

All-Star Infield Will Boost the Title Chances of the New York Giants This Season

Dominant Forecasters Present 1922 Crown to McGraw's Giants

Jay Has No Worries in the Field and His Pitchers Compare Favorably With Others in League. Has Smashed More Teams Than Mack

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

WITH the opening of the baseball season less than one month away, official dopsters already have handed the National League pennant to Jawn Jay McGraw and his Giants. This is because Jawn has a real all-star infield, and according to history, all championship teams have been exceptionally strong in the inner works.

When Connie Mack was copping gonfalone in the rare old days he had steady Melnitz, Eddie Collins, Jack Barry and Frank Baker to take care of the infield work. The White Sox, where they still were white, boasted of Grandall, Eddie Collins, Ribberg and Buck Weaver. All of these became tainted except Eddie Collins. When the Chicago Cubs ruled everything in baseball, Chance, Evers, Tinker and Steinfield were in the infield. Seems as if that department had to stand out above the others if championships were to be won.

Therefore, the Giants loom up as the large noise this season. The dopsters cannot be blamed for becoming optimistic and patting themselves on the back for predicting a sure-thing triumph. The picking is very good this year, with Kelly, Frisch on second, Bancroft, short and Heinie Groh third base. Individually these men are stars and collectively they should be better than that. They field well, are not slow on the bases, and can hit the pellet. It is an ideal, all-round infield.

With the inner works putting up a strong defense and batting .300 or better as they should, the Giants should worry. The outfield will be well taken care of with Meusel in left, Young in right and a new man in center. The catchers follow McGraw's instructions and are good receivers.

All depends on the pitchers, and they compare favorably with the others in the league. With Neff, Douglas, Toney and Barnes as a nucleus, McGraw will be able to select four or five others who will turn in the work when needed. Therefore, the New Yorkers have copped already and the only thing that stands between them and the pennant is merely a matter of seven months.

But the big thing is the infield. No matter how you figure, those four birds are dangerous to the seven other clubs in the league. They have the class and can deliver the goods.

McGraw Uses Players Only in Their Prime A SHORT time ago it was announced that the Giants and White Sox would look up in a number of spring training games in the South. This was interesting because the teams have not played exhibitions since that famous trip around the world in 1913-14. They collided in the World Series of 1917, but that didn't count. They were regular games.

Looking over the list of players working for McGraw nine years ago and then gazing upon the 1922 line-up, one gets the low-down on the system used by Jawn Jay. The boss of the Giants has no time for young, untalented athletes, and he also shows the exit sign to those who are growing old. He buys the players who are in their prime and when they show signs of slowing up the club is attached.

Of all the players on the 1913 roster, only one now remains, and that is McGraw. All of the others have stepped out. His pitchers were Mathewson, Marquard, Ames, Crandall, Shafer, Fromme, Teazell, Witte, Hearne, Schupp and Demaree. Meyers, Wilson, Hartley, Larry McLean and Wilbur Robinson were his catchers, and Merkle, Doyle, Herzog, Tilly Shafer, Fletcher and Eddie Grant were in the infield. The outfielders were Devore, Snodgrass, Murray, George Burns, Claude Cooper, Moose McCormick, Robertson and Jim Thorpe. Many of these still are playing, but NOT with the Giants.

Schalk is the only member of the White Sox who played in 1913, but this is because the 1910 scandal removed several fans from the picture. It is indeed strange how so many players can be sent away in nine years, but McGraw has his own ideas. He has wrecked a couple of ball clubs, but got away with it because he always came back stronger than before.

Connie Mack is the only remaining feature of his 1913 club. He had a back of players that year, with Combs, Plank, Bender, Bush, Penneck, Moran, Houck, Wyckoff, Cottrell and Bohon, pitchers; Lapp, Thomas, Schang and McGraw, catchers; Henry Davis, Collins, Baker, Harry, Melnitz, Caruthers and Pfeiffer, infielders, and Eddie and Danny Murphy, Oldring, Strunk and Walsh in the outfield.

These have passed on and Connie is blamed for smacking a wonderful baseball machine. He always will be blamed, but if he had come back as strong as McGraw, not a word would have been said. McGraw has busted up more ball clubs than Connie.

Freak Training Doesn't Appeal to Moran BREAK training stunts don't go with Patrick Moran. The mountain-climbing plans of the Cubs and the cowboy tricks mapped out for the Indians are as much in line with Moran's ideas as professionalism is with collegiate athletics. Pat is one of those old-fashioned persons who believe the best place to train for baseball is on a diamond. This may sound peculiar, but Pat's willings to be classed as that kind of a guy.

"These freak training stunts don't make a bit with me," said Pat recently. "Let the Cubs and Indians go ahead with their climbing and cow-punching antics; the Reds will stick to baseball. Our business is to get the players into condition to play the game and there's no reason why superhuman flesh can't be worked off on the diamond as well as on the side of a mountain. We'll do our training on the grounds down at Mineral Wells, Tex."

Moran follows the advice of Ben Franklin in a training camp. He is a strict boss in many respects and one of the things he insists on is the early-to-bed and early-to-rise stuff. On the field the rosy-cheeked Irishman believes in work, work and then some more work. His pet game is what is known as high-low. The players are divided into groups of about six and a batter is appointed to each group. The batter places the ball where it is just within reach of one of the six men he is facing and then the sphere is passed from one athlete to the other. The idea is to put it where the other guy ain't and make him try to catch it.

High-low is recognized as one of the best exercises to condition men. It keeps the athletes reaching down, up, and to both sides, and after working for an hour with a clever guy like Pat Moran, the average ball player is willing to call it quits.

Lawson Robertson, the Penn trainer, who knows as much as, if not more than, any man in the country about conditioning athletes, heartily indorses high-low. Any summer afternoon if you'll wander out to Franklin Field you'll see Lawson with some of the students indulging in Moran's favorite training pastime.

The greater part of the training for the Reds has been mapped out. It will include more baseball and less aimless mechanical work than has been the case in previous years. Considerable attention will be given the infield, which will be new to two points.

DAUBERT, Bohne, Covey and Pinelli will be on hand early, and it will be Pat's task to ship this combination into a smooth working defense. Copyright, 1923, by Public Ledger Company

RESERVES MAKE RECORD Preliminary Players at Nativity Win Twenty-one and Lose Six The Nativity Reserves, the team that plays the preliminary basketball contests at Nativity Hall, Belgrade street and Allegheny avenue, have been playing remarkably well the past month, winning from all opponents by decisive scores. The records for the season show a total of twenty-seven games played, twenty-one of which have been victories.

In establishing these figures, the Reserves have stepped out of their class on several occasions and defeated teams which are far superior. The team is headed by a new one, the only veteran being Oehlert. The other players are George Schmidt, Chink Tierney, Joe McGonigle, Larry Vols and Joe Vols.

Scraps About Scrappers There is a lot of scrap tonight at the Nativity. K. O. Kid Green and K. O. Kid Brown are the winners of the first four-rounders. Other bouts: Marty vs. Jack Brown, G. O. Young Casey vs. Williams and K. O. Young Casey vs. Brown.

THAT GUILTIEST FEELING



TUNNEY VICTOR IN 4TH OVER WENZEL

New Yorker Finds Easy Foe in Pittsburgher and Referee Stops the Bout O'DONNELL IS A WINNER

HE WALKED into the ring beamingly—with a wide grin for the 5500 fans there, but Happy Whitey Wenzel's confidence was able to carry him only a few seconds less than four rounds against America's new light heavyweight champion, Gene Tunney, at the Ice Palace last night. Referee Joe Griffo halted the one-sided affair after two minutes fifty-eight seconds of the half-way round.

Showing hardly any attack whatever and almost as much of a defense, Wenzel was being battered by the New Yorker when the third man in the ring intervened. And no one seemed to be pained when the match was ended—neither the crowd nor Wenzel.

Whitely was bleeding from mouth and nose. He was flopping unsteadily around the ring, and although Tunney failed to knock down his Pittsburgh opponent even once, he was connected with a smash. Wenzel did not have a chance. It was good judgment on the part of Griffo to stop the match, and also appreciative.

Tunney slambanged Wenzel around the body in each of the rounds with hard right-handers and in the fatal section when the match was ended—neither the crowd nor Wenzel.

The real contest of the evening was that between Joe O'Donnell, 124, and Billy Devine, 123. Devine certainly proved himself a gritty and rugged lad against the hefty socking Gloucester gloverman, who dealt out lot of body punishment throughout. Willie Devine rallied sensationally in the last few seconds of the bout, but he was unable to do so.

Philadelphia fans will have an opportunity to see the Camden team play over here tomorrow, when they stack up against the South Philly Hebrews at New Auditorium Hall, Seventh street and Snyder avenue. The Sphas are making arrangements to bring all Eastern League teams here.

Devine's brilliant comeback was even more noteworthy when it is taken into consideration that he was stung pretty hard—hard enough to be staggered—as the gong clanged ending the first round.

Answers to queries—Rocky Kansas was rendered the decision at the finish of his bout with Low Tender in New York. Willie Green is promising to get into the Philadelphia Jack O'Brien's for his match with Bobby Ferguson at the Casino Friday night. The special Philadelphia feature is Tommy McLean, Porto Energy vs. Purdy Tappan and George...

Features of National League 1922 Schedule

Opening date, April 15—Brooklyn at New York, Boston at Philadelphia, Cincinnati at Cincinnati, Pittsburgh at St. Louis. Holiday dates at home—Boston: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

GAMDEN AND CELTS BATTLE FOR LEAD

Unprecedented Interest is Displayed in Eastern League Basketball Contest WHEN the Camden Eastern League team plays the leaders one usually reads about "the largest crowd that ever witnessed a contest in the armory." And it is expected the same line will be read tomorrow morning. Never in the history of the game, dating back some twenty years, have the fans across the river been so worked up over any contest as the one tonight with the New York Celtics.

The Sketers held a practice session last night. This is something unusual nowadays in basketball. There was a time when even Eastern League teams held workouts twice a week, but the players cannot practice and hold membership in the "Railroad League" at the same time. So the practice gets the gate.

This simply serves to show the interest displayed, not only by the fans, but by the players also. Captain Steele and the rest of the Jersey team are determined to work their hardest to get in the play-off, but Trenton and New York will offer the most stubborn resistance to the accomplishment of the same.

The game means considerable to the contestants. If Camden wins and is returned a winner over the Celtics when they clash in New York on Sunday it would eliminate the Gothamites from the race and Camden would be virtually eliminated if the visitors win tonight and also are triumphant on Sunday.

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PHILLIES AT HOME ON TWO HOLIDAYS

Wilhelm Entertains Giants on Memorial Day and Robins on Labor Day PLAY BRAVES IN OPENER

The Phillies and the Braves will introduce 1922 baseball to the populace of our city. The act will be put on at Broad and Huntingdon streets on April 12.

Even before the season starts the Phils are loaded with double-headers at home. Two of the three big holidays will be spent on the home heath. The Giants will be here for Memorial Day and the Robins will be guests on Labor Day, which falls this year on September 4. The Phils will be entertained in Boston on July 4.

Aside from these double-headers, three scheduled dual engagements are on the card for the Phils here. This is unusual, not to say peculiar. The first of these will be played Saturday, June 24. The second, scheduled double-header will be staged on July 29, and the third on September 5. The last mentioned is mean on the Phils in particular and the pitching staff in general. It will be necessary to play four games in two days.

President Baker got a good break in Sunday games in New York. The Phils will oppose the Giants on five Sunday games at the Polo Grounds, while the Braves will appear in the shadow of Coogan's Bluff on only three Sundays. This means a difference of several thousand dollars to the Phils. Sunday games in New York always draw hefty crowds.

The Phils will toll on home loam from April 12 to April 20, when they move to Boston for a series, returning for four games with the Giants here. They leave our shores on April 28, and after visiting Brooklyn and New York the first invasion of the West will start. This will last until May 23.

The second trip West begins on July 7, and the Phils will be on the rattlers until July 22. The third swing around the circuit will be made the latter part of August. The season will end here with Brooklyn on October 1.

Immaculate Claims Title The Immaculate Conception basketball team will play Triangle at Third and Brown streets tonight. Manager Leo claims the junior championship of the city for his second season. It has won twenty-seven out of twenty-nine games. The only defeats were by Aquinas and Wanderers, and they have been beaten twice in return games, as well as every Catholic club team in the city. Any one disputing the claim is asked to get in touch with Jolly Lew, 1333 Lawrence street.

GREB-GIBBONS CLASH HIGH SPOT IN BOXING

Battle Worthy Test for Both Boxers—Winner to Have Tunney and Carpentier in Sight—Hornsby as Successor to Honus Wagner

By GRANTLAND RICE The Umpire Warns Up I Off to the chilly night, Ere slumber's chains have bound me, Dull memory brings the light Of rival teams around me; The hosts—the jeers—that reach my ears, The curses—loudly spoken; Full many a brick or sundry kick Upon my shin, half broken.

You have a Forty H. P. lung, O Rooter with the Serpent's Tongue; I hear you calling me each day, Above the tumult of the fray, Naves that I shouldn't dare repeat In this here clean, long-gone age. Whatever I may say or do, I'll get the same yowp soon from you, The daily plea that I be hung, O Rooter with the Serpent's Tongue.

In the spring our peace is over when the bird's back in the skies, In the spring a fuller crimson comes into the wild fan's eyes. WHY is it that the worst golfers always insist on talking about their game? suggests A. R. G. Well, they are entitled to some sort of a run for their money, and the tongue can always get as much distance as the midiron.

Considerable Soiree MESSRS. GREB AND GIBBONS are both lifting an armful of trouble for the Ides of March when they exchange gifts in Madison Square Garden.

By every sign one can stumble on now this contest should be one of the top spots of the season, with Greb just a shade in advance, in so far as preliminary chatter is concerned. The tidbit part about the league is that it will be a worthy test for both parties, where a decisive victory will mean something to pack upon the trademark.

As the winner will have both Tunney and Carpentier in sight, the ultimate rewards will be far from insignificant. Dempsey's Refrain Dempsy or Carp, Carp or Dempsy, One of them must pay his bill, Just so I collect my fee, What care I which one it be?

On Top WHATEVER Hornsby finally draws for an annual stipend, he has taken his place well in front as the most valuable ballplayer in the National League. If any manager had first choice for one star the Cardinal premier would be nabbed without taking time to inhale a new breath. He is one of the league's greatest hitters and the old league's greatest hitter. He is the first entry to step forward as the logical successor to one John Honus Wagner, now that the ghost of the Flying Dutchman no longer haunts the scene.

Hornsby, of course, isn't near the rate value of Ruth nor to Cobb in this respect. But he came to undisputed possession of the throne only two years ago. This should be one of his most highly favored years.

Many Double-Headers Mark Phils' Schedule HOME GAMES April 12, 13, 14, 15, Boston; 17, 18, 19, Brooklyn; 24, 25, 26, 27, New York; May 28, 29, 30, 31, Brooklyn; 29, 30 (A. M. and P. M.), 31, New York; June 8, 9, 10, Pittsburgh; 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Cincinnati; 22, 23, 24 (two games), 25, 26, 27, 28, Cincinnati; 28 (two games), 29, Chicago; August 5, 6, Chicago; 8, 9, St. Louis; 7, 8, 9, 10, Pittsburgh; 11, 12, Boston; 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, Cincinnati; AWAY GAMES April 16, at Brooklyn; 20, 21, 22, at Boston; 28, 29, 30, May 1, at Brooklyn; May 4, 5, 6, 7, at New York; 9, 10, 11, 12, at Chicago; 13, 14, 15, 16, at St. Louis; 17, 18, 19, 20, at Pittsburgh; 21, 22, at Cincinnati; 23, 24, at Philadelphia; 25, at New York; July 3, at Brooklyn; 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, at Pittsburgh; August 13, at Brooklyn; 14, at Pittsburgh; 15, 16, 17, at Cincinnati; 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, at Chicago; 23, 24, at Pittsburgh; 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, at Boston; September 1, 2, at St. Louis; 3, at New York; 4, at Brooklyn.

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