

Griffith Paid Condition on Gedeon's Services and Will Fight for His Possession

GRIFITH TO MAKE GIVE TO GEDEON Says He Paid Player \$300 for Option on His Services for 1916.

IS TO EXPLAIN FACTS TO YANKEES' OWNERS Player Has Yet to Prove Major League Ability, However, So Out- come Is Not Important.

BY J. ED GRILLO.

Manager Griffith is going to fight for the services of Joe Gedeon, who, according to press dispatches, has been purchased, together with Nick Cullop and Herman Schaefer, by the New York American League club from the Federal League. Griffith undoubtedly has a strong case. It seems he paid Gedeon \$300 in cash before he left here at the close of the 1914 season as an option on his services for 1915. Gedeon played with the Salt Lake club last season and then, when Griffith wanted to exercise his option, Gedeon signed with the Feds. He signed a contract for \$4,000 and drew \$1,000 advance. After he signed this he offered to come to Griffith for \$3,000 per season and to stand for the paying back of the advance money he had received from the Feds.

Griffith's negotiations with Sinclair, the Feds' player salesman, and was informed that he could assume Gedeon's Federal League contract and have Gedeon, which Griffith refused to do, because he figured that inasmuch as Gedeon had never played with the Feds and he had paid him \$300 for an option on his services he belonged to the Washington club.

It is not going to make much difference in the Nationals' chances next season whether Gedeon reports or not, for it is questionable, indeed, if he is a major league ball player. He certainly had never played with the Feds and he had paid him \$300 for an option on his services he belonged to the Washington club.

CAPABLANCA IN LEAD.

Cuban Chessmaster Defeats Chajes in Rice Tournament.

STANDING OF THE PLAYERS.

Capablanca	10	Wolcott	10
Kupchik	9	Kostic	9
Janowski	8	Wolcott	8
Chajes	7	Wolcott	7
Perkins	6	Wolcott	6
Wolcott	5	Wolcott	5
Wolcott	4	Wolcott	4
Wolcott	3	Wolcott	3
Wolcott	2	Wolcott	2
Wolcott	1	Wolcott	1

F. FRAZIER WINS AT GOLF.

Essex Country Clubman Defeats Longley in Palm Beach Final.

PALM BEACH, Fla., January 22.—Frank Frazier, Essex Country Club, defeated Vauder Longley, Wannamoisett, yesterday in the final of the New Year golf tournament by the score of 4 up and 3 to play. Frazier started at 7:30, winning the first three holes with two 3s and a 4, and had increased the lead one more at the turn. The next two holes were won by Longley. Frazier won the twelfth, then tied the next three, and the match went to the Essex man.

DAVIS INCREASES LEAD.

Shows Further Superiority in Athletic Contests at Y. M. C. A.

Joe Davis is constantly showing his superiority over the other contestants in the bi-weekly athletic contests being held at the Y. M. C. A. in the events held this week he forged far ahead and now is in front with a comfortable margin. The team captained by Davis also is ahead in the team race, it having 455 points more than the other teams. The team standing is: Joe Davis, 1,375; K. G. Shipley, 1,014; J. S. Harty, 899; C. L. Roberts, 866; W. H. Harty, 811; F. A. Raulin, 534; M. McFarlin, 518; A. Farrell, 716; J. B. Jette, 707; A. L. Thompson, 653; S. Stevens, 612; W. R. Eller, 414; E. D. Duncan, 319; R. Eller, 131, and L. Johnson, 127.

CATHOLIC VIRGINIA CONTEST BEARS ON BASKET BALL TITLE If Brooklanders Win at Charlottesville To- night They Will Be Favored to Capture South Atlantic Honors—Other Gossip.

BY H. C. BYRD.

The game Catholic University is to play against the University of Virginia basketball team tonight at Charlottesville will have a direct bearing on the South Atlantic championship. The Brooklanders, if they get the long end of the score on the home floor of the Charlottesville institution, will be considerably favored to win when Virginia comes to Washington early in March.

Catholic University's showing so far indicates that it is not going to drop many games on its own floor, and that it is stronger than last year is shown by the fact that it is winning consistently on the floors of other teams—something it did not prove capable of, doing last season. Tonight's contest is really the crucial one, as far as C. U. is concerned, for if it loses here it will not be sufficient to give the Brooklanders the margin desired in the race for the title. The Virginia team is strong, but that it has proved somewhat disappointing to its supporters is shown by the fact that it is playing it will not find its stride and perform brilliantly against C. U.

Georgetown is scheduled to meet the Navy tonight and undoubtedly will be against a mighty hard proposition. A victory for the Blue and Gray would be a great surprise, and it appears that it can consider a close, international game, which was played by Catholic University last week, about all that can be expected.

Pertinent Comment on Happenings in Portland

BY J. ED GRILLO.

That the New York Yankees are making a strenuous effort to strengthen their team is indicated by the liberal manner they are spending their money for Federal League players.

In addition to Magee, Bill Donovan has added Nick Cullop, supposed to be a capable left-handed pitcher, and Joe Gedeon, who was to have been given a trial with the Nationals at second base next spring. The signing of Herman Schaefer is for the purpose of amusing the fans from the coaching lines, for Schaefer has long since quit playing ball.

Just how much the acquisition of the players named will strengthen Donovan's team remains to be seen, but it is given credit for having picked the best players in the Federal League in Lee Magee, and Cullop is said to be a much improved pitcher over what he was when he was with Cleveland. As for Gedeon, he would have to be a whole lot better than he used to be while here, and the fact that he hit well in the Pacific Coast League last season means nothing, for the reason that that league was decidedly weak in pitchers.

John Hummel, who for many years has been a member of the Brooklyn National League team, is one of the players who Manager Robinson intends to release outright before the next season opens. Another young man who is slated to be cut on the roster is Robbie in Raleigh Aitchison, a left-handed pitcher, who while with the Newark club two years ago, Aitchison as soon as he joined the Dodgers began to violate the rules, and though Robinson is a strict disciplinarian, he tried to get him to attend to his business, he failed, and he will be sent back to the minors.

GOOD SCRAP IN SIGHT.

Freddie Welsh and Ritchie Mitchell May Go Ten Rounds.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE STAR.

MILWAUKEE, January 22.—There is a possibility of Champion Freddie Welsh and Ritchie Mitchell coming together in a ten-round contest before the Cream City Athletic Club here early in February. The club has offered Welsh a flat sum supposed to be \$5,000, but Manager Harry Folsom is holding out for more money.

TAKE OVER DUNN'S STOCK.

Richmond People Now Control International Franchise.

RICHMOND, Va., January 22.—Alvin M. Smith, president of the Richmond Exhibition Company, yesterday announced that the \$15,000 required to purchase Jack Dunn's interest in the Richmond franchise of the International League had been subscribed and the deal closed to keep the franchise from going to Baltimore.

LOCAL ALL-STARS OBTAIN BIG LEAD Finish Ninety-One Pins Ahead of Martinsburg Bowlers in First Five Games.

"POP" HALLEY IS TOP IN SCORES OF PLAYERS Registers an Average of 107 for His Contests—Two Teams Bowl in Philadelphia.

The decision by Gallaudet not to meet Loyola College this afternoon at Kendall Green has been revoked and the contest will take place. Loyola is to appear in the Buff and Blue gymnasium at 4:30 o'clock. The Gallaudet team was favored to the local quint and lost to the Loyola five by a one-sided score. The conditions at Gallaudet, though, are favorable to the local quint and it may be that the tables will be turned. It is not an easy matter by any means for a team to win from Gallaudet at the Kendall Green gymnasium.

Local Bowlers to Roll in Philadelphia Tonight

Two teams of ten bowlers leave here this afternoon for Philadelphia, where they will compete in special matches with quintets picked from the best bowlers of New York and Philadelphia. The local men are taking the trip mainly in the interests of the Atlantic Coast Bowling Tournament Company, which is in charge of the big tourney to be held here this spring. It is thought that this will be a good method of interesting the bowlers of New York and Philadelphia sufficiently to get them to send a large number of men and teams to the tournament in April.

The intercity bowling match last night between George Iseman's all-star team of Washington and the Palace five of Martinsburg resulted in a victory for the local outfit, as it finished with a lead of 91 pins on the total for five contests. The count made by the Washingtonians was 2,593 and that by the visitors 2,482. The final block of five games is to be rolled in Martinsburg with the rubber-banded pins in the near future.

Velvets Continue to Win.

The Velvets were not to be denied in their match in the National Capital, taking two games from the Falls outfit. The Velvets did not get many high marks, but it seems they have the faculty of playing against teams which also fail to register well when they are not at their best. Arthur Schmitt, the Knickerbocker star of the Velvets, the former with scores of 100, 93 and 125, and the latter with 187, 102 and 102. Ceeler led Palace with 95, 128 and 105.

POSTOFFICE LEAGUE.

Beaumont	141	21	84	45	57	117
Edmond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383
Dimond	101	83	107	95	465	383

ROYAL ARCADE LEAGUE.

Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80
Griffith	83	79	117	102	107	80

DEPARTMENTAL LEAGUE.

McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108
McGowan	106	108	108	108	108	108

AGRICULTURE INTERURBAN LEAGUE.

Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108
Wheeler	106	108	108	108	108	108

C. AND P. TELEPHONE LEAGUE.

Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108
Smith	106	108	108	108	108	108

LOOKING THEM OVER —WITH BILLY EVANS— Stories and Facts About the Diamond Stars

Charles Rigter, the veteran National League umpire, still laughs at a happening of the year ago when Rigter was assigned to umpire the game between West Point and Annapolis by the National League president. As he stepped on the field and walked toward home plate to start the game, the big crowd broke out in long and loud cheering. Mr. Rigter is modest, and at first he didn't for a minute believe that the applause was for him. He was inquisitive, however, and looked the field over carefully and could discover no other reason for the sudden outburst. He had just about decided it was a testimonial to his popularity with the student body, when the captain of the West Point team addressed Rigter thusly:

"That was for President Roosevelt; he just entered the grandstand. It must be great to be so popular." Rigter didn't tell the player that only a few moments before he had experienced just such false feelings.

Would you, if you were a famous base ball manager, let three of your star pitchers get away from you? Would you dispose of a player generally regarded as the greatest second baseman in the world for mere money? Would you allow one of the greatest hitters in the game to quit base ball because he believed he was worth more money than he had previously signed to play for? Would you part with a wonderful shortstop for mere money? Would you, almost overnight, trade away your best pitcher for a mediocre ball player because he was simply because you could not see the demands made upon you by some of your star players? Would you permit a team that won the pennant easily in 1914 to lose it because of the loss of a number of stars that it was destined to finish last from the very start?

Mighty few managers would have the courage of their convictions to take such a course. Most of them would let the blench it out, and make their managerial record. Connie Mack is one of the few men in base ball with the nerve to court the disaster that befell him. Mack did all of the things mentioned above. He traded away his best pitcher, he traded away his best hitter, he traded away his best shortstop, and he traded away his best pitcher. He has an opinion and is willing to express that opinion and stand by it under fire. Public criticism, no matter how strident, would not move him smoothly. He would stand by his opinion, and he is a careful mover, who goes thoroughly over every detail before arriving at conclusions.

A world's champion team that won the American League pennant in 1914 failed to cause the Philadelphia fans to enthuse. Mack lost a lot of money, despite the fact that his club was the class of the league. "Philly" fans regarded the fact that the American League pennant was won by Philadelphia as a hard thing to get. With them it was simply a question as to the score. When the visitors won, it was largely regarded in the nature of a fluke. The fact that the American League pennant was won by Philadelphia was regarded as a hard thing to get. No doubt since that condition existed, Mack asked himself what was the use of having a pennant-winning club, particularly if it meant an outlay of a lot of money to retain that club, which, despite its artistic success, had been a failure financially.

One of the minor leagues in which Umpire Mullaney worked prior to getting into the American League was the Virginia League. In that league, Mullaney found the voyage a very rough one. In several arguments that came up it was necessary for him to make some player take the court before he could restore order. On several occasions he found it necessary for him to intervene when rival players threatened to do all kinds of things.

One afternoon Mr. Mullaney received a letter from the head of the league, asking for information concerning a certain umpire he intended hiring and asking Mr. Mullaney if he knew of any good official who was not working. After reading the letter Mullaney wrote the president that he believed things would be better if he would submit the name of some competent umpire to the referees for the umpires. Mr. Mullaney's advice was not heeded. Later he joined the Texas League.

Jack Coombs, one of the game's greatest pitchers, is a graduate of Colby University. Jack came direct to Connie Mack from that institution of learning. During his stay at Colby Jack was very much interested in the college. He was as big a leaguer as well followed with interest in the college. His great success made him a bigger favorite than ever among the collegians.

During the recent world series I met a Colby "grad" in the lobby of a Boston hotel. He was looking for Coombs, who was taking in the series as a spectator. During our conversation the Colby man told me something that was very interesting. He said that he had seen Coombs in the lobby of a Boston hotel. He informed me that the student body, as a tribute to Coombs' prowess in the athletic field, had decided that the room in the dormitory used by Coombs during his stay at Colby should be named after him. The student body had decided to lock and carefully guard the room for the greater part of the year. Only at some college things are thrown open for inspection. It certainly is great to be a part of a team that is so successful. The Colby man did not exaggerate things a trifle.

Connie Mack's recruit pitchers just about smashed all records for wildness last season. It was a rather extraordinary game in which Connie's young pitchers first did not give at least a dozen bases on balls. It is mighty difficult for a team to win when the opposition is almost certain to have a dozen players passed to win every game. That was the obstacle that the backmen were up against almost daily.

I recall a game in which the Athletics had a six-run lead up to the eighth inning. The game looked like a cinch. As Connie often said last season, "No runs than our opponent for us until it is over, and we have succeeded in making more runs than our opponent for us until it is over." The contraction of this one particular case it would be more proper to say the expected, happened. The young pitchers developed a streak of wildness, and when the game was over to spare. On the way to my dressing room I bumped into Connie on his way to the offices of the club.

"Those young pitchers seem to have a habit of getting wild just when it will help the opposition most," I remarked.

"That wildness is no longer a habit with those boys; it is a disease."

Bill Dinneen in his day was one of the game's greatest pitchers. When Bill was a star he tried out on the pitch, he never let his opponent tell him how they could improve their work, and incidentally miss less strikes. For that reason umpires always liked to work behind Dinneen, for they knew their work would be a lot easier. Dinneen was a constant bickerer over rulings on balls and strikes. Now that Dinneen is an umpire in the same manner as a pitcher should be constantly disputing, either by word or action, for it is a well known fact that a pitcher in that manner can make things troublesome for an umpire, even though the official is working perfectly.

Last year a recruit broke into the American League and met with better than the average success. It rather surprised his old friends. He followed players admitted the fact, and regretted it, for he gave promise of developing into a star. The recruit was Bill Dinneen. Dinneen handed him a lesson that changed the young but it soon spread, and Dinneen is being given credit for his pitching. After the young man's temper, which is sure to greatly improve his pitching, needed attention, Dinneen stopped the game, walked half way down to the pitcher's box and expressed himself thusly:

"Don't set it into your head you are fooling anybody with that stuff of yours. Why, I had more speed and a better curve than you have shown when they were in your mouth. Good pitchers win ball games with their arms and head, not with their mouths."

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C. A. COMISKEY HAS BEEN IN EVERY BASE BALL WAR

Only Individual Now Prominent in Game to Engage in All Battles—Figured as Player, Manager and Magnate.

BY I. E. SANBORN.

CHICAGO, January 19.—Only one individual now prominent in base ball has been through all of its wars. Charles A. Comiskey, owner of the Chicago White Sox, is that individual, and he has seen war from all angles—as player, manager and magnate. In most battles he has been a central figure, and always has been a fighter, strongly opposed to surrender, and that trait on or of the diamond gave him the name "Old Roman."

Comiskey was in the ranks when the first base ball war broke out in 1882. He was then a member of the St. Louis Browns, one of the important teams in the original American Association, long since defunct. That association owed its birth to much the same cause as those which produced the National League. In fact, prosperity seems to have had a lot to do with starting ructions in the base ball world.

Rival Appeared in 1882.

After six years or more of less perilous existence the National League was just beginning to feel the benefits of the order and system its organization had introduced into base ball, when it was confronted with a rival in 1882. This rival was the American Association, which grew out of a desire to compete with the National League for patronage, but in territory not then occupied by the other organization.

After six years or more of less perilous existence the National League was just beginning to feel the benefits of the order and system its organization had introduced into base ball, when it was confronted with a rival in 1882. This rival was the American Association, which grew out of a desire to compete with the National League for patronage, but in territory not then occupied by the other organization.

With this non-conducting circuit and with the players' teams, composed largely of experimental players who did not cost much, the association created its first league, which was called the American Association. Incidentally, the first American Association championship was won by the Chicago White Sox, who have since then won the pennant six times.

Raid on National League.

Before the season of 1883 the American Association raided the ranks of the National League players and obtained many stars. In those days this was comparatively easy, as the base ball contract was in its formative period. It was for one year only and had little semblance of mutuality to give it legality. Moreover, there was only a limited number of players, and the National League players were permitted to reserve only five of their players for the succeeding season.

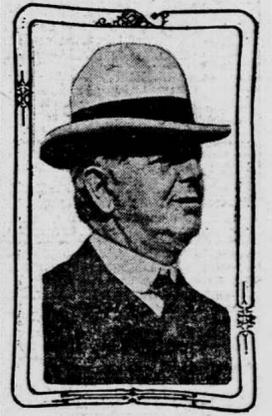
The American Association's circuit was increased by the admission of Columbus and the Metropolitan clubs of New York, making an eight-city league. The National League players revised and strengthened its own circuit by dropping the small cities Troy and Worcester. The Troy team was transferred to Philadelphia and the Worcester outfit to New York. That produced conflict in the two cities where the National League and American Association players were in effect. The association had the better of the conflict in the two cities where the National League players were in effect. The association won the association pennant, while the Phillies finished last in the National League. The National League association team was fourth and the Nationals sixth.

Players Jump Contracts.

Contract jumping was so prevalent even during the playing season that a promoter had to sleep with one eye open for fear somebody might steal his whole team overnight; and salaries became so high that profits were scarce, although the rivalry between the two leagues increased. In fact, the new era was so successful that fifty performers joined the new organization during the winter, but most of them repented before the season opened and signed with their former clubs.

Lucas Leader of Union.

Henry V. Lucas of St. Louis, then a young and wealthy man, was the architect of the Union Association when he



C. A. COMISKEY.

became its leading spirit. Then the National League was organized in Pittsburgh, with an eight-city circuit, including Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Altoona, Washington, Baltimore and Boston.

To combat this move, the American Association was induced by the National League to increase its circuit to twelve clubs by admitting Toledo, Indianapolis, Washington and Brooklyn. That provided a competing team in every league Association city except Altoona, and all three leagues were represented in Philadelphia. In this struggle the National League gained the advantage, for it had a fairly profitable season in spite of the fact the Cleveland club was hit so severely by the loss of star players that it retired from the league at the end of the season.

History Repeats Itself.

The American Association found its twelve-club circuit a heavy handicap and all clubs lost money, but the organization managed to finish the season after transferring the Washington team to Richmond. The Union Association was a complete failure. Altoona blew up first and was replaced by Kansas City. The Chicago team was transferred to Pittsburgh and then to St. Paul. The National League players were transferred into Wilmington, and in spite of all the switching only five clubs lasted through the season, the pennant being won by St. Louis.

During the winter efforts were made to keep the Union Association alive by the use of oxygen, but the National League delivered the knockout punch by taking "Angel" Lucas into its own hands. The Troy team was transferred into Wilmington, and in spite of all the switching only five clubs lasted through the season, the pennant being won by St. Louis.

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