

TWO ST. LOUIS MEN LEAD IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Wicker and Nichols Have Batting Averages of .474 and .393, Respectively—Wallace the Only Brown Stocking in the American Who Is Hitting Better Than .300.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC.

Batting averages of the National League, complete to last Thursday, show that two St. Louis players lead the procession. These are Pitcher Bob Wicker and Catcher Arthur Nichols, who are in the lead with huge percentages—presumably of the temporary nature. Wicker has been very fortunate in hitting in the pinches, but in the seven games in which he has taken part he has not batted all the way through in more than five. Nichols is slugging the ball well this year, and at present is very close to the 40 mark.

The Cardinals have several men up near the top. Six men are batting better than .300. The illustrious P. J. Donovan, out of twenty games has captured an average of .331, while Kruger in the same number is only four points behind his commander. Roy Brashear, who topped the league last week, failed to mangle the leather in the New York series, and has dropped down to .333 for his ten games. "Hummer" Smoot is twelve units above the 300 mark. Parrill and Barclay are close together, while Ryan and Hartman are tied for third on the list. Wallace is the only brown stocking in the league who is hitting better than .300, and "Fats" Howerton is the only Giant to receive the mystic circle.

Pittsburg leads in team batting, with the Cardinals second and the Reds third—rather strange figures, when the first mentioned team is leading and the last two fighting for the booby prize. Pittsburg also leads in long hits and in leading in leading class thus showing clearly in figures. Tommy Leach shows as the chief long-range slugger, and Billy Lauer of New York is the best base runner on the percentage plan.

The figures:

Table with columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, SH, ER, P, C. Lists batting averages for various players like WICKER, NICHOLS, BEAN, etc.

Long Hits by Clubs.

Table showing long hits by clubs: Pittsburgh (27), Cincinnati (26), etc.

Individual Sluggers.

Table showing individual slugging statistics for various players.

Base Running.

Table showing base running statistics for various players.

Pitching Records.

Table showing pitching records for various pitchers.

Love's Crown.

I said, "If Love were mine, if on my heart And on my brow his roses I might wear, I would not fear, I would not feel the smart Of hurting thorns, if thorns indeed were there. Let me but love, and be but loved again. Over Life's fret and trouble I would rise, Crowned queen of happiest kingdom!"

That Love could come with anguish to his eyes.

And in the passion of his yearning him Borrow more passionate than passion be—Bringing not roses, or thorns, or head To rest forever on my heart and head—Madeline Bridges, in "A House of Mystery."

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

It is apparent from a glance at the American League batting averages that the Browns have not caught the pace as Wallace is the only member to bat better than .300. In fifteen games his average is .333. Jimmy Collins of Boston is now in command of the swatting brigade, though he is, presumably, going much beyond his speed, having made thirty-one hits in seventeen games, for an average of .455. Mike Powers ranks second and Ed DeBontant, always near the top, shows in the third position. Daniel McGinn is doing .322 for Baltimore.

Six of the first seven batters belong to Eastern division teams. Like the Browns, the White Sox loom up not at all. Danny Green is the only champion who possesses a fairly fat average. Jesse Burkett, the King of Swat in the National last year, is trailing along with .301, though most of his hits have been timely. Many of the stars, of course, have not yet caught their batting gait, and will improve. The Browns show last in team batting and long-range hitting. Individual slugging is led by the ordinary, but a factor of extra-base drives, is the chief individual slugger, though his general average is not up to his usual figure. San-dow Mertes of the White Sox has the best base-running percentage. Davey Jones furnished a case of sour grapes for Manager McAleer, the only member of the Browns to figure above the ordinary as a base runner. Other members of the team have not figured in this department as yet.

Individual slugging above the ordinary as a base runner. Other members of the team have not figured in this department as yet. Will be given the obituary cure before June. Following are the figures complete up to last Thursday.

BATTING.

Table with columns: Player, Team, G, AB, R, H, SH, ER, P, C. Lists batting averages for various players like COLLINS, WALLACE, etc.

Team Batting.

Table showing team batting statistics for various clubs.

Individual Sluggers.

Table showing individual slugging statistics for various players.

Base Running.

Table showing base running statistics for various players.

Pitching Records.

Table showing pitching records for various pitchers.



ROY EVANS. —By a Republic Photographer. Who once wore a St. Louis uniform, but failed to make good. Evans is now pitching for New York and is getting more than an even break.

PLAYING OUT OF POSITION.

"Ball Players Who Have Made Good in Unusual Positions." "Can't play a man out of position" and "A player can't make good when he isn't in his original place" are remarks passed incessantly among the fans, and it is now almost an accepted axiom of the game that "once a shortstop always a shortstop" is a settled rule. Yet a brief glance at the roster of the sixteen big league clubs will show that a vast percentage of the men now making good in the various in and out field positions playing radically different positions—and many of them changing jobs only within the last few years, or longer after they had made established reputations at other corners of the diamond.

The question is often asked: Are ball players better players than those of twenty years ago? I think that as a matter of opinion, but I think that as a class they are better. The system has changed, and the game has become more difficult and scientific.

It is very much more difficult to obtain position in the system now than it was a few years ago, notwithstanding the fact that there are fifty players to select from now, as compared with twenty-five in the old days.

Of the second basemen, De Montreville was a shortstop. Flood played in the field for the smaller leagues. Lowe was an outfielder for many years. Beck has always played second, so has Smith of New York.

Among the third basemen Gremlinger has always played at his present station; Irwin came into the Big League as a shortstop; Dexter was a catcher; Steinfield be-

came a pitcher; Bennett, who was taken from the game, was a catcher, and by which he lost both his feet, was another great catcher. As a backstop and a thrower, he was a first-class player, and was equal, and by many was considered his superior. However, as a batsman, base runner or ever elevating was not the case of Irwin. I do not think that Kelly, known as the highest authority in the game in any field position to many others who might be named, did not do better in another department of the game and will be referred to later.

The pitcher who added the most strength to his team was, I think, Charles F. Ferguson of the Philadelphia club. Not only was he a most effective pitcher, a finished batsman and a fast baserunner, but he could play almost any position on the field as well as the regular pitcher, and was capable of doing an immense amount of work. Ferguson was a man of unusual physique, and died before his world was really appreciated.

"Bobby" Mathews was a great pitcher. He was very small of stature, and it did not seem as if he could muster the effort necessary to become a great pitcher, but what he lacked in strength he gained in genius, and the fact that he was a batsman, a base runner, a runner, and a pitcher, made his strength more noticeable. "Bobby" was perhaps the greatest pitcher that ever occupied the pitcher's box. His era was that in which the new deliveries were being discovered, and he was the very first to use the "curve" and the "drop" ball, and no matter what delivery came under his eye he hit it, and he was very successful in its use. A singular whiff of Mathews was that he always kept one day but one ball was used during a game. This practice could not, of course, be successfully carried out now, when, in some games more than a dozen balls are used.

"Fats" Howerton was a quick play, with force and strength and decisive elements, the game has probably never turned out a pitcher superior to Howerton.

"As a general in the pitcher's box I consider Clark Griffith the peer of any person in the history of the game. He was a possible exception of Mathews. Griffith is capable of getting great results with small effort. In the language of the poker player, he never shows his hand until he is compelled to. In other words, he is successful in keeping his opponents from

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These are the four great destructive maladies which undermine manhood and lower the standard of vital power and endurance in an inconceivably vast army of men. It is a deplorable fact, but nevertheless true, that the great majority of all men are compelled to turn away disappointed and mortified to discover that they are but weaklings, unable to enter the ranks of the vigorous and sturdy because of the debilitating effects and vicious ravages of these chronic, treacherous afflictions. The importance of early treatment for these diseases cannot be too strongly emphasized; they will never cure themselves, but, on the contrary, are constantly becoming more aggravated, and in time, if neglected, will break down the strongest constitution and fill your whole future with misery, suffering, and woe.

Many men make the grave mistake of selecting the cheapest treatment obtainable, and consequently are disappointed in the result. Skilled service is always cheaper in the end and much more satisfactory. Because you have tried other treatments and have been disappointed is no reason why we should fail; we claim many advantages over the ordinary physician, who lacks the knowledge and experience so necessary in specialty cases. Years of devoted study and extensive experience in the treatment of male diseases, and our ever-readiness to adopt every improved, curative, scientific discovery have enabled us to evolve unapproachably perfect methods, distinctively our own, for the cure of these prevalent, destructive ailments and their many reflex complications.

We treat all patients personally; you see no substitutes. We understand thoroughly the diseases which constitute our specialty, and you can depend upon us, just as we would want to be treated, if our positions were reversed. If your health and manhood are slipping away, you cannot afford to delay. We guarantee a permanent and lasting cure or fee refunded. Cast aside your modesty. Call and be examined free.

Varicocele vs. Vitality.

Why Varicocele Causes Sexual Weakness. Summer Heat Aggravates Varicocele. How You Can Be Cured—Safely, Painlessly and Permanently. While varicocele is always debilitating, it is tenfold more injurious during the summer months. The heat causes a relaxation of the tissues, and the congested veins are distended with unhealthy, superheated blood, which certainly endangers the health of every Varicocele sufferer. Your physician advises a suspensory, or gives you medicines to relieve the nervousness, etc., but they give only temporary relief and stimulation. A suspensory simply holds your deformed parts, but does not cure the disease; you confess your weakness by wearing it. You may flatter yourself and think that you are as strong as formerly. Don't deceive yourself; this disease has wrecked stronger men than you. Are you the man you were before this disease stole away from you? Answer yourself honestly, and come to us for a safe and lasting cure.

Stricture Sufferers.

Stricture and gleet are the two destructive maladies which go hand in hand for evil in the male genital-urinary system. They never cure themselves, but on the contrary are ever becoming more insidious, and if neglected or improperly treated are certain to result in bladder and kidney complications, peritonitis and fatal uremia. The method of treatment, and cannot be too strongly condemned, for it invariably leaves the patient in a worse condition than before.

Our cure for Stricture is safe, painless and permanent, and free from surgery in any form. Our treatment, besides possessing wonderful healing and curative powers, is anti-inflammatory, antiseptic and germicidal; and the cure is accomplished without the use of any radical means. The cure is permanent and lasting freedom from the many annoying and distressing symptoms which accompany these conditions. Every obstruction in the urethra is forever removed, all discharge soon ceases, inflammation and soreness are allayed, the ulcerated canal and bladder are healed, the prostate gland reduced in size, the sexual system is invigorated and a complete restoration to normal health effected.

Contagious Blood Poison.

Once the virus of Specific Blood Poison has polluted the blood, it is important that you take immediate steps to be purged of it. It is an imperious and cruel master; the rich and poor alike fall at its withering touch. If you have sore throat, mucous discharges, pimples, eruptions, spots, and ulcers, these are the signs of the disease. Our treatment is a specific in the true sense of the word; it quickly destroys the virus, clears the skin, purifies the blood and thoroughly eradicates all traces of poison from the system. Not only are all traces of the disease removed, but you are freed from all danger of recurrence or transmission. Have you entrusted your health to incompetent druggists or physicians, or relied on patent medicines to carry you through? Don't let blood poison still haunt you. You can afford to marry, knowing that you will contaminate your associate and hand down this curse for generations to come! Consult us at once.

Nervo-Sexual Debility.

Young Men. Middle-Aged Men. Have you yielded to temptation, and become a victim of that hateful, vicious and solitary practice of self-abuse to prevent a destructive among young men? You are realizing the baneful effects. Your yellow, pimply face, dark-circled eyes, stooping form, stunted development, hair falling out, nervousness and timid bearing proclaim to all the world your folly, and tend to blight your existence. Nocturnal emissions, loss of energy, etc., are a constant drain on your vitality, and will surely lead to an untimely end. Do not despair; we can prepare you for the duties and pleasures of married life and make you once more a man among men.

Are you one of the unfortunates who have made a wrong commencement and failure in life? Is your weakened system crying out for help? You are nervous, irritable and dependent; every organ of your body seems deranged; you are growing weaker and weaker sexually; your manhood is on the decline and will soon be lost unless you do something for yourself. Our long experience has perfected a thoroughly scientific, safe and reliable Nervo-Sexual Debility, and we have lifted up countless fallen men to make an army. Our treatment will remove all the ill effects of your former folly, stop every loss and drain on your vitality, invigorate the wasted sexual organs, clear up the clouded brain; in fact, we strengthen you in every way and quickly restore you to the normal state of health and vigor. You are old before your time, and you will awaken to a realization of your true condition and take steps to have it remedied there are yet many golden years in store for you.

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scoring by simply pitching easy balls, he continued along the line reserving his force for critical periods of the game. Griffith will work his team out of more and more positions than almost any other pitcher or now playing.

John Clarkson was also a true general in the box, and believed in making the batsman hit the ball when the bases were occupied, trusting to his fielders to retire the batsman. With a man on first base and no player out, he would invariably attempt to make the next batsman hit the ball so that there would be no chance for a double play or the retirement of one of the runners. Clarkson had what he called a "jump" ball—that is, the ball would be so delivered that when it reached the batter it would apparently rise from the batter's feet, causing the batsman to strike under the ball, and so that their pitching was very similar to a compliment to each.

Tom Ramsey, the left-hander, probably delivered the ball in a way that was more difficult to hit than that of any other

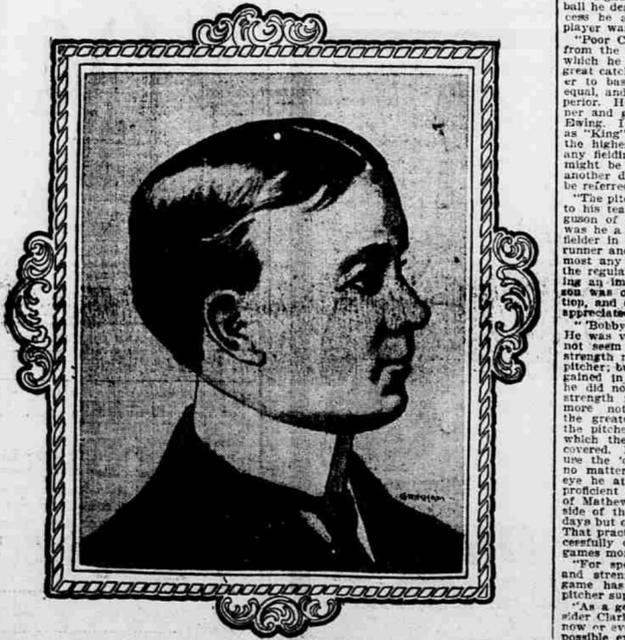
for the catcher to secure it, and usually rendering it necessary for the ball to be thrown to first base to retire the batter. He was a pitcher whose complete object was to make the catcher, I believe that Ramsey never had an equal, and I doubt if he ever will have; but as a winner of games he was not successful, for a "strike-out" pitcher always gives more runs on balls, and consequently may lose his games though very few hits are made off his delivery.

Baseball Season. It was on the car going to the baseball grounds. "Hi!" said the brunette; "I am awfully cool." "Maybe it's because there are so many 'fans' aboard," giggled the blonde.—Chicago News.

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THE DESERTER FROM CAMP McALEER.



DAVE JONES. Right fielder of the St. Louis Browns who quit the team for the center-field berth on the Chicago National League team.

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