FANS EXPECT HARD BATTLE THIS WEEK

Stage Set for World's Series, Which Begins Tuesday at New York.

BOTH TEAMS KEYED UP

McGraw Probably Has Better Pitchers, but Hitting Honors Are With Mack.

By W. J. MACBETH.

NEW YORK, Oct. 4.—The world's series is with us once again. On Tuesday the Giants and Athletics hook up in the first scrap of the annual diamond classic. Both are worthy of the great honor and capable of giving a very good account irrespective of victory.

As the popular pastime on the eve of such an event is to prophecy the result, the writer will stick in an oar while the going is good. I think the Giants should win, though I would not advise any of my friends to bet too heavily on the opinion. Closest observation of the prospective rivals discloses the fact that they are just about as evenly matched as any pair that ever grappled for the highest honors of the pastime.

However, I firmly believe New York should win, and win easily, as did the Athletics last time these teams met—in 1911. Connie Mack has the stronger club, perhaps, outside the pitchers. But the crafty pilot of the White Elephants will be sorely put to it for reliable men. He has only two veterans, Bender and Plank, capable of shouldering the burden with any fair degree of success. These two may or may not be on edge at the present moment. It is a fact that Connie had to work them too much in his fight for the pennant. They have rested up well the past several weeks, but can they come back anywhere near so strong as in 1911?

Two Seasoned Pitchers.

Certainly the two added years have not improved the cunning of Bender's good right arm or the trickery of Plank's port-side sling. Jack Coombs, who figured so prominently against the Cubs in 1910 and against the Giants in 1911, has passed out so far as next week's action is concerned. Mack is in identically the same fix as was McGraw when they met before. He has only two seasoned pitchers. The little Napoleon has four and a phenomenal recruit beside—Al Demaree, who tops the National league pitchers.

The Athletics must be regarded as very dangerous customers. They form an aggregation of sluggers that will worry the best of pitchers. American league rivals this year have scored many runs against the Athletics, but could not hold in check the willows of the Mack men. I do not think in the Johnson circuit there was such a classy hurling corps as McGraw can muster. In such a short series pitching is perhaps the most decisive factor, and that, I figure, should give the Giants a great chance for the world's championship.

Matty and Rube.

Mathewson has been pointing up toward this gigantic tussle. The marvel of the mound has just completed one of his most successful years. Chief Meyers told me the other day he was sure "Big Six" would be as effective as he was against the Red Sox last fall. If he is the Athletics will be lucky to win off him. The Old Master should have won every start against Boston.

Marquard is a greatly improved pitcher over 1911, and has had the experience to rank him as one of the greatest world's series assets of all time. He had all the luck against Boston and turned off two victories. In neither game was he greatly pressed, yet he was effective at all times, and there was lacking in his performance the intense nervousness which marked his work in 1911. Marquard, filled with confidence, is today at the pinnacle of his powers. He is big enough and powerful enough to pitch the entire series if necessary. I cannot see how the Athletics, who are usually easy for good southpaw tossing, can possibly stop the "Rube" if the Giants stand up behind him and get him a couple of runs for a start.

Tesreau, hampered all season through wildness, seems finally to have regained control. He will bear watching.

Mack's Great Infield.

The Athletics infield over-shadows the Giants. It is acknowledged one of the greatest of all time. It will be much stronger than two seasons back, for "Stuffy" McInnis will be cavorting around first base. Harry Davis hit well that series, but covered little more ground than where his brogans rested.

The Philadelphia quartette's claim to distinction lies principally in hitting ability. New York is little inferior in fielding skill, and doubtless possesses far greater speed.

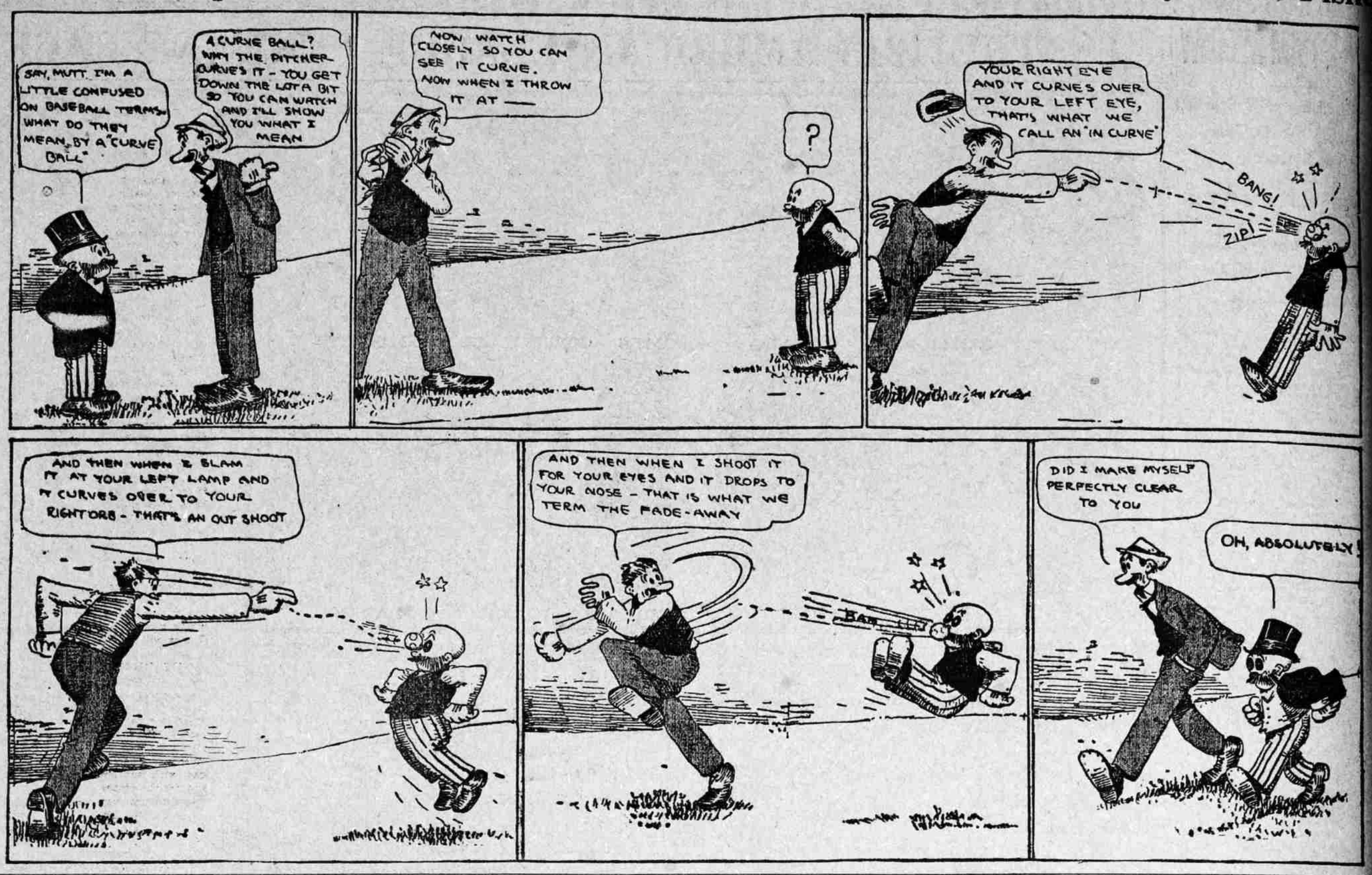
The outfield is a toss up. Mack doubtless has a hitting advantage here also on what has passed this campaign. But that is because McGraw's most dependable sluggers have failed to live up to past performances. McGraw's trio will hold up their own in fielding, and will outshine their rivals in speed. In experience, too, New York has the call. "Rube" Oldring is the only Mack gardener who has been thoroughly seasoned by world's series fire. Burns is the only Giant who has not been put to the acid test.

Both teams are very staunch behind the bat. Should anything happen to Chief Meyers there is Long Larry McLean to step into the breach. He is one of the most reliable backstops to be had. Mack has depended a great deal all season on Schang. He has been a dandy catcher, and everything said of recruits goes for him.

I think McGraw the better provided in substitutes. The best tribute to his strength is the presence on the bench of such a mighty man as Charlie Herzog.

Summing up, then, the teams are just about even up in fielding. Mack has the best hitters, but McGraw the more speed. The catchers are even up, but McGraw has a distinct advantage in pitching strength. That and his speed should more than offset the superior hitting prowess of the White Elephants.

Jeff Could Umpire the World's Series Now -:- -:- By "Bud" Fishe



FOUR MAGNATES ARE ON NEW YORK'S SIDE

Evers, Clarke, Dooin and Stallings Think Giants Will Be Victors.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Oct. 4.—For three consecutive years the world's series has been won by an American league, but this fall the winning streak of Ban Johnson's organization is to be broken. At least, that is the opinion of four managers in the National league, who are frank enough to say that this year McGraw will pilot his team to victory in the banner event. The commanders who are bold enough to pick the Giants are Evers of the Cubs, Clarke of the Pirates, Dooin of the Phillies and Stallings of the Bostons. If these men think that way it is only reasonable to believe that Tinker, Dahlen and Huggins hold the same opinion.

McGraw, through his successive victories in the parent body, has forced his rival managers to respect his team. This is the third consecutive time he is to carry the standard of the National league into the world's championship games. In his two preceding attempts he failed to come out with colors flying, but is confident of success this time. The other leaders also think so because his team is stronger in every department than when it prepared for the clash with the Boston Red Sox.

Evers Favors Giants.

"Mr. Graw is my pick for the world's series," said Evers. "If he does not cop it this time he ought to quit trying to win in his own league. It will be a sad blow to him if his men do not take the title, because I know how he felt when they lost last fall. The Giants will not have any snap in winning, but I look for them to score, because of their fighting qualities, their speed, their pitching and McGraw's shrewdness. Philadelphia is chosen by many because of having several strong batters, but you mind what I say, those heavy sluggers will not shine in the series. The only one who is likely to assert himself is Frank Baker. He did so in the series of 1911. The star batters seldom hit remarkably in a short series. With a few exceptions they never have yet and I do not think the coming games will be an exception. Philadelphia can have its sturdy strikers, but I think they will find the Giant pitchers tough picking."

Clarke Predicts New York.

"I seldom venture a prediction on the world's series," said Fred Clarke of Pittsburg, "but this season I will break a rule and name the Giants. I am unable to see how they can lose, unless it is by Philadelphia's heavy stick work. I do not believe Mack has the batters to trim such twirling as Marquard, Tesreau and Mathewson will give them. Tesreau in particular should be a thorn in the flesh of the Athletics, for he has the meanest moist ball of any I have ever seen. Of course, it all depends upon his control, and I think he will have that, judging from his recent work. Besides his pitching, McGraw has the fastest base runners he has had for years, and all of them are consistent batters and fighters. That is why I am inclined to pick the Giants."

Expects Close Contest.

"From what I know of the Athletics and Mack's methods I think this year's series will be about as keen as any ever played," said George Stallings of the Braves. "It is rather difficult to name a winner, but I am inclined to think McGraw will win, judging from the way his team won the flag in our league. In my estimation his team is not weak anywhere, for he has a set of reliable pitchers, some fleet and daring base runners, great fielders and many hard hitters. In addition to all that he has taught them the art of fighting and hustling, and that is where they will shine in the big series.

Dooin Giants Also.

"I suppose I ought to pick the Athletics to win the flag, because they are from the same town as my club," said Manager Dooin of the Phillies. "But if I were to do that I would not be giving my honest opinion. The Giants will win because they are fast base runners and because McGraw has the twirlers. These are two important features in a short series. Pitching in particular is what counts. If the twirlers are effective it is almost a safe bet the club is going to win, and I think there is where the Giants will surpass the Athletics. Connie Mack has some excellent hitters, but in Tesreau, Mathewson and Marquard they will find three of the best in the game. Besides, Mack's twirlers do not seem to be any too strong, which increases the chances of McGraw's club, on which there are steady batters in Burns, Doyle, Snodgrass, Murray, Fletcher, Shafer and Meyers. That is some bunch for a twirler to face."

The Two Celebrated Baseball Generals Who Clash This Week

JOHN McGRAW

CONNIE MACK

By J. C. D.

BY the grace of Al Burleson, p. m. g., ninety-seven sporting pages come to this office every day. Of those ninety-seven sporting pages, three are blood red, thirteen are pink, one is purple, eleven are green, eight are a ghastly cross bordering on pink, and the rest are more or less white.

Some of the sporting pages are edited by one man, some by two, others by three and a few run as high as twenty. And every one of those editors and his assistants have prophesied concerning the world's series. With singular unanimity, eighty-three of the sporting pages pick the New York Giants as the champion baseball team of the world. Eight are positive that the Athletics will win, and the others are scattering and may be set down in the doubtful and doubting column.

It is not strange that all these baseball writers should select New York. It has become a habit with them. Every time New York has been a contender for the globe's bunting, those eighty-three sporting pages have been on the Giants. They never could see anything to it but McGraw. And they always had the facts and the figures to prove it.

THIS year they come to the front with the solemn declaration that McGraw is bound to win because he has the better pitchers. Also, they add, the Athletics can't hit as well as they did in 1911. Those two things are the sole and only argument they present in support of their far-sighted prediction that Connie Mack may as well go home and 'tend to his pumpkin harvest.

Those of you who were alive two years ago will recall that columns upon columns of words were printed about how soft it was going to be for Muggsy. One magazine, entirely devoted to baseball and its multitudinous ramifications, gave over two whole issues to proving that there was nothing to it except the Giants. The most prolific contributor to that magazine is at this very moment smearing the country over with two-column articles to the same effect—New York.

Two years ago one of the great discoveries the pro-McGraw writers made was that Jack Lapp was impossible as a catcher. Ira Thomas was the only backstop the Athletics had, they said, and he could not stand the distance. The principal trouble with Jack Lapp, we were told, was that he couldn't throw to bases, and the New Yorkers would steal with the easy facility with which a dissipated father pilfers from his baby's bank.

BUT the amazing thing came to pass. The first three or four pussy-footed Giants who trailed off down towards second were nailed standing up, and thereafter Jack Lapp was admittedly some base thrower.

Also that same year those poor, inexperienced youngsters with the big A on their bosoms were to be made monkeys of by the tried veterans of New York. Well, what happened in 1911 is history.

Last year the eighty-three papers told us how Matty was fairly going to slaughter the Red Sox. They figured Marquard a fairly good second, but Matty was the real Kazink. It is easy to write down the number of Matty's victories against the Red Sox.

Thus far the eighty-three have not conceded Connie Mack much of anything. They grudgingly give him credit for being a baseball genius, but never a word does one read about what Mr. Mack may have concealed under his hat. Last Wednesday night brought the first inkling to this town that the astute Connie really did have something up his sleeve. A little dispatch from Philadelphia was to the effect that gentlemen who make a business of backing their world's series judgment had learned that their celebrated townsman had not told the world all he knew. Just because that was so, they immediately made the Athletics favorites. What would our New York friends say if the something up Connie's sleeve was good old Jack Coombs, come back?

COMING right down to it, the big thing which starts Tuesday is a guess. The folks who pick the Giants have a way of figuring their team to win and those who are on Mack do their calculating according to their own methods. At this distance, the only guide in forming an opinion is to assimilate the composite opinion of those who are on the ground or near it, and then to divide it by two. This morning we offer a couple of pages of those opinions—the opinions of veteran ball players, of successful managers and of youngsters. You may read them and see which you like better.

After you have read them, you may recall the fact that one thing is probably true, although there be plenty to deny it, and that is that the American league ball players hold it over the National league ball players, individually and collectively.

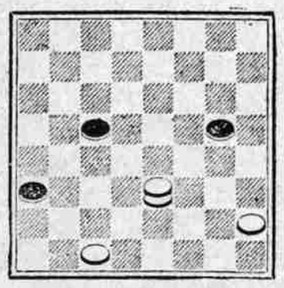
Because it has been my lot in life mostly to tag with the under dog, I am going to pick the Athletics. I may also add that this act of mine will doubtless prove to be the heaviest handicap Connie Mack will have.

Checkers

At the commencement of a game Black men occupy squares numbered 1 to 12. The White men those numbered 21 to 32. Black always moves first.

Checkers and chess headquarters are at the Y. M. C. A., corner of First South and State streets.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 6.
By A. C. Hews, Bridgewater.
Black—3, 5, 8, 11, 13. Kings—25, 30, 32.



White—7, 15, 18, 19, 23, 27. Kings—10, 14.
White to play and win.

14—17	18—14	14—9	10—26	23—7	7—3	
13—22	11—18	5—14	3—10	22—14		

—White wins.

PROBLEM 7.
By R. Graham.
Black—14, 16, 31.
White—23, 32; king, 23. White to play and win.

The following games were played at the local club and are contributed by F. A. Keyworth:

GAME 14—"CROSS."

Black, N. H. Barton.	White, F. A. Keyworth.				
11—15	25—22	7—10	26—21	23—26	17—13
22—18	11—16	17—13	10—15	30—23	15—19
8—11	28—23	9—14	18—14	19—26	13—9
18—14	15—24	18—9	16—18	13—9	26—31
9—18	27—20	1—5	14—9	16—19	9—6
24—19	16—15	31—27	18—23	1—5	
15—24	23—18	5—14	9—5	10—15	
22—8	15—19	22—18	12—16	6—6	
4—11	29—25	14—22	6—1	5—9	
28—10	3—8	27—18	6—10	5—14	
5—9	21—17	8—11	21—17	13—24	

—White wi

GAME 15—"CROSS."

Black, F. A. Keyworth.	White, N. H. Ba				
11—15	6—13	10—15	20—24	10—14	
23—18	29—25	18—11	26—22	13—9	
8—11-a	12—16	7—23	24—28	5—14	
27—23	25—22	26—19	31—27	24—20	
9—14-b	16—20	4—8	1—5	12—17	
18—9	24—19	22—18	23—18	19—16	
5—14	11—13	3—7	7—10	11—15	
12—18	23—18	18—14	14—7	16—11	
15—12	15—24	8—11	3—10	16—19	
25—9	28—19	30—26	27—24	11—7	

—Draw

(a) 15—19 here leads to sound play. 9—5 also good.
(b) Premature and weak; 4—8 is best.

GAME 16—"KELSO."

Black, F. A. Keyworth.	White, G. D. Bay				
10—15	17—13-b	11—15	17—10	19—24	
24—19	16—24	26—22	7—14	30—26	
15—24	27—20	8—11	26—22	24—27	
28—19	8—11	22—17	2—7	32—28	
6—10-a	22—18	15—19	23—17	18—27	
22—17-c	4—8	22—18	13—18	26—32	
9—14	16—9	11—19	17—10	27—31	
25—22	5—14	12—19	7—14	22—17	
11—15	29—25	10—15	31—26-d	14—18	

—Black wi

(a) 9—14 is mostly favored and safer.
(b) Appears weak; 27—24, 8—11, 22—18, 24—17—14, etc., is best.
(c) 22—18 leads to a weak game for white.
(d) Looks like the loser. 30—26, *11—15, 18—23, 26—22, 22—26, 22—17, 14—18, 31—22, 17—14, 25—30, 14—10, 30—26, 16—11, 19—24, 27—32, 32—23, 26—19, 7—2, 11—15, or 10—7, drawn. H. McKean.

The following game was played at the club on September 29:

GAME 17—"SWITCHER."

Black, H. Shaw	White, H. McKe				
9—13	10—14	15—19	23—26	1—6	
21—17	32—27	27—24	8—11	24—19	
5—9	2—7	19—16	19—23	14—10	
22—18	27—24	24—19	7—7	19—23	
11—15	7—11	16—12	26—31	10—7	
13—11	31—27	8—11	11—16	23—19	
8—15	11—18	14—9	30—26	6—10	
25—21	4—9	13—17	16—20	18—14	
4—8	28—24-a	9—6	23—18	10—14	
27—23	18—17	17—13	20—24	5—9	
15—19	24—20-b	6—2	26—22	14—17	
23—16	15—23	11—15	24—29	9—6-c	
12—19	26—19	20—16	18—15	17—21	
24—15	17—22	15—18	7—2	6—9	
10—19	25—18	16—11	15—6	7—10	
30—25	14—32	18—23-c	2—9	13—31	
7—16	21—17	11—8	22—18	22—18	
17—14	9—13	32—28	9—5	11—7	
8—13	17—14	36—30	18—14	18—18	
22—15	32—27	4—8	20—24	7—11	

—Dra

(a) White unnecessarily gives himself a ending. 27—24, 1—6, 24—20, *8—7, 30—26, 15—11, 12—19, 11—2, 26—24, 19—28, 26—19, 23—18, 32—27, 2—7, 27—23, 7—10, 23—18, 19—10, 1—6, 14—17, or 1—6, 15—19, drawn. McKean.
(b) 15—11, 8—15, 25—22, 18—25, 28—6, 26—23, *15—18, 21—17, drawn; or (c) 3—7, 7—11, 27—24, 15—18, 23—19, 18—23, 19—16, 16—11, 23—27, 20—16, drawn. H. McKean.
(c) 19—16, 10—7, 3—10, 2—7, drawn.
(d) 3—10, 6—15, 12—8, or 15—19, draws; loses.

Checker Notes.

A report appears in some of the daily stating that Alfred Jordan had lost the world's checker champion to M. E. Penn Binghamton, N. Y. The fact is Alfred could not lose what he did not possess.

An open challenge for the title and a st at least $1000 must contain an offer either give or take traveling expenses, and show the issuer of the challenge is really willing meet and play the best players in the In the event of the acceptor of the challenge ulating that the match takes place in his country (as was done by R. Stewart, Jr., of land), and then should the challenger play the match on these terms his deft falls and the fact is manifest that the challenge not mean business. Among many reasons in favor of the match taking place in S are the following: The last holder of the title was Richard Jordan, a Scotchman. He ed this country and met the late American plon, C. F. Barker, on two occasions, their score being, R. Jordan, 3 wins; C. F. Barker wins; drawn, 39.

In international matches, England and A have been very badly beaten by Scotland. holders of the championship titles in the fo ing countries are all Scotchmen: America, Henderson; Scotland, J. Ferrie; England, Hynd; Australia, W. Penman; South Africa, Freedman. The only player who ever won world's title in this country was a Scotch lean, the late Dr. R. D. Yates. Now, we won't you keep still and admit that R. Sl is only politely asking what he has every to demand? And he concedes enough when fers to meet the Englishman, Alfred Jordan, England.

At the local club at the Y. M. C. A. all boards at checkers and chess are kept busy. veteran, Henry Shaw, and H. McKean have tested closely on 100 friendly games. Out eighty-four games played on two-move restric between these two players up to and inclu September 29, McKean leads by nine wins.

Julius D'Orlo, the Chicago Expert ch player, visited the Y. M. C. A. during the and entertained the players across board. on his way to visit Los Angeles.

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