THERE ARE TIMES WHEN A GOOD PLAYER—IN BASEBALL—TURNS OUT TO BE A BAD ACTOR

DEMORALIZATION OF WHITE SOX MAY MEAN THAT ATHLETICS WILL CLIMB OUT OF CELLAR IN 1921

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

THE baseball season of 1921 promises to be real exciting because there is a chance—and a mighty good one—for our A's to climb out of the dark, damp cellar and bask in the sunshine of the American League. Connie has qualified to be listed among the six best cellars, having been there every year since 1914.

But now it is different. The Chicago White Sox are worn out at the best and eight of the best players have been erased because of the gambling scandal. This means Comiskey will have to build a new team—the same as Connie Mack in 1915. It isn't easy to step out and get a flock of star ball players. It can't be done in a year even with an unlimited bankroll. Good players are scarce and much experimenting must be done. While this is going on ball games will be lost, and it looks as if the Athletics will benefit greatly. If Connie ever finishes as high as seventh it will be a swell reason to declare a national holiday.

The White Sox do not expect help from other clubs in the league. They would be foolish if they did. Perhaps Pipp will be sent there from the Yankees and will take care of first base, for he is about the only good player on the market. The going promises to be exceedingly rough next year.

Comiskey realizes he is up against it and said in Chicago recently:

"I have been connected with baseball long enough to know that one cannot expect assistance from other teams in the league. I am not asking any. It has been my misfortune to have had in my employ ball players who were dishonest. There is only one thing for me to do—take my medicine. That is what I am doing. I have had to stand a lot of knocks in my career, and believe I am capable of holding up under this one.

"If I had the material on my team to trade I would certainly attempt to do so, but with eight men, almost an entire club, gone, there is not much chance to complete a deal of any sort. Yes I am not crying. The clubs in the American League will find the White Sox a hard ball club to beat, and without help from any of the teams in the organization."

* * *

CONNIE has strengthened his team for the coming season and believes he will make a good showing. This should not be hard to do after being twenty thousand leagues under the league for six years.

Close A. L. Race in 1920

LAST season was a profitable one and quite exciting. The race was close from the start, with Cleveland, New York and Chicago battling for the pennant. For a time it looked as if the Yanks would win, but they folded up in the home stretch and were beaten out for second place by the White Sox.

Winning the pennant and afterward the world's championship was a great achievement for Tris Speaker. He started out under the worst possible conditions because everybody picked his club to finish first. He was awarded the pennant in March, and after that all he had to do was win it. His fine club was considered the best in the league, so everything depended on the manager. If the club won, nothing would be said, because it was expected. If it lost, Speaker would have come in for some sweet panning. He had everything to lose and nothing to gain.

Speaker, however, is an ideal leader. He knows how to handle men and get the most out of them. He set a good example for the others to follow, and his hustling methods met with success. After Ray Chapman had been killed by a ball pitched by Carl Mays it looked as if the Indians were out of the race for good. Speaker collapsed and was out for a week. They came out of the slump, however, and with a kid named Sewell playing shortstop finished strong.

Speaker's work was the feature of the 1920 season. He proved conclusively that a star player could remain a star player and manage a ball club. Tris brought about the return of playing managers to the league. Ty Cobb has been appointed manager of Detroit and the Browns are anxious to have George Sisler act in the same capacity in St. Louis.

Detroit had a bad year, starting off with thirteen straight defeats. This was a world's record until the Athletics heard about it, and they established a new one with nineteen straight. The Tigers should be much stronger this year.

In the National League, John McGraw is trying every possible means to bolster his club. He has offered wads of money for Groh and might be able to lure the great third baseman from Cincinnati. Hornsby also is on the market and he, too, might be surrounded by a New York uniform. The Giants have a good chance to win if any of the deals go through.

* * *

CHICAGO does not look very strong, and the same goes for St. Louis and Cincinnati. Pittsburgh should be in the first division, but there is little hope for Boston and the Phils. Brooklyn, with its pitching staff, will be quite formidable.

Tom Sheehan With Yankees

TOM SHEEHAN, who once toiled for the Athletics, will be back in the fast set next year. Thomas was with the locals in 1915 and 1916, getting by with more or less success—mostly less. Connie shipped him to Atlanta, where he remained until a Yankee scout discovered him. He is expected to be a big help to Huggins.

There were four good pitchers in the Southern Association last year and they have been captured by the majors. Robinson, of Little Rock, won twenty six games and will be with the Yankees; J. Morrison, of Birmingham, and Moses Yellowhorse, of Little Rock, were purchased by the Pirates, and Hodge, of New Orleans, goes to the White Sox.

Lukanovic, of Mobile, will be given a trial by the Browns. He was the wildest pitcher below the Mason-Dixon line, but won eleven and lost sixteen games. Glasier, of Birmingham, also was wild, but had 153 strikeouts to his credit. He will see what he can do in Pittsburgh.

Barney Dreyfuss grabbed a lot of pitchers in the South. He signed five from the Association, and hopes to develop one good one from the bunch.

Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co.

MOVIE OF A MAN AT 1 A. M. WHO LOST HIS LATCH KEY

WHO WAS ASLEEP IN BASEBALL'S SCANDAL?

Rice Suggests That Blame for Failure to Act Should Be Placed Squarely on Guilty Shoulders

By GRANTLAND RICE

A Chant of the Kiplingesque

BY A bunker down in Dixie, where the Gulf Stream cleaves the sea,
There's a mashie shot awaiting, and I know it thinks of me;
For the wind is in the palm trees and the sun drifts seem to say:
"Come you South, you bally duffer, come you South to loaf and play."

The dreamy winds are singing where the pine trees sway and croon,
And a silver moon is shining just the same as it was June;
And the mashie niblick's whirring in the sand traps and the ruts
Where a line of sun-baked duffers keep a-missing of their putts.

I am sick of wasting leather where the snow is on the green,
And this blasted northern drizzle leaves a burning in my bean;
Though I talk with fifty experts where the snow has left a wreck,
I had rather miss one brassie where the sun is on my neck.

Ship me somewhere south of Dixie, where a cove can swing a cleek;
Where the ten-foot putts are dropping and the fairway's green and sleek;
For the mashie shots are calling and it's there that I would be,
Where I'm six up on some duffer as we leave the seventh tee.

Ship me somewhere south of Dixie, where the skyline's pink and blue,
Where the low winds cross the palm belt and I reach the green in two,
Where I hear the inland echoes or I watch the rolling surf,
As the mashie blades goes tearing for its grip with southern turf.

You can have your northern winter, but I'll take the palms for mine,
The whisper through the maple and the music of the pine;
Better fifty days of sunshine with a midiron and the rose,
Better fifty days in bunkers than a cycle in the snows.

Why Not?

AS WE understand it, there is to be a general conclave soon, headed by Judge Landis, to probe a few fathoms deeper into baseball's still unraveled scandal.

There has been a whirl of talk back and forth as to what a lot of people knew in advance, as to various rumors of crookedness, and also as to why no action was taken.

Why wouldn't it be a good idea for Judge Landis to obtain and lay bare the full facts, placing the blame for lack of quicker action just where it belongs?

Hundreds of ball players knew all about the White Sox scandal all the year. These missed their big chance by not insisting upon cleaning up their own game.

Many others higher up knew even added details. Who was asleep on the job all these months?

On What Grounds?

DEMPSEY'S next two main opponents will be Jess Willard and Georges Carpentier.

If he wins both contests he will then have just one opponent left with a chance—the same being Harry Wills.

It is reported that Dempsey will draw the color line. But on what grounds can a man draw the color line whose main sparring partner is Bill Tate?

New York vs. the West

NEW YORK, with Leonard and Lynch, houses two champions. But the West still predominates in the heavyweight line.

Sullivan ruled from the East. But Corbett, Jeffries, Johnson, Willard and Dempsey all lived nearer the Pacific than the Atlantic ocean.

Fitzsimmons was a Cornishman who came here from Australia. So the East hasn't produced a heavyweight champion in exactly twenty-nine years.

New York, with Terry McGovern, Benny Leonard, Joe Lynch and others, has done well enough in lighter displacements.

But the entire section east of the Mississippi hasn't produced enough heavyweight talent in a quarter of a century to start a cheer. Tom Sharkey was the last of the eastern luminaries worth a hoarse hoot.

They even had to go as far West as Chicago to find some one who could give Dempsey a battle.

BEFORE the war six officers as a bodyguard stood at attention while the crown prince wielded a mashie or a putter. But today there are no six officers standing at attention while his old man wields a saw.

GEORGE ADE and Ort Wells expect to test the bunkers at St. Augustine before moving on to Belleair. As Clarence Budington Kelland and Sewell Ford will also be giving battle in the same Florida neighborhood, the literary flavor should be 99¾ per cent pure. George Ade battles with bogie on his Indiana course until the first snow flurry arrives, and then, without pausing for more than a day or two, continues his terrific onslaught upon the colonel all winter. It's the life, if you can put it over.

Copyright, 1920. All rights reserved

EX-HARVARD STAR ON HOCKEY SEXTET

Sid Clark Will Start Against St. Nicholas Skaters Here Tonight

Sid Clark, former Harvard star, will start at one of the wing positions for Quaker City in the return game against St. Nicholas at the Ice Palace tonight. Clark displayed such high-class form during the last week that Coach Dion finally selected him.

P. W. Wanamaker, the flashy Quaker City wing, who submitted to an operation on his left arm last Monday night, left the University Hospital yesterday. He attended the final practice last night, but did not get into the scrimmage. Coach Dion announced that he plans to start the former Dartmouth freshman captain against St. Nicholas.

Henriques will be at center while Captain Hill and Joe Dexter will do defensive duty. Harte, former Canadian star, will guard the goal.

Captain Von Beruth has made a few changes in the St. Nick line-up. Ellis, captain of the 1915 and 1916 teams on which the late Hobey Baker starred, will return to center tonight; Huntingdon will be shifted to cover point and Hank Ford will be at goal. Captain Von Bermuth benched himself.

In the final practice last night many new faces were seen. Kelly, of the Northwest Boys' Club, was given a chance at point on the reserves, the Toland brothers, famous St. Paul's players, worked out, while two former Canadian stars made their appearance.

Quaker City		St. Nicholas
Wanamaker	right wing	Bierwirth
H. Henriques	center	Ellis
Clark	left wing	Jewett
Hill	cover	Huntington
Dexter	point	Morgan
Harte	goal	Ford

Referee—Jack Devine. Goal judges—J. H. Huhn and M. A. Cross. Three fifteen-minute periods.

GERMANTOWN B. C. IS DOING A GREAT WORK

Open House for Boys All During Holidays: Fine Program for New Year's Day

X-COUNTRY RUN

By SPICK HALL

FROM the beginning the Germantown Boys' Club has had a big week each year between Christmas and New Year's. This year is no exception to the rule that has prevailed for years. Today the commodious building at 25 West Penn street was open at 9 a. m. and will remain at the disposal of the boys until bedtime. This "open house" has been a daily feature since the holidays began and will be effective until the schools throw open their portals for the second semester.

As a rule the boys have the use of the building only after school hours, but the holidays change the schedule. "It is our idea to keep the boys healthfully and pleasantly occupied during the holidays," said Assistant Superintendent William D. Sutton. "The whole scheme of the club is to keep the boys off the streets and direct their minds into proper channels, so at this time of the year we give them a free rein throughout the holiday season."

All at Play

While Mr. Sutton was telling of the work at the club, scores of the boys had possession of the building. Some were playing hide-and-seek, others were in the gymnasium, many were playing checkers and pool. All were occupied at some wholesome pastime.

There was a holiday spirit in the air, but it wasn't the kind that is haloed in the cigarette smoke and wasteful occupations of only too many of our street-loafing youths.

The Germantown Boys' Club, whose affairs are directed by Charles W. Bainbridge, is employed in a great and never-ending task of social, physical and moral uplift. The scope of the work is broad; the aims of the organization are lofty without being too idealistic and the results are a big benefit to the boys themselves and to the communities which they represent. This club, the Nicetown Boys' Club and similar institutions in Philadelphia deserve not only the highest praise of the adult population, but their hearty support.

Will Hold Banquet

The climax of the holiday season at Germantown comes on New Year's day. A splendid program of athletic events and all kinds of entertainment has been mapped out so that 1921 is sure to get a good start among the uptown boys.

The New Year's program really begins tomorrow night. In the early part of the evening, there will be several basketball games, followed by the first annual banquet of the E. P. C. Club. Among the speakers expected are William Schaeffer, president of the Eastern Basketball League; Hugh Doyle, cartoonist of the PUBLIC LEDGER; Dr. Lee, pastor of the Westside Church and Elmer P. Cook.

On New Year's morning the first major event will be the junior cross-country handicap run over the 2½ miles course. There will be about 30 boys to start in this event. These youngsters have been under the tutelage of Coach Thomas Hines and have been working hard every day to get in shape for the modified marathon. Among the favorites for first place are Neil Harrison, Fred Benner, Vincent Haynes, Joe Toll, Russell Bowers, A. Felix and Hotchkiss. The starting time for this race is 10 a. m.

Play Soccer Games

Shortly after the lunch hour the annual soccer game between the Plauskytown and Schmearsburg elevens will be staged. These teams represent the men's department. Following this another soccer game will be played. The contestants will be the Germantown Boys' Club's first team against the Corinthian Club, an eleven made up almost wholly of Girard College graduates.

In the meantime the basketball games will have started. The first tilt will be between the Germantown Boys' Club Reserves and Troop 267. The reserves will have Flynn and Kindig, forwards; M. Cross, center; Chapman and Comer, guards. As soon as this game is over the "Varsity" will clash with the Olivet Boys' Club, of Reading. W. Cross and Seibel will hold down the forward positions for Germantown, Gebhardt will jump center and Young and M. Toll will do the defensive work.

The day will be concluded by a show in the evening. This will consist of musical numbers, movies and performances by professional entertainers. Throughout the day checker and pool tournaments will be in progress; indoor baseball and volley ball will be played and basketball games will be staged by teams of the Junior and Midget Leagues.

All this week color contests in basketball, soccer, cross-country runs and track stunts have kept the boys occupied. It has been a real week for the youngsters and most of them will turn reluctantly from these pastimes to the steady scholastic grind.

Long Sports Program for Boys of the G. B. C.

Here are the main events of the New Year's program of the Germantown Boys' Club:

NEW YEAR'S EVE

8 to 10 p. m., basketball.
10:30 p. m., banquet of the E. P. Club.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

10 a. m., junior cross-country handicap run.
1:30 p. m., Plauskytown vs Schmearsburg (soccer).
G. B. C. Reserves vs. Troop 267 (basketball).
3 p. m., O. B. C. First team vs Olivet B. C. (basketball).
3:15 p. m., G. B. C. First team vs. Corinthians (soccer).
8:15 p. m., show in Auditorium.
Open house all day at 25 West Penn street, Germantown.

BILL MILLER'S GOAL UNDOING OF CAMDEN

Gives Phillies 20-to-17 Victory Over the Skeeters, Which May Cost Them First-Half Title

A LARGE part of the population of Camden are having nightmares since the local Phillies, managed by Bill Meyers, at the expense of the Skeeters, won their second game of the Jersey championship by a decisive score last evening in a hard-fought battle by 20 to 17.

Many of the fans, among the hundreds who journeyed to the Camden Coliseum, left the game in the first period, and it looked as if the home team would have a walkaway. The Phillies started in a slow manner, and the Camden quintet, with Bill Miller, the former Phillies' star, in the game, piled up a lead of 10 points in the first period.

Things looked very dark for the home team, and it looked as if the Phillies would be in for a real beating. But then Miller, who was the star of the game, was taken out of the game, and the Phillies started to pile up points. The Camden team, without Miller, could not hold the Phillies, and the visitors piled up a lead of 10 points in the second period. At the end of the first half the Phillies had a lead of 20 points. The Camden team could not hold the Phillies' lead, and the game ended with the score 20 to 17, in favor of the Phillies.

Nagurski, the Camden star, was the best player on the floor for the home team. He was the only player who could hold the Phillies' lead. Miller was the best player on the floor for the Phillies. He was the only player who could hold the Camden team.

But Then Things Happened

[illegible] Kaywood, Wachter, Keating [illegible] Miller and Byrne also [illegible] for Kaywood.

Fifteen Lead Hancock

[illegible] O'Brien Stars for Nativity

[illegible] Hancock [illegible] Hancock [illegible] Nativity [illegible] Hancock [illegible] Nativity [illegible] Hancock [illegible] Nativity