodie, Ruth and Roth, Huggins has one of the greatest hitting ball clubs ever put together. His pitching also is good, with Mays, Hoyt, Shawkey, Collins, Quinn, Piercy and Harper to do the work.

* * *

ON PAPER, this club should win, but championships seldom are decided in that manner. As one manager put it: "The team has a great attack and can hammer the ball, the pitching is good and there is no kick about the catching. Hitting and pitching are the most important things in the game. But they will not always win. The Yanks are too slow, the fielding too uncertain and the team is likely to crack and fall in a slump when least expected. I am figuring on that slump."

Forecast of Race

THE way the American League looks now, after a visit to all of the training camps and seeing each club in action, is as follows:

1—Cleveland.	5—Detroit.
2—New York.	6—Boston.
3—St. Louis.	7—Athletics.
4—Washington.	8—White Sox.

Cleveland looks the best because it won the pennant last year after a very tough battle, and the same line-up will be in the field this season. That's one reason; another is that the players are not all swelled up over their victory in the world's series, and instead of telling admiring audiences how good they are, they have been working quietly and faithfully to get into condition as if nothing out of the ordinary had happened.

Tris Speaker is responsible for this. He has maintained perfect discipline, kept the players on their toes and never has let up on the work. Instead of allowing them to rest on their laurels, he has them laboring to win new ones.

It is said that Cleveland will have a hard time of it because the other clubs will fight in every game, and the schedule will be a strenuous one. This is true, but how about last year? The Indians were picked to win the flag, and it was tough sledding from the start. They showed the proper spirit in making every game a hard one and never admitted defeat. This year it will be more of the same, and if the pitchers come through, Cleveland has the edge in the pennant race.

St. Louis ranks third because of the outfield, which consists of Tobin, Jacobson, Williams and a couple of likely looking kids, and the infield with Sisler, Gerber and Earl Smith on the job. Second base was open, but Kid Gleason seems to have filled the bill. Shocker, Davis, Bayne, Deberry and a few rookies are expected to do well.

However, with a man like Sisler on the club and a conservative manager like Fohl, the Browns might develop into one of those dark horses. They should get off to an early start.

* * *

WASHINGTON also is uncertain, but Clark Griffith says he will win the pennant if Walter Johnson's arm is strong enough to win his usual twenty-five ball games. The team is evenly balanced and will be dangerous.

Scramble in Second Division

THERE is a mad scramble in the second division. Nobody can tell what will happen. Detroit is placed fifth because of the many veterans, the new spirit and the new manager, Tyrus Raymond Cobb. Ty is anxious to make good and will work his head off to accomplish something. He has the players, and if they get off to a good start they will be well up in the race. If McInnis reports to Boston the Red Sox will have a pretty fair ball club, with "Stuffy" on first; Pratt, second; Scott, short, and Vitt, third; and Menoskey, Liebold and Collins in the outfield. The pitching is fair, the catching none too strong, but the club, with McInnis, will make the other teams hustle.

Connie Mack has been promoted to seventh place. He has a nice-looking ball club this year and is likely to do something. He is standing pat on last year's line-up, and while first base and shortstop could be strengthened, the weakness is not so bad as it might be. Connie has one of the best catchers in the league in Perkins, and his pitching staff is second to none. After lingering in the cellar for six years it looks as if the Athletics would get out in the sunlight.

* * *

THE White Sox, all torn and ragged, are awarded last place. Starting the season with one catcher, two pitchers, one infielder and two outfielders, Gleason had to pick virtually a new team from the minors. It is an experiment, and while every one wishes him success, it is doubtful if the team gets any place this year.

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FRED MERKLE MAY JOIN THE PHILLIES

Veteran First Sacker to Return to Majors From Rochester, Is Report

QUAKERS START NORTH

By SPICK HALL

Darlington, S. C., April 1.—When the Phillies arrived here today there were buzzings in the air. Although Manager Bill Donovan made no statement, it appears that there is a possibility of Fred Merkle joining the Phillies.

Fred is playing first base for George Stallings' Rochester club, and he is in fine shape. Stallings has a very good ball club, and, while it isn't likely that he would want to part with Merkle, he probably would do so if the Phils' offer justified a change.

There is no doubt that if Stallings is willing to consider letting Merkle go, the Phils will offer either to purchase him outright or to trade him for some of the young pitchers now on Donovan's roster.

Getting Merkle would in no way interfere with the proposed trade with Brooklyn, in which Stengel is slated to go to the Dodgers for Al Mamaux and Ray Schmandt. In case deals go through, Merkle would be used at first base immediately, while Schmandt was being groomed for the job. Schmandt, besides being tried at first, probably would be used at second base in some of the games, because he has played that position more than any other.

Not a Bonehead

Merkle, in spite of his having pulled one of the worst bonehead plays in baseball history, is not a bonehead. On the contrary, he is one of the smartest players that ever performed in the major leagues and he is so considered by McGraw and every other man who really knows baseball.

Merkle, of course, is not exactly a youngster, but, like Art Fletcher, he has a lot of baseball left in him and he would be just the man to help the Phils out in their present trouble.

It was in 1910 that Merkle pulled the play that made him famous with reverse English. Merkle was on first base in the final inning and failed to go to second base and touch the bag after a base hit by McCormick had been made, sending in Bridwell with what should have been the winning run.

Johnny Evers, playing with Frank Chance's Chicago Cubs, was the man who saw Merkle's mistake and who got the ball from Artie Hoffman, touched second base and prevented the Giants from winning the game and pennant.

That game was a tie and when it was played off the Cubs won, annexing the flag, only to receive a severe drubbing by Connie Mack's Athletics in the world series.

While Merkle's play brought down the calumny of newspapers and fans on his head, the fact that Johnny Evers was the only man on the field who noted the mental error, proves conclusively that any one under the same circumstances might have done the same thing.

Play Rochester

The Phils were scheduled to play the Rochester club here this afternoon and it may be that Manager Donovan will be able to talk terms to George Stallings right away, although it isn't likely that he would make any move without letting President Baker in on the secret.

All of the Phils were tired out today by the long ride from Jacksonville, which began last night at 8 o'clock. This morning they had breakfast at Florence. Tonight both clubs will leave here and play tomorrow afternoon in Cheraw, S. C., a few hours' journey from here.

The Phillies finished their stay in Florida yesterday after having not lost a single day's practice. It is true that the rain yesterday stopped the game with Washington in Jacksonville after the first inning, but the Phils had a long batting and fielding session before the conflict started.

Shubert Outpoints Waltz

Hartford, Conn., April 1.—Al Shubert, of New Bedford, Mass., featherweight champion of New England, and Sammy Waltz, of Hartford, fought twelve fast rounds here. Newspaper writers were not unanimous in their verdict. The Hartford Courant gave the bout to Shubert on points.

AND THEN HE TOOK UP FISHING

ANGLERS, GET THE HOOK! TROUT SEASON IS OPEN

Good Sport Promised Nimrods in New Jersey Lakes

If you like fishing, especially trout fishing, this is the day you celebrate, all of which means that the season for the wel-known "speckled beauties," opened this morning in New Jersey.

Trout fishing is great sport and judging by the number of angling licenses issued both to natives of New Jersey and to residents of Pennsylvania, there are thousands who are going to enjoy the thrills of the game while the season lasts.

Since the New Jersey Fish and Game Commission has made a survey of the lakes and streams in the various counties, trout fishing has been extended to virtually every section of the state. Thousands of rainbow and brook trout, which were raised at the Hackettstown hatchery, will afford high-class sport for the nimrods in the northern section, while the browns will give the devotees a tussle for supremacy in the South Jersey lakes.

Two popular angling points for Philadelphia, Norristown, Reading and Lancaster enthusiasts over the next week end will be Union lake at Millville, and Sunset lake at Bridgeton. These ponds were stocked with thousands of specimens.

TO OPEN SEASON APRIL 17

Seven Teams Will Compete in Interclub Baseball League

The Interclub Baseball League held its seventeenth annual meeting at the Racquet Club and accepted the applications of the Second City Troop and the Germantown Cricket Club, a former member, making seven clubs in all which will play for the championship this year.

The clubs were represented by the following: Philadelphia Cricket Club, Alexander D. Thayer, captain; Graham Dougherty, manager. Germantown Cricket Club, Roy R. Coffin, captain; Fred G. Henry, manager. Princeton Club, Bernard C. Law, captain; William Rayhill, manager. Troop A, D. A. Duncan, captain; William McCarty, manager. Second City Troop, J. F. Neill, captain; William McCoach, manager. Racquet Club, De Benneville Bell, captain; S. Bowman Wheeler, manager. Fourth Street Club, A. R. Smiley, captain; W. K. Kurtz, manager.

The former officers were re-elected as follows: Laurence C. Fuller, president, Racquet Club; Alexander D. Thayer, vice president, Philadelphia Cricket Club; W. W. Kurtz, Jr., secretary, Fourth Street Club, and Joseph C. Thayer, treasurer, Philadelphia Cricket Club.

PENN NINE HOME AFTER TRIP SOUTH

Quakers Practice on Franklin Field Today for Opening Here Tomorrow

TO MEET BOWDOIN TEAM

Penn's baseball squad has returned to Philadelphia after its southern trip and will resume practice on Franklin Field this afternoon in preparation for its official opening of the college season tomorrow afternoon. Bowdoin's nine will be the opposition.

The Quakers' hopes yesterday of winning from Johns Hopkins in Baltimore and in that way getting an even break on the trip away were smashed to smithereens because of the heavy rain there. It was pouring so hard shortly after noon that Coach Cariss and his Red and Blue team took an early train for Philadelphia, arriving here last night.

Coach Cariss intended to pitch Doug Sheffey, former South Philadelphia High School lad, who looked so good against Georgetown last Monday. Sheffey probably will be saved for the game with Bowdoin. Stout, the Ashley, Pa., newcomer, who beat Catholic University, is also available.

Mike Whitehill, Penn's big first baseman, who suffered a sprained ankle in the Catholic game, went direct from Annapolis to his quarters in West Philadelphia. He still limps badly and will not be able to play for some time.

Coach Cariss was impressed with the hitting of Al Mouradian on the trip. The former Central High outfielder made four hits in eleven times up for an average of .363. His home run at the Navy was one of the longest hits made there in years.

NEW FORD PARTS
Ring and pinion gears, $4.50 per set.
Axle shafts, $2.25.
Front springs, $2.50.
Rear springs, $10.
Windshield glass touring, $4; Sedan, $5.
Special discount to the trade.
Gears, springs and axles for all cars at low prices.
AUTO GEAR & PARTS CO.
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BELL PHONE: POPLAR 7740

College Baseball

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Fordham, 7; University of Virginia, 3.
Holy Cross, 3; Hampton Roads Naval Training Station, 1.
Columbia-Bowdoin (wet grounds).
Catholic University-Vermont (rain).
Penn-Johns Hopkins (rain).
Penn State 18; Washington and Lee, 9.
Mercer College, 1; Yale, 0 (2 innings; rain).

GAMES TODAY
Columbia vs. Bowdoin, South Field.
Holy Cross vs. Delaware, Newark, Del.
Yale vs. Mercer College, Macon, Ga.
Fordham vs. Georgetown, Washington.
Penn State vs. Navy, Annapolis.
N. C. State vs. Eton, Raleigh, N. C.
Catholic University vs. Vermont, Washington.
Darlmouth vs. University of Virignia, Charlottesville, Va.

"REFORMERS" WIN

Eighteenth Amendment Nine Defeats the Castle Kids, 7 to 3

The Eighteenth Amendment proved beyond doubt that it has a kick, although there are many that would not believe it prior to the ball game held at the Nativity field with the Castle Kids yesterday. The final score of the game was 7 to 3 in favor of the reformers.

Crane started off for the Amenders by socking a hard single to right. After a few hits had been made and one run was scored it was evident to the crowd Volstead's pets were kicking and not getting kicked.

Skelly pitched a fine game for the Amendment nine and was supported ably by McCann at short and McNally at third base. Gaynor and O'Toole performed well for the losers.

MOORE TO HURL AGAINST GIANTS

Athletics Meet New Yorkers in Mobile—Naylor and Perry Ready

DINED AT LAKE CHARLES

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger

Mobile, Ala., April 1.—Connie Mack's Athletics are scheduled to lock horns here today with John McGraw's Giants.

It was a happy band of ball tossers that broke camp at Lake Charles. The hardest part of the spring training work is over and the Mackmen are eager to get in the race for the 1921 pennant.

They have studied the reports of the other American League clubs and, after weighing what they have accomplished, they are convinced that this will be the Athletics' year, not that they have any wild ambitions of a pennant winner or even a berth in the first division. It is that they have seen the end of last place, and the Mackmen figure that getting off to a good start will mean much.

This hope is largely based upon the strength of their batteries. They point to the fact, and not without reason, that in pitchers and receivers the Athletics are better equipped than any other team in the American League.

Are Fast

An additional fact is that the Athletics are fast on their feet, and this should not be without effect in the hard battles to come. At the present time there appears to be only the one weakness of batting to overcome, and Mack and the players are confident that time will right this.

There is much special attention as to who will work for the Athletics in this afternoon's game with the Giants. No assignment has been made as yet, but appearances indicate that Moore will shoot his lefthand curves at the Giants, and that, after going four or five innings, he will be relieved by Naylor or Perry. All will depend upon the showing Roy will make in the early innings.

Moore has not pitched since Sunday, while Perry and Naylor have had three days of rest. Even Harris has had an interval of a day since working for three innings, and the same is true of Hasty and Rommel.

While there was some gloom among Mack's second squad when they witnessed the departure of the first string from Lake Charles, the Yanigans consoled themselves with the thought that, when they got started North there would be no halting this side of Baltimore. They will pass the big team at Mobile, and keep right on going, beating their teammates by nearly a week in reaching home.

Brazill Recovering

First Baseman Brazil's hand is rounding to its natural shape, and he is likely to get in this afternoon's game. According to Cy Perkins, the swelling is to be expected under the pounding the mitt of a first baseman gets. Cy says that before he learned the art of catching his hand was so bad that he could not close his fingers, and he says that when Brazill gets more familiar with his position he will not have any trouble.

The entire Athletics' squad, thirty-nine strong, were the guests before the main body left Lake Charles of Colonel Calvert, at which Manager Mack was the principal speaker.

Kirkwood Will Go Back to Australia

Pinehurst, N. C., April 1.—In connection with the current rumors that Joseph H. Kirkwood, the Australian open golf champion, had accepted or was about to accept an American engagement, Kirkwood issued the following statement at Pinehurst, signed for him by his manager, Victor East:

"I sail for England on April 12 and will return immediately after the French open and take part in the open at the Columbia Country Club. Then I am going back home and will make a tour of the larger Australian cities if there is any demand for it. My plans after that will depend on what openings are offered me. I have no American offers under consideration at present, for the simple reason that I haven't received any."

WOODS ELECTED CAPTAIN

All-Around Athlete Chosen to Lead West Catholic Nine

Jimmie Woods, all-around athlete at the West Catholic High School, was elected captain of the baseball team yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the athletic association of the institution. His election was unanimous.

Jimmie is a left fielder on the nine, and is a great hitter. He also plays quarterback on the football aggregation and guard on the basketball five. In his spare moments Jimmie performs for the track team. He is a good dash man and ca nalso throw the shot and do some broad jumping. Outside of that——.

MEMBERS' DOG EVENTS

Master Rodfield II Captures $1000 Free-for-All Stake

Medford, N. J., April 1.—With the deciding of the free-for-all stake for a purse of $1000 in the trials of the English Setter Club of America here yesterday, interest is now being centered in the members' derby and members' all-age events, that will be run off today and tomorrow.

Master Rodfield II, the property of Tracy S. Comstock, of Thomasville, N. C. made a good bid to annex the honors of the derby by his sterling exhibition in all-around hunting qualities.

Stylish Wasp captured the big stake for Miss Marion du Pont, of Montpelier Station, Va., with Guy's Romeo, owned by Fertig and Critchlow, of Titusville, finishing second in the money, while Dr. J. W. Brown's Sergy was awarded third place.

Roller Speedsters to Race

Four champion roller skaters will compete in the Third Regiment Armory events, at Broad and Wharton streets, tonight. Three events, one mile, three mile and five mile races, are listed.

SEVENTY-TWO PROS OFF AT PINEHURST

With Jim Barnes Absent, Field Has No Outstanding Favorite

KIRKWOOD MYSTERY MAN

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger

Pinehurst, N. C., April 1.—The best as well as the largest field that ever competed for the North and South open golf championship teed off here this morning. Every professional of note in the country—seventy-two in all—with one exception are taking a crack at the prize. The exception is Jim Barnes, the crack golfer of the Pelham Country Club.

The big fellow is suffering with boils on the back of his neck; he will sit on the bench during this meeting.

It is extremely unfortunate that he is unable to play, inasmuch as the field is so classy. Nobody is more disappointed than he in being forced out. It is simply another irony of fate. Barnes has taken the best care of himself the whole winter in Florida and came here Sunday night on edge for the fray. On the night he arrived a little red pimple blossomed into a flaming crimson boil, which has sapped most of the strength of the Pelham star.

Freddie McLeod, the little wizard of the Columbia Country Club, who holds the title, and Clarence Hackney, the burly Atlantic City club player, both are counted on by many to set the pace. Of course, Mike Brady, Pat O'Hara, Tom Kerrigan, Emmett French, George McLean, George Fotheringham and some of the others are being figured on.

J. H. Kirkwood, the crack player and fancy shotmaker, hailing from Australia, is the mystery man of the field. Nobody quite knows how to figure him. He showed some wonderful shots in his exhibition play and he had performed well in playing with some of the others. Many of the pros fear him while others are wagering he won't finish even among the first ten.

However, everybody feels kindly toward the lad, who is a fine young fellow of twenty-four years. He is modest and able and if he should win nobody will begrudge him his honors.

Tommy McNamara, of the Siwanoy Club, and J. Merriman, of Boston, led the parade today. This pair got away at 8:15 a. m. Hagen on his first round will play with J. H. Kirkwood.

ANOTHER FIGHT OFFER

Montreal Business Men Seek Opportunity to Meet Rickard

New York, April 1.—Although Tex Rickard has made it known that he will announce the site for the proposed Dempsey-Carpentier fight on April 9, he is still receiving offers and proposals from syndicates and cities who desire to stage the title bout.

An inference in some of the newspapers that the fight would positively be held in the United States brought forth an urgent request yesterday from a syndicate of Montreal business men, who asked Rickard to hold off naming the site until they had had an opportunity to get into conference with him.

They had apparently gained the impression that no offers from foreign countries would be further considered.

The message received yesterday from Montreal stated that a committee representing the syndicate would be in New York next week to confer with Rickard and to make a proposition which would tempt the promoter of the big fight.

NATIONAL A. A.
MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 4
Knockout Leonard vs. Harry Gordon
Danny Morgan vs. Heinie Cobb
JOE BIRD vs. JOEY WALLACE
BATTLING LEONARD vs. JOE NELSON
JOE TIPLITZ vs. WILLIE RITCHIE
Tickets at DONAGHY'S, 33 S. 11th St.

Tex Rickard Tournament
APRIL 19 AND 26—ENROLL NOW
Winners to Compete in Madison Sq. Garden
Phila. Jack O'Brien's Health System
Flesh Reducing—Body Building
Boxing taught—No punishment—Boys' Classes
S. E. Cor. 15th & Chest.—8 a. m. to 10 p. m.

INTERCOLLEGIATE BOXING TOMORROW
WEIGHTMAN HALL, 8:30 P. M.
PENNSYLVANIA
vs.
CARNEGIE INSTITUTE
All Classes From Bantam to Heavyweight
Seven in All.
Reserved seats, $1.00 at Gimbel's and A. A. Office, Franklin Field. Admission 50 cts.

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DANCING EVERY EVENING 8:30
Big Ladies' Club Dance Tonight
Mat. Sat. Afternoon—Ladies Admitted Free
Schwartz's 18-piece Orch. Sat. Night
Masquerade Dance, Friday, April 8th
$1000 IN PRIZES GIVEN AWAY.

CAMBRIA ATHLETIC CLUB
Kensington Ave. and Somerset St.
FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 1
8—CRACKERJACK BOUTS—5
2 EIGHTS AND 3 SIXES

NBT
2-Piece Golf Suit
$35.00
SOME with Knickers, some with long trousers. Light gray herringbones; brown herringbones; brownish homespuns; pepper and salt mixtures; brown overplaids.
Golf Knickers
$6.50, $7, $8, $9.50, $10
Perry & Co.
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Our Men's Shoe Department, with its seating capacity of over a hundred, was crowded last Saturday afternoon. Here's the reason.

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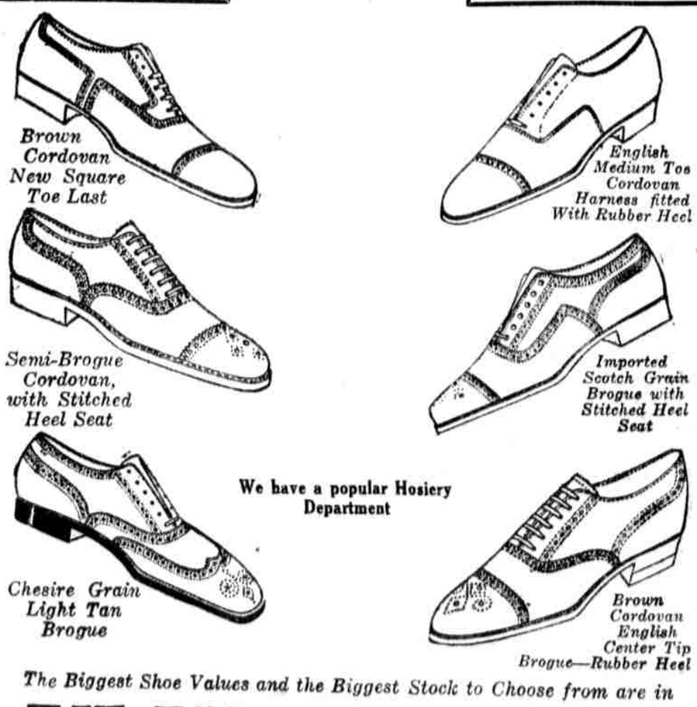
Below are a few of the models we are selling for 7.75. All of the Dalsimer standard — good shoes at the fairest possible prices.

DALSIMER 'TIS A FEAT TO FIT FEET' This Trade Mark S/D Sons on your Shoes is a guarantee that they are right

9.50
Here are some of our popular styles selling for 9.50. We have everything, from the latest style, to most conservative styles for conservative tastes.



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