Fans at Shibe Park Saturday Disprove Theory That Philadelphia Is a "Cheap" Baseball Town

PHILADELPHIA FANS WILL SUPPORT TEAM IF WE EVER GET ONE

Crowd That Turned Out to See Athletics and Yankees Saturday Proves Public Is Starving for Good Baseball—This Should Be a Tip for the Magnates

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

THERE is an impression in other cities that Philadelphia has two tail-end ball clubs because the fans will not support a high-class, high-salaried team. It has been pointed out time and again that slender crowds attended the games when Connie Mack's pennant winners were playing and the financial returns were so small that it was necessary to dispose of the stars to get enough money to pay expenses. In other words, the blame has been placed upon the public because there probably would be no comeback.

This impression has been getting stronger every year until now it is accepted as an absolute fact. Philadelphia is known as a "cheap" baseball town and that apparently settles all arguments.

However, the fans of this city are doing their very best to prove the theory is all wrong. They are eager, anxious and willing to support a good ball club and turn out in large numbers whenever the opportunity offers. It is true that the park seldom is overcrowded on week days when the team is in the midst of one of those numerous losing streaks, but on Saturdays the attendance is not so bad. Loyal rooters go out to Shibe Park hoping to see the home club win. Occasionally they get their hope.

On Saturday there was a double-header with the Yankees and the largest crowd that ever witnessed a ball game in Philadelphia was present. It is said that almost 40,000 saw the games from the park and nearby housetops. Of course, Babe Ruth was the big attraction, but another important consideration was the victory scored by the A's on the previous day. That revived the hope of the fans, who expected the home club to break even on the day or take both contests as did the Phils in Boston on Friday. But the A's flopped, lost both ends of the bill and then started on their Western trip.

The record attendance at Shibe Park proves beyond question of doubt that baseball will be supported in Philadelphia if the fans are given anything to support. They are starving for a good ball club, a club that can go out and win at least one-half of the games. For seven straight seasons we have had a tail-ender in the American League and this makes the third year the Phils have been in the cellar. You can't expect the fans to register excessive joy, hold celebrations and boast about a pair of records like that. It's a wonder they even read about the games in the papers.

Yet when the Yankees and A's staged the double-header on Saturday the park was more crowded than in the bygone days when World's Series were played. Every seat was taken, the aisles crowded, many stood up and thousands could not gain admission. Spectators paid real money to view the games from a precarious perch on the housetops and if that doesn't show real spirit we would like to know what does.

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PHILADELPHIA is not a cheap ball town. It is an unfortunate town which has been getting the worst of it for years. Saturday should be a lesson to the magnates. Thousands of dollars flowed into the box offices and this would happen frequently if the fans were given a chance to get their money's worth. You can't win with a loser and if we can't have two winning clubs give us ONE. That will go a long way toward stopping the other towns from laughing at us.

They Always Lose the Close Ones

THE Athletics today have a record of forty-one victories and sixty-nine defeats for the season. They are in eighth place because there are only eight clubs in the league. Still the team looks good and compares favorably with a majority of the others. From what we have seen it is too good a ball club to be mired in the mud.

They say that Connie has one of the best pitching staffs in the league and the best catcher in Perkins. The infield is not so bad and the outfield is capable of playing high-class baseball. Therefore, what's the answer? The boys hit well, but don't score enough runs to win.

The Athletics lack two things, to my mind. They are confidence and aggressiveness. They give up too easily. They go into a ball game expecting to be beaten and constantly are on the defensive. They are like a boxer who has been knocked out so many times that he yells "fake" when an opponent fails to sock him on the chin in the first round. That's the reason for the standing of the club and here is a little incident to prove it.

Last spring the A's played the St. Louis Cards in Houston. It was the first exhibition game of the year and nothing was at stake. It was anybody's game and the sport world didn't care a hang who won. The A's got an early lead and held it until the ninth when the Cards tied it up. Good baseball was played on both sides despite the fact it was the first game of the season.

When the A's came in to bat in the tenth inning one of the star players slumped in his seat on the bench, gazed sadly out at the diamond and said:

"This certainly is a hard game to lose. They shouldn't have tied the score. We should have won this game."

"What's the matter, are you quitting already?" demanded Tilly Walker, who sat next to him. "We haven't lost this ball game yet and we won't lose it. Get yourself together!"

As things turned out Tilly stepped up in the fourteenth inning and hit the left-field fence, scoring in the winning run.

That's the attitude of the A's and the sooner they get over it and pull themselves together it will be best for everybody concerned. The club is not an eighth-place outfit. It should be up in the race.

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HERE'S something else to think over. The A's have lost sixty-nine games this season. Of these, exactly forty-two have been lost by a margin of one or two runs. Twenty-four have been dropped by a one-run margin and the club has been defeated in thirteen extra-inning games. The punch in the pinch has been lacking.

Cleveland Continues to Win Despite Accidents

IF CLEVELAND wins the American League pennant this year it will be the greatest ball club that ever stepped on a diamond. The Indians have staggered through the season thus far on a flat tire, putting over unexpected victories and hanging on to the lead, sometimes by a hair. But they are up there giving their best in every game and the game is not over until the last man is out.

Cleveland is not a great ball club. Individually there are other clubs in the league far superior, but collectively the Indians have the edge. This is because they have the fight, the spirit and the aggressiveness. They will not quit. They run out every hit no matter where it goes. It is a hustling ball club, captained and managed by the greatest leader the game has known, Tris Speaker.

Real baseball experts who saw Cleveland play here and then had a look at the Yankees said that the New York Club should be at least ten games ahead in the pennant race. Huggins has a great ball team—easily the best in the league. With Ruth, Baker, Meusel, Schang, Pipp, Peck, Ward and the others he has an attack second to none. The team also is playing a better defensive game, the pitchers appear to be going well, but still many games are being lost. This club SHOULD win the pennant. If it had the spirit of the Cleveland players it would be as far in front as Baltimore in the International. The Yanks and the A's are the mysteries of baseball. Both clubs beat themselves.

Cleveland has had rough sledding this year. Before the season opened Wambsganss injured his wrist and was laid up for a month. Then Speaker was injured, O'Neill broke his finger and on Saturday Lee Nunamaker broke his leg. The team has had all sorts of hard luck, but the players are not dismayed. They are fighting harder than ever and are showing what they can do with their backs to the wall instead of the floor. You've got to hand it to a game club and that gameness is likely to win another pennant.

In the National, Pittsburgh is leading by a comfortable margin, with the Giants sticking in second place. The Pirates also have had some tough breaks, but their spirit did not crack. Schmidt, one of the best catchers in the league, has been on the side lines most of the season, but Gibson has been using his second-string men with good effect. Now he has Tony Brottem doing the receiving.

Tony, it will be remembered, was with the Little Rock team last year and went to Washington in some sort of a mix-up. Pittsburgh claimed him and Judge Landis recognized the claim. That was one good break for the Pirates, for Brottem looks like a comer.

* * *

THE Chicago Cubs apparently have cracked. They not only have lost a manager, but also sixteen of the last twenty games played. The Phils have a better record than that.

Inchcape Makes Comeback

HOW the mighty have fallen! Inchcape, the $150,000 colt when a two-year-old, ran in the cheapest kind of race the other day at Saratoga, winning from Saddle Ring by ten lengths at odds of 1 to 30. Hildreth's great colt has been out of racing for more than a year and has been on a diet to help his ankle trouble. He appears to have grown taller, but is skinny. It is welcome news that the highly bred colt has so far recovered as to be able to race at all. He may come around all right, it is thought. The price paid for Inchcape was the highest ever paid for a two-year-old.

The fate of Inchcape shows the uncertainty of thoroughbreds. J. S. Cosden paid $21,000 for a weanling at Saratoga during the week and E. R. Bradley wagered him $500 that the colt would not win a race as a two-year-old. Cosden was only too eager to accept the wager. Yet Bradley's wager will win oftener than lose.

All kinds of things may happen in a year and the high-priced colt cannot run in a selling race. When he goes in a stake he must meet others of high class. There are more chances for Bradley to win the bet than to lose it. That's the reason he bet.

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Yankees Release Connolly

Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 15.—Tom Connolly, an outfielder with the New York Americans, has been retained by the Tulsa Club of the Western League. Connolly went to New York from Tulsa at the end of last season.

Rochester Buys Catcher

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 15.—The Rochester International League club has purchased Catcher Wirts from the Chicago Nationals. He will report to Rochester today at Reading.

PLUG HATS ARE NOT IN COX'S WARDROBE

Grand Circuit Reinsman Here for Races Once Attended a Governor's Inaugural

HE DIDN'T FEEL AT HOME

Two intrepid representatives of one of the most popular sports were they! One wore a mixed gray suit, brown slouch hat, cream-colored shirt, trick bow tie and white socks that showed just ten and three-quarter inches above the shoe tops. The other a gray tweed suit, brown straw hat with band to match, green-and-white shirt, gaudy checked tie and black brogs.

It was 10:30 A. M. yesterday as they tripped blithely through the gates of the Belmont race track at Narberth. Then superciliously bestowing their bulks—their bulks, used in kindly spirit, totaling about 385 pounds—on a trunk in front of a box stall, they proceeded to spill some inside stuff about hoss racing.

Followers of the turf, mitt one Walter Randall Cox, Grand Circuit impresario, and A. B. Coxe—no relation of the aforesaid gent and who hangs his hat in Paoli, Pa.

Even without hearing this pair talk you would have known they were hossmen. Between "cheats" the conversation drifted to Governors' inaugurals, weddings and the proper mode of dress on such occasions. Quite foreign to race-track stuff, 'tis true, but Walter Cox happens to be a brother of Channing B. Cox, Governor of Massachusetts.

Not Strong for Inaugurals

Walter is as much at home at an inaugural as a polar bear at the equator, so he was among those present when his brother became chief executive of the old Bay State.

The gent from Paoli—who spells his name with an e—was asked Walter how it felt to be all dolled up in one of them tall hats and cutaway coats.

"High hats—(deleted by the censor)," was Walter's comeback.

"You went to your brother's inaugural and do you mean to tell me that you didn't wear a plug hat?" queried the gent from Paoli.

"I mean to say just that. I sat on Beacon Hill during the inaugural exercises listening to him, the Governor, talk about an hour and a half about nothing, but no high hat. I bought one of them cutaway coats about twenty years ago and a full outfit to go with it. I haven't seen it since and it cost me $110. I'll sell the full works for $40."

Walter Cox is not a Beau Brummell on or off the race track, but when it comes to handling the ponies but at the pay station he's there with bells on.

Product of New England

Cox is a product of New England, strange as it may seem, and for years he made his headquarters at the Dover, N. H., track. There he put young and old nags through a course of sprouts each year in preparation for the big line loops. He was then and is now one of the best-known race drivers in the country. He knows a hoss the minute he puts his eye on it, is a past master in the art of handling them and any driver who "hooks up" with him in a race has got to attend strictly to his knitting.

Late in 1919 Cox accepted a position as head trainer of the Laurel Hill Farm at Indianapolis, headquarters for that extreme speed sire Peter the Great. He is developing a lot of young [illegible] that can already show a mighty good [illegible] in addition to handling the ribbons over veteran campaigners.

In the seventeen races that will be pulled off at the Grand Circuit meeting here starting tomorrow, Cox has entries in thirteen.

Perhaps the most famous horses that Cox ever drove are Lu Princeton and Mabel Trask, owned by Burton Pardee, of Atlantic City. They will be best remembered by their battles with that crack stepper St. Frisco, now dead. Cox is now driving E. Colorado, also owned by Mr. Pardee.

Box Stall Jazz!

Give me two!

Misdeal, and I had three aces!

They get the word tomorrow at Narberth. Four races on the card, all horse racers.

Andy McDowell didn't show up with the advance guard yesterday.

Fred B. Shreve, of Pinehurst, N. C., was send 'em away in the 2:10 trot at Zane [illegible] there.

Directum, 2, 2:19¼, will look no more [illegible] the Frankford boards Friday. Joe Flynn worked the son of Chamberlin [illegible] Saturday. Some workout.

Tommy Gorman, the veteran turf writer, is on the job. Tommy [illegible] the Grand Circuit for years and knows [illegible] to pick 'em.

Pop Geers might drive from Goshen and to Philadelphia in his jet Ford.

Lou MacDonald will be [illegible] with Baron Organdie for [illegible].

Single G, 1:59, hasn't lost a [illegible] year and he doesn't intend to [illegible] in Philadelphia.

It was sundown last night [illegible] Lou Barton was in the stall. The track in [illegible] Cleveland was dotted.

The Dolly Head 2:0[illegible] [illegible] three years in succession [illegible] Jennette Hanbie, but [illegible].

The [illegible] Stratford 2:0[illegible] [illegible] Wilkinson. Cox is [illegible] with it [illegible].

Runs Scored for Week in Three Big Leagues

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Tl
Cincinnati..	5	9	7	10	6	1	6	47
St. Louis...	11	7	5	9	1	2	8	42
New York..	7	6	7	—	9	1	1	31
Pittsburgh..	—	2	4	6	12	12	4	41
Chicago	2	3	8	—	7	6	3	32
Phillies	3	3	4	—	1	14	3	31
Boston	0	6	4	—	2	5	12	29
Brooklyn ...	—	4	2	1	10	3	3	23

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Tl
New York..	2	11	3	14	7	6	20	64
Athletics...	3	0	4	0	3	8	9	15
St. Louis...	8	5	8	5	—	3	7	36
Cleveland ..	4	11	3	5	—	5	6	35
Washington.	3	16	0	2	—	—	6	31
Boston	0	6	12	4	—	—	1	23
Detroit	—	1	8	8	—	1	5	23
Chicago	0	5	5	8	—	1	1	20

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Tl
Rochester ..	3	4	12	11	2	8	16	56
Baltimore ..	13	5	2	16	1	9	7	53
Buffalo	8	3	10	6	8	5	13	47
Jersey City.	3	0	9	11	3	7	7	40
Reading	—	2	6	7	9	1	15	40
Toronto	6	1	10	6	2	0	4	29
Newark	8	4	5	2	3	1	3	26
Syracuse ...	—	2	4	9	0	3	8	26

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND

PAOLI LINKS AND RECORD BOTH FINE, SAY GOLF STARS

Champions Fail to Beat 73, but Praise Tredyffrin—Crab Grass Besets Greens, but Players Give Fans Real Letter Treat

By SANDY McNIBLICK

FOUR hard, hard, hard,