

## THERE IS STILL TIME FOR CONNIE MACK TO WIN OUT

By Elmer E. Bates.

While Boston is on its second road trip, the Hub is preparing for the world's championship, which every one there, is sure will be between the teams of Stahl and McGraw.

It is known to baseball men that Owner McAleer and Manager Stahl of the Red Sox are more in fear of Mr. Connie Mack,



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right now—despite Boston's lead of 120 points over the Athletics—than of Washington, which has hung onto Boston heels steadfastly for weeks.

The reason for this fear is the resourcefulness of this same Connie Mack, the shrewdest man in baseball.

The fans realize that Mack has had but one of his "big four" to

rely upon this season. Eddie Plank is the only one of that wonderful quartet who has pitched to form. Coombs, the "iron man," has been winning on his nerve. Early this season he was injured and still feels the effect of the hurt. Morgan has been released. Bender—well, it requires tact to handle the Bender case.

Has the great Chippewa taken to the first-water trial that led another great red man, Louis Sackalexis, to oblivion? Common talk among ball players says he has, but common talk also says he is repentant and has assured the ever-forgiving Mack that he will just about break his neck to pull the team into the lead.

The charges against Bender apply to an outfielder also. This player is on the bench, watching a less capable man filling his shoes.

To the charge that Mack erred, as have so many other managers, in not strengthening his pitching staff in time, Connie would plead not guilty. His alibi would be that with Coombs, Bender, Plank and Morgan, going as they were last fall, the need of new pitchers was not visible.

Connie picked up four youngsters, two of whom, Brown and Houck, are of the quality he admires—men with natural ability willing to learn.

There are about 55 games to be played before the American league flag falls, and there is plenty of time for Boston to drop back, and the Athletics to come