

NONNIE SPILLED AN EARFULL WHEN HE STATED HE'D HAVE TO REBUILD THE HURLING STAFF

HOLLOCHER, REARED BY FATHER FOR BALL STAR, MUST CONQUER FATE AND OVERCOME PUBLICITY

Kid Must Make Good Where Seventeen Other Tries Failed and Must Prove Parent and Admirers Were "Right"

ENLARGEMENT of the koko is the most dangerous of all complaints. It is more deadly than trench fever in cutting down the careers of aspiring warriors. It is worse than seasickness. It not only throws the victim, but throws him backward toward his own goal line and plants his frame on terra firma with an awful thud.

Hollocher, it seems, is a rare baseball product. He had his career as a big league star wished upon him in infancy and he first must show father that "he was right." The Old Man, who gave him the happy assignment, kept the subject ever warm in his memory and coached him in the rudiments, must be satisfied, and that is a job.

HOLLOCHER'S style of going after a ball caused Walter McCredie, who developed him at Portland, to nickname him "The Hawk." It is said that he gives an excellent imitation of a hawk pouncing on a hare in going after round balls.

Pounces on Ball Just Like a Hawk Bird

THAT knack of being in front of the ball, a characteristic of all great players, is said to be a leading feature of the Kid's pastime. "You see a ball driven out and you say it is a hit," states Hollocher's friendly critic. "Then you look up and see Hollocher calmly throwing it to first. He never is in a hurry."

"Hollocher batted something like .276 for Portland last year. He was a beautiful hitter in his semiprofessional days, but it seemed that he lost confidence in his free swing and 'tightened up' in 1916, when he played his first year of professional ball. He did not stand so confidently at the plate nor swing so freely at the ball.

"There is no doubt about Hollocher making good in the major leagues. If it should happen that the Cubs should release him St. Louis would get him. If Hornsby could field as Hollocher can field he would be worth not the \$3400 he asks, but \$12,500 a season.

"Hollocher has always been a regular boy. Nine o'clock 'quits' finds him at home ready to go to bed. He has no bad habits, a nice, quiet, manly boy."

BUT the ambition of the senior Hollocher rests not alone upon producing one great ball player. His next son also is reported as promising, and by a strange coincidence will get the chance to fill his father's shoes in the Portland line-up the coming season.

Fast Ball Still a Tremendous Asset

IN PRONOUNCING the smoke ball still a tremendous pitching asset a well-known scribe has the following sage remarks to spill:

"It has often been said that a pitcher with only a fast ball cannot get by in the major leagues. Yet several of them are doing pretty well at it. Walter Johnson had nothing but a fast ball for years, and even now his curve ball is more a matter of ornament than utility.

"Jack Onslow, who worked with Carl Mays and Babe Ruth, the clever Boston Red Sox pitcher, who were largely responsible for bringing at least one pennant to the Hub, says that neither of this pair uses any more than a fast ball.

"Mays has an underhand delivery that takes an eccentric shoot in and down as it nears the plate. Control of this and ability to keep the ball low have made him uncommonly effective.

"Ruth relies on speed, and he has on his fast ball the 'hop' that all of the better known southpaws have had. Hardly with exception southpaws are side-arm pitchers, this being the reason their fast ball carries more of a shoot than that of the overarm right-hander.

Giants and Yankees Each to Have Two Farms

THE Giants are likely to have two farms this year—a Class AA club at Kansas City, under John Gansel, and a Class A farm under Roy Ehlman at Nashville. The Yankees already have provided themselves with two such farms—St. Paul and Memphis. Miller Huggins is rather close to the St. Paul club and on his advice the Yanks apparently have cut loose from Roger Bresnahan's Toledo outfit.

Girls Are All Right, but as Caddies—Never!

THE Oak Ridge Golf Club, of New York, has decided to have girl caddies. The plan sounds pretty good, but after a few days' trial doubtless will be pronounced a failure. Evidently the officials of the club do not comprehend the complex nature of golf. It is not only a game—it is a linguistic endeavor.

The presence of a female caddy would, in the opinion of some, curb the tongue of the player, but a few trials will prove otherwise. There is no fun playing golf with a muzzle. The boy caddy is a necessity—perhaps a necessary evil—but one of these days somebody will come along with a caddy built along baby buggy lines and solve the problem for some of the players.

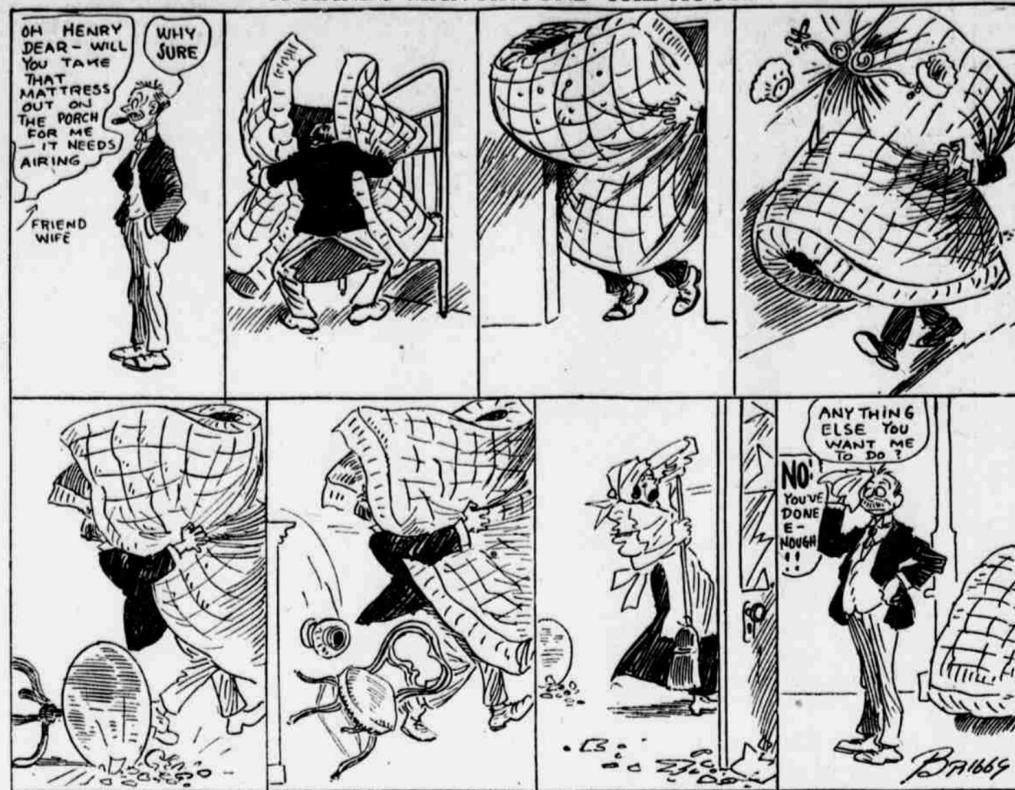
Ping Bodie Gets Big Blow-Out at Macon

THE arrival of Signor Francesco Pezzoli at Macon was the occasion of a grand time. Quite a celebration was had, and with the precedent in mind, the next day's festivities will have to get busy to provide the necessary fireworks when Ping hits the metropolis. Speech-making and music were the order of the southern hospitality stuff accorded Pezzoli's leading party, and while Ping's response was not given verbally, it is said to have been feeling and eloquent.

Major Rays Change May Help George Burns

THE Detroit Free Press, a change may be the very thing George Burns needs. A lack of ability was George's chief complaint. It is reported that he has been seen in the city of Detroit, and that he is in the city of Detroit, and that he is in the city of Detroit.

A HANDY MAN AROUND THE HOUSE



PITCHER GREGG STILL MISSING

Failure of Veteran Whirlwind to Show Up Worrying Mack

AS HAVE FINE DAY

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 20.—When Clarence Walker, obtained in the deal with the Red Sox, reported to Connie Mack yesterday it may be said that the last regular position on the team had been filled. While under ordinary circumstances, especially in a team that requires complete reconstruction like Mack's, there are usually several positions open to competition, it is not difficult to predict the man who will be successful in holding down regular positions. Therefore when Walker reported and immediately signed the tall tactician gave a sigh of relief.

Gregg Still Missing

Mack is certainly well satisfied to date with the men he has signed and their showing since coming here. He is beginning to show some hesitations because of the long delayed arrival of Veau Gregg, the veteran left-hander, also acquired in the big deal with Boston. Mack confidently expected that Gregg would be here when the squad arrived Sunday and it was announced that he was here, but this proved a mistake. Gregg was instructed to look for home, which is somewhere in northwest Canada, on March 8, which would have given him eight days' start on the others.

Mack says there is no difference between him and Gregg and that he surely will be here. Connie is counting on the veteran more heavily than any other pitcher he has under contract. He confidently believes Gregg will show this year the great form that made him among the premier pitchers of the country the first year he was with Cleveland. Gregg was a very-much-sought-after man after the close of last season, about a half dozen of major league clubs bidding for his services, but as Boston had a string on him he returned to the Red Sox.

Either Cady or McAvoy

Just which man, Cady or McAvoy, will be considered the first string catcher this year will depend upon the ability they show here and in later games. Mack is known to believe that McAvoy is just right to make a name for himself as one of the best catchers in the major leagues. He caught perfect ball for Baltimore last year and Mack considers that last season was the last bit of experience necessary to make him shine in the majors.

Cady is the biggest catcher who ever wore an Athletic uniform. He is even larger than Ira Thomas, who has some bone and muscle for a base runner to move when sliding into the plate. Cady never has been considered first-string catcher in Boston, where there always has been a star to outshine him. However, he is a valuable man and Mack is highly pleased in getting him. His hitting alone should prove an important asset to the team.

It will not take many more days such as the Athletics were favored with yesterday to put them in prime condition. Except for an occasional shower it was almost ideal baseball weather and its effect in loosening up joints and taking off aovidupolis cannot be overestimated. Had Connie been realistically inclined he might have hummed "perfect day" when he arrived at his hotel last night.

PLAYERS' LIBEL SUITS TO BE HEARD IN APRIL

St. Louis, Mo., March 20.—The hearing in the suit of John Lavan, formerly shortstop with the St. Louis Americans, against Phil B. Ball, president of the club, in which the latter is charged with making a slanderous accusation, was set yesterday for April 23 in the Circuit Court. A similar hearing in which Derrell Pratt, second baseman, is the plaintiff, has been set for April 25.

Giants Lose Robertson Norfolk, Va., March 20.—The announcement was made yesterday that the Giants had lost the services of second baseman Robertson.

MAISEL, GREAT HEART-BREAKER, FACES ACID TEST THIS YEAR

Must Come Back on Downtrodden Outfit After Flashy Start and Notable Breakdown

OF ALL the heart-breakers that have strewn the path of New York Yankee managers with thorns and spikes, two stand out prominently. These are Leo Magee and Fritz Maisel, both of whom have been switched this year and will have a last chance to prove whether or not their historic flutters were the result of poor management or hostile audiences or what. Maisel will have a clean shot at the third base point for the Browns and will, therefore, confront the real acid test, for "coming back" on a downtrodden team is some feat. Anyhow there will be the change of scenery and an audience that is used to failures, both of which facts ought to help.

Maisel's case has been a mystery. He broke into the big leagues with a big rep which he well sustained during his big season of 1915. That year he finished with a hitting average of .281, playing a rattling good game at the third corner and fairly burning up the blooming league with his sensational speed. That season the Yank fans would have squeaked if the management had traded Fritz for another club and the Woolworth Building, for they thought he was going to improve still more and be the coming diamond star.

Maisel kept his speed, even rivaling Cobb in base stealing, but his hitting has gradually dwindled, day by day, until nothing, his mark the last season dropping to .181, although in spite of this he still managed to snag twenty-nine bases, a wonderful exhibition of speed, but a woeful one of hitting.

Born at Catonsville, Md., twenty-nine years ago, he is one of six brothers, all ball players, and has ten cousins named Maisel who play ball. Fred attended the public schools and later learned the machinist trade, playing amateur ball with several crack Baltimore teams in his spare time. He was signed with Baltimore in 1910, but later played with Elgin, of the Missouri Association, and Wheeling, of the Central League, before getting a real Baltimore tryout. From 1911 to 1913, inclusive, he played shortstop and third base for Baltimore and hit fairly well, played a good fielding game and was a streak on the base lines. In August, of 1913, the Yanks bought him and in his five seasons with them has always shown wonderful speed, and, occasionally, good hitting ability.

Maisel is a good all-around athlete, having played football in his amateur days and also basketball. He is only about five feet six inches tall and weighs about 157 pounds. If Fred regains his hitting ability he will be a valuable acquisition to the Browns. If not, even his speed won't help Jones much, as speed on the bench doesn't cash in runs across the plate.

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FRITZ MAISEL

LEWIS WINS MAT DECISION ON FOUL

Zbyszko Butts Strangler Unconscious in Big Wrestling Match

HURL CHAIRS AT POLE

New York, March 20.—After thirty-seven minutes and twenty-five seconds of resting in Madison Square Garden last night Strangler Lewis was declared the winner over Vladak Zbyszko on a foul. The decision by Billy Roche, the referee, brought to an end a fairly even contest, in which Lewis's head lock and Zbyszko's toe hold appeared and reappeared and in which neither was able to gain any decided advantage with his particular agent of torture.

It was a most unsatisfactory termination of what had been expected to prove a spectacular contest. The foul, the disqualification and Zbyszko's exit from the ring amid a shower of chairs all came quickly. They were sparring at the center of the mat. Each was in a vicious mood. They jumped and backed and suddenly Zbyszko's right hand went out to Lewis's chin. Simultaneously the pole's head struck Lewis over the right eye.

FAILURE OF PHILS TO REACH ST. PETE ON TIME CASTS GLOOM OVER MAYOR LANG AND NATIVES

Speech of Welcome Ruined, Key to City Lost and Kilties' Band Dispersed When Moran and Mates Arrive Several Hours Late

St. Petersburg, Fla., March 20.—THERE is much gloom and sadness in St. Pete these days, because one of the best little plans that ever split the plate has been wrecked beyond repair. Al Lang, the hustling Mayor, is wearing a frown and other members of the welcome-to-our-city club are disconsolate. They have been felled, and the worst part of it is that no one can be blamed, not even themselves.

On Monday night it was decided to have a monster celebration to welcome the incoming Phillies when they stepped off the train. Mayor Lang had his speech of welcome all prepared, and the Kilties Band was tuned up to sprinkle harmony all over the town in the triumphant march from the station to the hotel and the other holders of the glad hand stood under their straw hats, conscious of their own importance. Then the train came in.

Some one had made a huge wooden key which was to be presented to Pat Moran to prove that the city was his, and the Mayor held it aloft to make sure that no one saw it except every one in the huge crowd. The passengers were scrutinized carefully as they stepped off the Pullmans, but there was no sign of the Phillies.

After the train steamed out of the station the Kilties' Band put muffers on their instruments, Mayor Lang took the key home and the crowd dispersed. Gavy Cravath was the only arrival, and now he is here because they did not lead him to the hotel like a regular ball player.

When the club arrived yesterday morning only a few hack drivers welcomed the players. The men were perfectly satisfied, however, and gladly made the trip to the Edgewater Inn in hired hacks. They were too late for morning practice, so only one session was held in the afternoon. Today, however, the athletes worked out both in the morning and afternoon, and this program will be followed out until the team leaves for the North.

Eight Veterans Report Yesterday's practice was short and sweet, but it was enough for the inspiring players. Only the lightest kind of work was indulged in and Pat Moran got acquainted with his new men. There were several strangers in the line-up. Lal, Mike Prendergast, Bradley Hoeg, Delhoefer, Yeasley, Woodward, Davis, McKenty and Pickup joined the most prominent.

The veterans on the job are Luderus, McJaffigan, Pearce, Bancroft, Burns, Adams, Mayer and Cravath. Three others—Joe Oeschger, Miles Malone and Irish Meusel—are expected tonight. Oeschger obtained permission to remain on the coast until the college team he is coaching plays its big game.

The holiday situation, however, is worrying Pat Moran. Pat has nothing to do with the signing of the men. That part of the business is up to President Baker, and no one knows when the reallocation, consisting of Whitted, Nelhoff, Stock, Bender, Cy Williams and Fitzgerald, will report. President Baker is at Belleair, where he will remain until tomorrow and until that time there will be nothing doing.

All of the men have returned their contracts, although none has been cut in salary. They would help the team considerably, however, and are losing

HERZOG PICKS GIANTS

"I am waiting to hear from Boston," said Herzog, "and will not play until unless my terms are met. I only ask a fair deal and that bonus in the amount of extra money I would receive from the Giants if I played with them. I would be paid for being captain and then there would be my share of the world's series."

"Do I think the Giants will win the pennant? Of course they will. The have the best club in the National League, regardless of the additional strength of the Cubs."

MARINE FIVE MEETS ST. COLUMBA TONIGHT

Y. M. H. A. to Play Port Richmond in Preliminary Game St. Columba, American League baseball champions, will meet the husky United States marines, of League Island, tonight at Traymore Hall, Franklin and Columbia avenues.

This is the hardest game on the marines' schedule, and it may be of interest to the sport fans to get some idea of the history of the sea soldiers' quintet. The team is largely made up of West-coasters. "Billy" Knostman, the huge center, hails from the Kansas Argies. He is a musician and played with the band of the foregoing institution. Then there is "Dick" Bradley, the peppery captain of the team. Bradley is truly from sea of the will and woolly, having gained considerable prestige as a baseball player in Wisconsin, his native State. Bradley holds down the berth as guard.

Twitshell is another one of the gladiators. Westerners who are included in the marine line-up. Twitshell comes from Cleveland. Philadelphia can lay claim to three crack players on the marine team. They are Stimmann, Tom Dewarty, formerly of Catholic High, and Mike Wilson, of Northeast High.

St. Columba will present its regular line-up of Dunleavy, Brown, Moorhead, Dietrick and Cashman, which has not been beaten this season.

The other game of the night will bring together Y. M. H. A. and Port Richmond, both of the American League.

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