

THE BIG FIVE OF THE AMERICAN LEAGUE



"OLD JOE" SUGDEN IS RETURNING TO MINORS

St. Louis Sells the Last of Its Old-Time Catchers to St. Paul.

St. Louis, Feb. 24.—In selling Joe Sugden to St. Paul Manager McAleer of the St. Louis Browns is losing one of the best and most conscientious catchers known in the American league...

The name of "Old Joe" always out Sugden to the quick. He was younger by several years than other men playing in the big league who looked his junior...

"They call me 'Old Joe Sugden,'" he would complain whenever the words were mentioned, "but they say 'Young Hermis McFarland,'" and still I am two years younger than Hermis is."

Sugden did not begin playing professional baseball until after he was 21, some five or six years later than the average player. But his splendid headwork and his ability soon made him a valuable man...

With the passing of Sugden to the minors practically the last of that old guard who learned to hunt by switching the bat and dropping the ball with the handle, will have gone from the big leagues...

In St. Louis and in Chicago Sugden was known as a "pinch hitter" and nearly every pitcher in the American league feared him when he was sent to bat at a crisis...

OF COURSE O'BRIEN WILL BATTLE BURNS

Philadelphian Thinks Hart's Challenger Looks Like Easy Money.

London, Feb. 24.—Joe Vickers, the old-time fighter and later well known as the maker of portrait watches, has died.

For many years Vickers kept the Old Wheel Inn, Coventry, but a couple of years back he removed to Leamington. In his prime Vickers was a game and skillful fighter under prize-ring rules...

To the late Queen Victoria, to King Edward and Queen Alexandra, to the late Sir Henry Irving Vickers sent watches and portraits which were accepted and in return he received acknowledgments which were highly prized.

Vickers flourished when London prize-ring rules governed the majority of fights decided. So far back as 1866 he fought and defeated George Reed with bare fists in forty minutes at catch weights...

TURF KING'S FIRST FORTUNE, \$600, LOST ON BASEBALL BATTLE

New York, Feb. 24.—Probably no man on the turf has had a more spectacular rise than Elmer E. Smathers, who made a fortune in the oil regions of Pennsylvania after only a few years of speculation there...

"TOT" MURPHY DEAD

Southville, Mass., Feb. 24.—Dr. William H. Murphy, known to the athletic world as Yale Murphy, died at his home here recently. He had been suffering from consumption for some time and his death was not unexpected.

NO STRINGS ON GANZEL

Terré Haute, Feb. 24.—John Ganzel says his release by the highlanders was without stipulation and does not limit his playing to the Grand Rapids club as reported.

TRICK DOG WON GAME; SMATHERS WENT BROKE

Bradford Smathers became interested in baseball. The Bradford team was one of the cracks of a small league. Its only real rival for the leadership was the Olean, N. Y., team, of which John T. McGraw was the manager and captain.

ROONEY WANTS TO FIGHT LEO

Chicago, Feb. 24.—John J. Rooney, the local policeman, says he will punch Leo Pardello's head when he meets him, but he does not admit that he wants to wrestle the Italian champion.

FEUDAL BANQUETS

American Wife of Charles S. Henry Helped Seat Him in British Commons. London.—There is much enthusiasm at Wargrave-on-Thames, where Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Henry live, over Mr. Henry's return to parliament as a liberal member.

CHANGES IN MANAGERS

The only manager in either league this season without one year's experience will be Frank Chance of the Chicago league team. Fred Tenney followed Buckenbarger as the manager of the Boston club just as Frank Chance followed Manager Selee.

PROMPT OBEDIENCE

Mr. Tucker (with his face lathered)—I see I've made a mistake and got my biggest shaving implements. Tommy! Tommy!

NATIONALS AND OUTLAWS

Our National League team here this season will be wholly experimental and likely to prove weak on the road. What a nest of disgruntled ball players the Tri-State league will hold this season.

TALENT SCATTERED

With two big leagues of eight clubs each the great players are pretty well scattered, and while giving the boys a better chance to get the money, the public do not see the superior style of playing that would come with one league.

IDEAS OF THE ARBITRATOR

Boston, Feb. 24.—Professional baseball will soon be up to the manager. He must make good or frame more than a reasonable excuse why they should not take the count.

SUED BOOKMAKER FOR BET DEBT AND WON

London Court Awards "Piker" \$15; Bookie Pays Costs. London, Feb. 17.—In the Ramsgate county court, judgment has just been given in the case of Albert & Co. vs. Price.

QUIRKS OF QUEENSBURY

Joe Gans got so many complimentary notices about the confession and promise to be good in the future he made a month ago that he has experimented with some more statements of the same sort in an attempt to force Jimmy Britt into a match.

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TENNIS CHALLENGE TAKEN

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TWENTY-NINE HORSES HAVE LED THE WORLD

In 100 Years There Have Been Many Trotting Premiers—Yankee in '06.

Twenty-nine horses have held world's trotting records in 100 years. Yankee was the first horse to beat 3-minute time and Lou Dillon the first to go in 2 minutes or better.

Table listing trotting records from 1806 to 1906, including names of horses and their respective times.

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