

# WHY PITCHERS CANNOT HIT

## Ford Says They Do Two-thirds of Work in Game.

### THERE ARE FEW EXCEPTIONS.

Men Like Crandall, Walsh, Coombs and Several Others Can Wallop the Ball, but the Majority of Boxmen Are Very Poor Clouters.

Baseball history tells us that the game has produced but few hard hitting pitchers. Jesse Tammell, one time member of the Washington, Cincinnati and several other teams, was one of the best. Jack Coombs of the Athletics is another who carries a batting eye attached to the job. "Big Chief" Bender, his side partner, has a



Photo by American Press Association. RUSSELL FORD, NEW YORK AMERICAN STAR PITCHER.

free, clean swing, and Ray Caldwell of the New York Americans is another who can whale the ball. Otey Crandall of the New York Giants is the best hitting twirler in the National league, and Harry McIntyre of the Chicago Cubs is a close second. Patsy Flaherty, late of the Boston Nationals, is another pegger who can punch the ball.

Ed Walsh of the Chicago White Sox is one of the best hitting pitchers in the American league. Bill Donovan and George Mullin of Detroit can sock 'em here and there, but those who can both pitch and hit are not numerous.

In talking about hitting pitchers recently Russell Ford, the star twirler of the New York Americans, said: "Each pitcher does about two-thirds of the toiling furnished for that game upon each team. An infielder may average five chances and an outfielder three. But the pitcher and his catcher are mixed up in every play made, for the ball must be thrown before it can be pushed into additional play. This physical and mental strain in a tough game is heavy. I know that by the fourth or fifth inning I'm content to center all I have left on preventing others from hitting, with no great ambition the other way round. I like my hits as well as the next one, but I am thinking more of the hits I can choke off than the hits I can make.

"There are exceptions, of course, like Coombs, Crandall, Walsh and a few others. But the art of developing two directly opposite sciences isn't any easier than it looks to be."

## OLYMPIC RIFLE TRYOUTS.

### Three Day Trial to Be Held at Winthrop, Md.

The general tryouts for the selection of the rifle team which will be sent to the Olympic games will be held at the United States marine corps rifle range, Winthrop, Md., May 16, 17 and 18.

From the results of these three days' trials twenty-five high men will be selected, who will be put through the course again May 20. From the results of these supplementary trials the team will be selected.

**Must Name Team June 11.**  
Because the American Olympic selection committee cannot hold its tryouts before June 8, that being the first Sunday after all interscholastic and intercollegiate championships of the country are held, the Swedish Olympic committee has extended the date of closing entries to June 11 instead of May 30, the original date.

## SOME CLEVER TRICKS

### Harry Davis Tells of Shrewdness of W. R. Armour.

#### Bill Had Box of Live Balls to Use When Batting Rally Was On, but Athletics Were Wise and Kept Ball in Game.

"They used to pull off a lot of tricks in the American League that are tabooed now," remarked Harry Davis, Cleveland's new manager, recently. "They did not stop with signal tipping devices, but they worked in a rabbit ball now and then, cut down the pitchers' box over night, cut down or raised the line toward third base, let the hose run all night on the base paths or on the grass near the plate. Clark Griffith turned that last trick on us one day when he was managing the White Sox. Thought he would make it difficult for our third sacker to field bunts, but our pitcher and Lave Cross got every one, while Griffith himself slipped in the water and soaked his uniform.

"Bill Armour was a man of whom we were always suspicious. That suspicion dated from a time I was with Providence in the Eastern League. The Rochester team had a faculty of batting out victories in the eighth and ninth innings and we made up our minds that a rabbit ball was working. We finally told our third base coacher to go to the Rochester bench between innings and keep watch. Sure enough. He discovered that they were tossing out a live wire toward the end of games when Rochester was behind.

"They confessed then and we kept their secret on the condition that they tip us off as to where they got the live ones. So, the next day I visited the shop, which was located in Rochester, and there on a bench was a package of balls directed to W. R. Armour.

"I called the attention of the old German who ran the shop to the package and he admitted that it contained live balls.

"But," he said, "they are only for practice."

"That's all right," I told him. "Just give me a few dozen—just for practice!" And I got them.

"But, from then on, I felt that Bill Armour would bear watching when it came to pulling off a trick now and then. Finally, we caught him. It was in 1904. Waddell and Earl Moore were having a battle right. It was 4



Harry Davis.

to 4 when we finished our half of the ninth. Hickman was the first man up for Cleveland in the last half of the ninth. He smashed the first ball on a line, but Hartzel went back to the fence and grabbed it. Larry picked the next one and Dave Pultz made a wonderful running catch. Now Cleveland had not been hitting Rube that hard up to that time and I passed the word around that whoever made the third out should keep the ball and see that it was still in play when the tenth inning began if the Naps did not manage to win out. Then Flick hit it on the nose, but Sox Seybold made the best catch I ever saw him make, a one-handed stab in right center.

"Sox remembered what had been said and he brought the ball in and never handed it over until Moore was ready to pitch. We did not intend to let Cleveland have a chance to throw it out of the lot. Then came our half of the tenth and we scored ten runs. And Bill Armour never ran in another rabbit against us."

**Govern Central League.**  
The new 12-club Central League will be governed by an entirely new method this year, according to the announcement of President F. R. Carson. A new executive officer has been named in Thomas J. O'Connor of Erie. He will serve as vice president, and it will be his duty to settle differences in the eastern end of the circuit. Dr. Carson will take care of the western cities.

**Noel's Hard Luck.**  
Bruce Noel, a Pittsburgh pitching possibility, is a live member of the Jinx club. Last year he quit the team because his wife was ill and was allowed to finish the season at Oshkosh. This year he made ready to report to the Pirates, when his wife was taken ill again and his plans are again upset.

## SHAKESPEARE, NAPOLEON—AND TY COBB



Artist Cesare Views Ty Cobb.

**By HOMER CROY.**

Residents of Royston, Ga., say this world has produced three great men: Shakespeare, Napoleon—and Ty Cobb. The bearded bard of Avon may have written a few plays that now give employment to Julia Marlowe and E. H. Sothern, but what did he know about the fall-away slide? The bow-legged little man who always wore his hat crossways may have won a war or two, but what sort of batting average did he have?

Butspeaking of real men whose names will go resounding, reverberating and re-echoing down the corridors of time, there is Mr. Tyrus R. Cobb who was born right in this town, sir! Picture cards showing his birthplace, the first goat he ever drove to a Proctor & Gamble soap-box wagon, and of his shaking hands with the president, three for five. The rubberneck wagon starts for Ty Cobb's old home in one minute—all aboard—seats a dollar! Yes, sir, right in that corner room 25 years ago last month. Yes, I used to go to school with him, and we used to tie frogs in the girls' desks and he calls me Pud to this day!

The first word he ever gurgled was "Ball-ball," and before he could crawl the length of the room he would sit by the hour and suck the leather buckle of a fielder's glove. He was batting something over .200 before he knew who Santa Claus really was, and by the day he had cut his milk teeth he had shaken his fist at two umpires and had spit at the coacher for the opposing team.

He was brought up on his grandfather's plantation, and when he would work he was one of the fastest cotton pickers in all the country, but it usually took his grandfather and two able bodied overseers to make him work.

His baseball experience began with

his being shortstop for the Royston Midgets at the age of eight, and with the exception of one day during the summer of 1909 when he had an attack of biliousness, he has been in the prize automobile business ever since. His vocation is baseball, but his avocation is winning prize automobiles.

He was married in 1909, and has one son who can already converse in four baseball dialects and talk back to the umpire in words of three syllables.

Ty has flaxen hair and was named Tyrus by a maiden aunt who had had dyspepsia all her life. His middle name is Raymond, but when he is sitting in the half light with his back to the window you could never tell it.

He is the master of the slide, being able to coast in between the ankles of a knock-kneed man and never get touched. He could take a run from the dining room of a European plan hotel in Rogers, Ark., and slide through the trellis work on the front porch without getting touched or barking his shoulders. He never gets hurt. If he went into the aviation business or became an auto racer he would still live to be as old as Schem, who carpentered on the ark for Noah at a hundred and twenty years, Ty needing only a package of court plaster or so every decade. In coming down in an aeroplane he would always hop out at the fourth floor, come in on the hook slide and his hip, and then get up as sound as a mole on to see if the umpire had called him safe.

In winter time the Empire State Express of baseball lives in Augusta, sells automobiles and talks about the new baseball phenom. he has discovered—Tyrus, Jr.

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## DO YOU KNOW—

That San Francisco has a Japanese baseball league?

Jack Stivets, once a great pitcher in Boston, is still able to curve 'em over for a small club near Ashland, Pa.

A fine goes for any Chicago Cub pitcher who smokes a cigarette, according to a late order by Manager Chance.

Ty Cobb, Nap Rucker, Eddie Cleotte and Clyde Engle played on the same team in Augusta, Ga., one season, and the club finished fifth in a six club league.

Mike Donlin, the Pittsburgh Nationals' outfielder, changes his clothes three times a day and tries to make just as many base hits each day. Hans Wagner wears the same togs all day, but he makes base hits just the same.

Theodore Breitenstein, the veteran left hand pitcher, who was a \$10,000 beauty many years ago, has at last abandoned himself to fate. He has accepted a position as umpire in the Southern league, where, they say, the fans have perfect control and the pop bottles never miss their mark.

## KEEN BIT OF REPARTEE.

Blackburne Is Silenced Effectively by Umpire Jack Sheridan.

Russell Blackburne, formerly of the Chicago Sox and now with the Buffalo team, fell a victim to an injury about the time that Umpire Jack Sheridan began having trouble with his eyes. Sheridan's case had been diagnosed by an eye specialist, while Blackburne's physician had advised an operation on his knee. While unable to play, Blackburne was trying to earn his salary and was sent out to coach. Sheridan was working the bases, and a number of close decisions had gone against the Sox on the paths early in the game. Blackburne wanted to impress the crowd with the fact that he was in the game every minute, so when Sheridan gave an unusually close decision against the team he yelled: "That eye specialist made a mistake, Jack, when he looked you

over. He should have pronounced you stone blind."

Coming from a recruit, this was not relished by Sheridan, but quick as a flash he retorted: "Yes, and if that surgeon knows his business he will operate on your head instead of your knee." And Blackburne hiked back to the bench as fast as his lame knee would let him.

## STOVALL HELPS BROWNS.

Addition of First Sacker Has Strengthened St. Louis Americans.

Ask any member of the St. Louis Americans to give one reason why Wallace's club should not finish last and he will answer, "Stovall."

Not that the Browns figure Stovall, single handed, will lead the club out of the depths of the subcellar, but the players to a man believe that the presence of Stovall on first has given each member of the infield sufficient confidence to make him a 20 per cent better ball player.

Since Tom Jones was traded to Detroit for Claude Rossman there has been a big hole around the initial sack at Sportsman's park. The players have had no one to "throw to." True, there have been no fewer than twenty men tried out at first, but they all failed, and many of them were so poor that the Browns' infielders lost confidence.

Such is not the case this season. Stovall is a great fielder and a great batter, besides a splendid man for injecting lots of "pep" into the team.

**England to Have Three Olympic Crews.**  
England will enter three crews in the Olympic regatta. An eight will be formed by the Leander club, a four by the Thames Rowing club, and W. D. Kinneer, holder of the diamond sculls, will contest in single sculling events.

**Uncertain.**  
The New Girl—An' may my intended visit me every Sunday afternoon, ma'am?  
Mistress—Who is your intended, Della?  
The New Girl—I don't know yet, ma'am. I'm a stranger in town—Harper's Bazar.

## M'GRAW WORKS HIS OWN SYSTEM

### New York Manager Has Substitutes Equal of Regulars.

### WINS WITHOUT HIS STARS.

Utility Men Show Up as Well as the Men They Replaced in Several Games—Team is Well Fortified in All Positions.

By TOMMY CLARK.

A short time ago a New York baseball critic exhibited much joy over the fact that the Giants did not have Bakers, Cobbs, Wagners, Lajoies or other stars of the infield or outfield. At the time it seemed that a commission on sanity should be appointed to examine the dome of the writer who penned such an idea. That was before the subject was given careful thought. Now we are willing to admit that it was pretty wise "dope" which the Gotham scribe handed out.

Don't jump at conclusions, folk. Of course Johnny McGraw would grab Cobb, Baker, Wagner and Lajoie. He would immediately replace men who are regulars on the Giants now with any of the stars mentioned. The fact remains that McGraw does not have any of the four .300 batsmen and brilliant performers in all departments. Therefore McGraw has worked out a system of his own.

Larry Doyle is not only the regular second sacker of the New York team, but he is the captain. Yet when Larry was injured recently Shafer was placed at second and in batting and fielding did equally as good work as Captain Doyle. In other words, Doyle is not a star, and therefore it did not require a star to fill his shoes.

During that same period Fletcher, regarded as the regular shortstop, was hurt. Again McGraw was prepared. He had Groh, a young player, who filled in at short field. It was difficult to notice the difference.

Now, on the other hand, take Cobb away from Detroit and what is the result? Well, it has been pretty generally agreed that the Tigers have lost 25 per cent of their offensive powers. Some writers insist that Ty is 50 per cent of the attack. Mack is usually well fortified in substitute material, but either Collins or Baker is such a loss to the team that it is noticeable.

When a capable manager like McGraw can develop a team made up of rather mediocre material with substitutes for every position just about as good as the regulars he is better fortified than the manager who has a team built around three or four stars and no substitutes who can take the place of those stars when they are lost through injury or illness.

The title of the "hard luck manager" belongs to Charley Doolin, leader of the Philadelphia Nationals. Last season injuries to several members of the



Photo by American Press Association. CHARLEY DOOLIN, MANAGER OF THE PHILADELPHIANS.

PHILES and himself probably robbed him of the pennant. This season the Jinx, hoodoo, voodoo, or what not, has been pursuing the team without rest. Recently there were eight members of the team out of the game at one time.

## To Patrons Along the Scranton Branch of the Erie Railroad.

The afternoon train leaving Scranton as per schedule following, runs daily directly to Honesdale, giving people time to transact their business at the county seat and return home the same evening.

ARRIVE.	LEAVE.
8:20.....Scranton.....	1:30
8:13.....Dunmore.....	1:37
8:02.....Say Aug.....	1:46
7:54.....Elmhurst.....	1:55
7:43.....Wimmers.....	2:07
7:40.....Saco.....	2:10
7:34.....Maplewood.....	2:16
7:20.....Lake Ariel.....	2:34
7:09.....Gravily.....	2:41
6:59.....Cleomo.....	2:51
6:53.....Hoadleys.....	2:56
6:37.....West Hawley.....	3:27
6:12.....White Mills.....	3:38
6:03.....East Honesdale.....	3:47
6:00.....Honesdale.....	3:50

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**AUDITOR'S NOTICE.**  
In Re Estate of SARAH A. WILSON, Late of the Borough of Honesdale,  
The undersigned, an auditor appointed by the Orphans' Court of Wayne county to settle the account of the executor of the said estate if necessary and to make distribution of the funds remaining in his hands belonging to the decedent, among the parties entitled thereto will attend to the duties of his appointment at his office in the borough of Honesdale, on

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1912,  
at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. All persons interested are requested to be present and present their claims, duly attested before the auditor or be debarred from coming in upon the funds of the said estate.  
CHAS. McCARTY,  
Auditor.

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